

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IMPOSITION OF ASHES & HOLY EUCHARIST



ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 14, 2024, 7:00 P.M.

EMMANUEL CHURCH
21 STRATFORD STREET | WEST ROXBURY, MA 02132
WWW.EMMANUELWR.ORG

SALUTATION

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **God's mercy endures forever.**

HYMN

Bless the Lord my soul (*sung 3 times*)

H82 #143

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life.

COLLECT

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON:

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17

A reading from the Prophet Joel:

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near—a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’”

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 103:8–14

Benedic, anima mea

8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.
9 He will not always accuse us, nor will he keep
his anger for ever.
10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, so

is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
12 As far as the east is from the west, so far has
he removed our sins from us.
13 As a father cares for his children, so does
the LORD care for those who fear him.
14 For he himself knows whereof we are made;
he remembers that we are but dust.

THE SECOND LESSON:

2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10

A reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians:

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see-- we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust

consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Reverend Jonathan T. Eden

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT

Please remain seated

Officiant Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord’s passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them with a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Seeing this, the whole congregation was reminded of the message of pardon and forgiveness set forth in the Gospel of Jesus, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew our devotion and faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, self-denial, and good works accomplished in Christ’s name; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us make our prayers before God, our maker and redeemer, devoutly kneeling.

A period of silence is observed.

BLESSING AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES

BCP 265

Officiant Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Please come forward to receive ashes at the steps. The ashes are imposed with the following words:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

LITANY IN THE SEASON OF LENT

Please kneel as you are able

With open hearts and attentive minds, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

That this season of Lent may be a holy time of looking within to find God’s will and direction in our lives, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That a spirit of peace and forbearance may grow among the nations of the world, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That our President, and all in authority may serve the common good, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That all members of the Church may hear God’s call to repentance, amendment of life, and new beginnings, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That the leadership of the Church may exercise ministries of servanthood to all people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That all bishops, priests, deacons, and lay people may awaken to the ministries God sets before us, let us

pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That the children of our Church may be made to feel loved and cared for, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That all children of the world may know God's protection and mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That the aged and infirm may find care and pastoring among us, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That all programs, committees, and projects of this congregation may be reformed and directed always to your will, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That a spirit of trust, patience, and mutual ministry may support all the work we have in this place, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That reconciliation and forgiveness become our focus and our pursuit, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may be used as a light to the nations and as salt of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That all who hunger for your truth and all who seek your peace may find this place to be a well and refuge, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That unity may overcome estrangement, forgiveness heal guilt, and joy conquer despair, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Officiant O God, who came and walked among us to learn the warmth of a human mother and the trials of daily life: Give us grace in this season of Lent to live as people of reconciliation. Open our hearts to those closest to us and those most different from us. Let us see the world through their eyes, just as you have seen it through our eyes, and give us grace to respond to all people with a compassion that we learn from the Son you sent us. For you raise us up to do good works; formed from the dust of the earth, and destined to eternity with you. To you, in all the names by which you are known, we make this prayer.

Amen.

THE PEACE

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

Please stand

Celebrant May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to God.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at Emmanuel Church.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

May the God of all journeys, who drew Jesus into the wilderness, draw us all into this season of reflection and devotion. **Amen.**

May the God of all wisdom give us eyes to discover the face of God we hide within us, and the courage to share it with the whole world. **Amen.**

May the God of all resurrection lift us up and give us clean hearts for the work of God's eternal kingdom. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

The glory of these forty days

H82 #143

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The church is available for silent prayer following the service.

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL CHURCH

We are glad that you joined us today and pray that you will know God's presence through our worship and in this community. Wherever you are in your journey with God or toward God you are welcome here. Indeed, you are invited and welcome here in our pews and in all the things we do together as a community each week. We would also love to be in better touch throughout the year. Please reach out to our Bridge Priest, the Rev. Jonathan Eden at therev.jonteden@gmail.com or [617.798.0700](tel:617.798.0700) with questions or for more information.

We meet every Sunday for worship at 10:00 A.M. and you can also learn more about who we are and what we do together through our Web and Social Media pages:

Facebook



Instagram



YouTube



Web



SERVING TODAY

Celebrant
Altar Server
Lector
Altar Guild
Gift Bearers
Organist

The Rev. Jonathan Eden
Terri Halliday
John Goocy
Weekly volunteers
Weekly volunteers
Esther Kwok

PARISH DIRECTORY

The Parish Office	21 Stratford St, WR 02132 617-323-1440 www.emmanuelwr.org	Vestry Co-Wardens	Cathy McCarthy Ken Thelen
Bridge Priest	The Rev. Jonathan Eden therev.jonteden@gmail.com 617.798.0700	Treasurer Clerk Vestry	Kellon Belfon Anne Jackson Ed Barrett, Peggy Byrne
Office Hours	Tues 10 a.m. –5:30 p.m.	Social Media Leader	Terri Halliday, Gail Halpin-Evans Seraiah Belfon

PARISH PRAYER LIST

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please be in touch with The Rev. Jonathan Eden.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, February 18, 10:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Lent

Sunday, February 18, 10:00 a.m.

Adult Education:

How and why do we do what we do on Sundays