

# St Edward, King and Martyr



ASH WEDNESDAY  
ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

## The Welcome and Greeting

### Hymn

In the name of the Father,  
And of the Son,  
And of the Holy Spirit.

*All*      **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you

*All*      **All and also with you.**

### Introduction

Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting. By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord. 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, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

*All*      **Holy God  
Holy and strong  
Holy and immortal  
Have mercy upon us.**

## The Collect

Let us pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully.

*(Silence is kept)*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you hate nothing that you have made  
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:  
create and make in us new and contrite hearts  
that we, worthily lamenting our sins  
and acknowledging our wretchedness,  
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,  
perfect remission and forgiveness;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## Old Testament or Epistle Reading

*(Please be seated for the first reading. We respond...)*

*All*      This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

*(We remain standing for the Gospel)*

*At the beginning of the reading, we respond:*

*All*      Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ...  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end of the reading, we respond:*

*All*            This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

## Self-examination and Confession

Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of  
God.

God the Father,  
**have mercy on us.**

God the Son,  
**have mercy on us.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
**have mercy on us.**

Trinity of love,  
**have mercy on us.**

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind,  
and strength.

We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

**Lord, have mercy.**

We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us.

We have not been true to the mind of Christ.

We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

**Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you, Lord ...

all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy and impatience of our lives.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Our anger at our own frustration

and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship

and our failure to commend the faith that is in us.

**Lord, have mercy.**

## The Imposition of Ashes

Dear friends in Christ, I invite you to receive these ashes as a sign of the spirit of penitence with which we shall keep this season of Lent.

God our Father,  
you create us from the dust of the earth:  
grant that these ashes may be for us  
a sign of our penitence  
and a symbol of our mortality;  
for it is by your grace alone  
that we receive eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
**Amen.**

*(The president and people receive the imposition of ashes)*

*At the imposition the minister says to each person*

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.  
Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.

God our Father,  
the strength of all who put their trust in you,  
mercifully accept our prayers;  
and because, in our weakness,  
we can do nothing good without you,  
grant us the help of your grace,  
that in keeping your commandments  
we may please you, both in will and deed;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## The Peace

*(We stand for the peace)*

Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has given us access to his grace.

*All* The peace of the Lord be always with you,  
**And also with you.**

## Hymn

### The Eucharistic Prayer

*All* The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

*All* Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

*All* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good  
to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days  
you lead us into the desert of repentance  
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline  
we may grow in grace  
and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service  
you bring us back to your generous heart.  
Through study of your holy word  
you open our eyes to your presence in the world  
and free our hands to welcome others  
into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast  
with joyful hearts and minds  
we bless you for your mercy  
and join with saints and angels  
for ever praising you and saying:

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

*All*

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus  
Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying: 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

*All* Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died:**  
**Christ is risen:**  
**Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of St. Edward and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

*All*      **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;  
your kingdom come; your will be done;  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

*All*      **Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*All*      **Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*(All who regularly receive communion in their church are welcome to receive here. Those who do not receive communion are invited to come forward for a blessing, with their hands downwards on the altar rail. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please raise one finger at the altar rail.)*

Communion Hymn

## Prayer after communion

*All*     **Almighty God,**  
**you have given your only Son to be for us**  
**both a sacrifice for sin**  
**and also an example of godly life.**  
**give us grace**  
**that we may always most thankfully receive**  
**these his inestimable gifts,**  
**and also daily endeavour**  
**to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life;**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

## Final Hymn

### Blessing

May God the Father,  
who does not despise the broken spirit,  
give to you a contrite heart.  
**Amen.**

May Christ,  
who bore our sins in his body on the tree,  
heal you by his wounds.  
**Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,  
who leads us into all truth,  
speak to you words of pardon and peace.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ, Amen.**

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