

Trinity Episcopal Church

Cranford, in the Diocese of New Jersey



Ash Wednesday

Holy Eucharist, Rite II ~ February 18, 2026 at 7:30 PM



The Reverend Andrew David Kruger ~ Rector & Presider

Anthony J. Rafaniello ~ Director of Music & Organist

Casey Woodruff ~ Senior Warden & Kathleen M. Murray ~ Junior Warden

Welcome

Andrew Kruger

Silence is kept; when the bells are rung, the People kneel for the procession of the Cross.

I. Gathering of God's People

Acclamation

Enriching Our Worship 50

Presider Blessed be the God of our salvation:

People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

Bidding

Common Worship

The Presider says

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.

Kyrie

David Hurd, Music for the Eucharist

Enriching Our Music 1, 6

Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. mer - cy.

Collect of the Day

BCP 217

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider 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 People sit.

II. Proclaiming and Receiving the Word of God

First Reading

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Reader A reading from the book of 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.

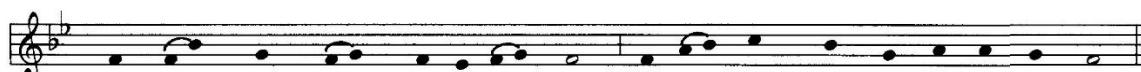
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:8-14

Benedic, anima mea

Plainsong Psalter

All are invited to sing the Antiphon and Psalm.



The LORD knows where - of we are made; he re - mem - bers that we are but dust.



TONE VIII.2

- 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. [Ant.]

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

Reader 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.**

Proclaiming Hymn*Detroit*

Hymnal 674

1 "For - give our sins as we for - give" you
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls, and

taught us, Lord, to pray; but you a - lone can
 un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and
 truth we dim - ly knew, how small the debts men
 bid re - sent - ment cease; then, re - con - ciled to

grant us grace to live the words we say.
 will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owe to us, how great our debt to you.
 God and man, our lives will spread your peace.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Presider

℣ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St 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.”

Presider

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People***Praise to you, Lord Christ.****III. Responding to the Proclaimed Word****Homily**

Andrew Kruger

After the homily, silence is kept.

The Presider and People, all kneeling, speak the selected verses of Psalm 51

Open my lips, O Lord *
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
 For I know my transgressions *
and my sin is ever before me.
 Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.
 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.
 Create in me a clean heart, O God *
and renew a right spirit within me.
 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

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.**

The people come and kneel before the altar rail to receive the ashes. The ashes are imposed with the following words

Turn away from sin, and believe the Good News.

Chant during the Ashing

Take, O take me as I am

Iona Community

Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

1. Marked with ashes we have come, we, the world so troublesome, we, the members; Christ, our sum.
2. Clay and breath of God are we, Eden garden round that tree, Eve and Adam, you and me.
3. Strangers all by sin dispersed; God, our mother, quench our thirst. Thus is justice here rehearsed.
4. Now we pray by day and night, keep the fast to clear our sight, share our goods to set things right.
5. Strong and weak, be here at home. Bold or shy, here laugh, here groan. Gospel weighs too much alone.

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All kneel.

People **Most holy and merciful Father:**
We confess to you and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed;
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

Presider We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

People **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Presider 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.

People **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Presider We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

People **We confess to you, Lord.**

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

People **We confess to you, Lord.**

Presider Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

People **We confess to you, Lord.**

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

People **We confess to you, Lord.**

Presider Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

People **We confess to you, Lord.**

Presider Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

People **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

Presider For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

People **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

Presider For our waste and pollution of your creation, and lack of concern for those who come after us,

People **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

Presider Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

People **Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.**

Presider Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
People **That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

Presider By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,
People **Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins.
✠ He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel. Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

BCP 269

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

IV. Celebrating at the Lord's Table

Offertory Sentence

Matthew 5:23-24

Presider So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift..

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offering of bread and wine to the Holy Table.



The Ushers pass the collection plates among the people. Another option is to give to Trinity online – scan the QR code and go directly to our Breeze link.

Offertory Anthem

“Create in Me a Clean Heart” – Carl F. Mueller
Text from Psalm 51

Create in me a clean heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence;
and take not Thy holy spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways;
and sinners shall be converted unto Thee.

The People stand; the ushers bring the collection plates to the ministers.

Presider

The Lord be with you.

People

And al - so with you.

Presider

Lift up your hearts.

People

We lift them to the Lord.

Presider

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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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

New Plainsong

Hymnal S 124

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and

earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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.

People and Presider



BCP 364

Presider

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.

