Hearing-assistance devices are available; simply request one from an usher.
The silence before today’s liturgy provides a time for prayer and meditation.
[NOTE: Hymns, psalms and service music will be sung only at the 7:00 service.]

**HYMNAL #43**
The Glory of These Forty Days
ERHALT UNS, HERR

**COLLECT FOR ASH WEDNESDAY**
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
The Lord be with you.

**FIRST READING** Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
(pew Bible p. 831)
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 it 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?’”

**SECOND READING** 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
(pew Bible p. 1055)
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.

**GOSPEL** Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21
(pew Bible p. 883)
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, 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.”

**HOMILY**
Silence is observed after the homily.

**CALL TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT**
Please stand, as able.
Book of Common Prayer, p. 264

**PRAYER FOR THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES**
Celebrant 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.

**PEOPLE**
Amen.
The ashes are imposed with the following words by the Celebrant: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

**PSALM 51**
Miserere mei, Deus
Tone IV.1
[7:00: Psalm 51 is sung by the choir during the imposition of ashes at the altar rail.]
Psalm 51 is found in the Book of Common Prayer, p. 266.

**Hymnals**
The Glory of These Forty Days
ERHALT UNS, HERR

**Right Click**
Please be seated.

**Hymnals**
The Theology of These Forty Days
ERHALT UNS, HERR

**Right Click**
Please be seated.

**Hymnals**
The Glory of These Forty Days
ERHALT UNS, HERR

**Right Click**
Please be seated.

**Hymnals**
The Glory of These Forty Days
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**Right Click**
Please be seated.
**Welcome**

Please be seated.

**The Holy Communion**

All are invited to share at the Lord’s table. At the altar railing you may stand or kneel to receive the bread and the wine. You may drink from the cup or touch the bread to the wine. If you prefer to receive a blessing you may indicate so by crossing your arms. The common bread is gluten-free.

**Offertory Sentence**

All things come of Thee, O Lord; And of Thine own have we given Thee. That we may walk with a perfect heart before thee now and evermore. The alms and oblations are presented in silence.

**The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise. It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus et Benedictus**

(said or sung by all)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

**Liturgy of the Eucharist**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Lord be with you.

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