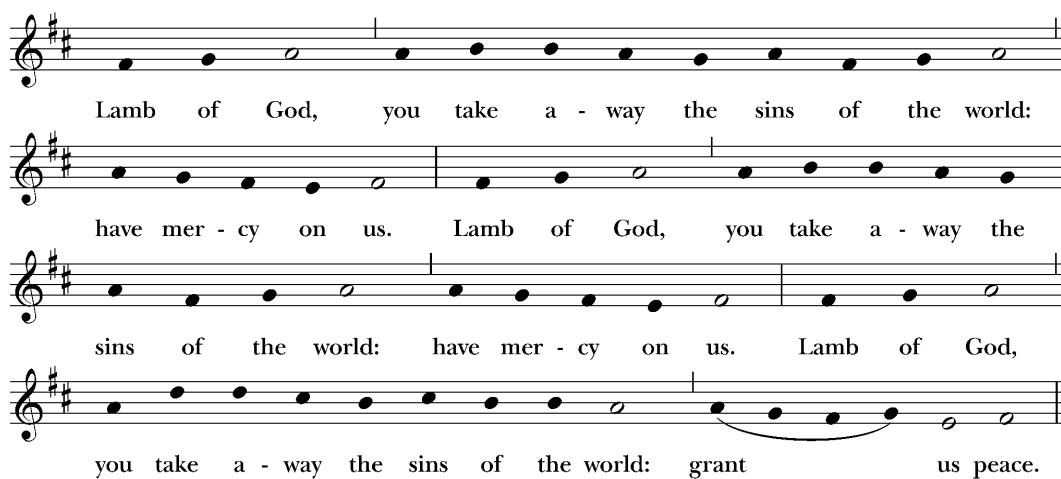
Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread and a period of silence is kept.

Agnus Dei

Hymnal S 161



Invitation

BCP 364

Presider Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

The Gifts of God:

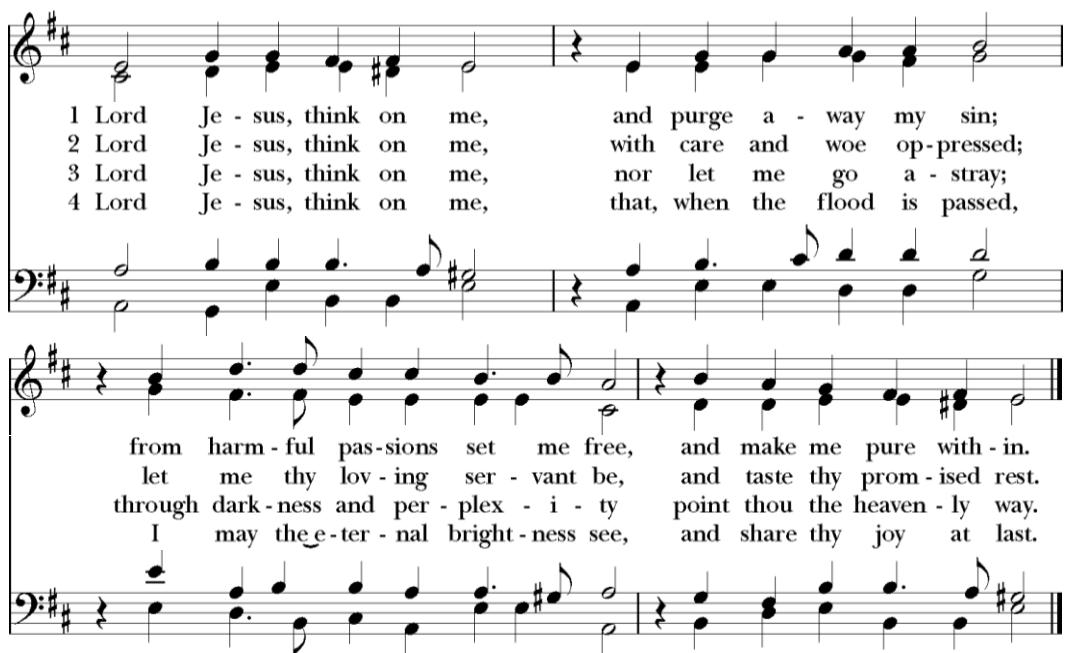
People **for the People of God.**

The ushers guide the people to receive Holy Communion. All who hunger for God, including children, are cordially invited to share the Gifts of God offered at this table. Whoever you are, wherever you are in your life's journey, you are welcome here. All persons may, but no person must, receive communion in both kinds to receive the full spiritual benefits of communion. Wine is offered by way of a sip from the common cup. You may choose to receive only the host. Gluten-free wafers are available by request to the priest.

Communion Hymn

Southwell

Hymnal 641



1 Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin;
2 Lord Jesus, think on me, with care and woe op-pressed;
3 Lord Jesus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
4 Lord Jesus, think on me, that, when the flood is passed,
from harm - ful pas-sions set me free, and make me pure with - in.
let me thy lov - ing ser - vant be, and taste thy prom - ised rest.
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point thou the heaven - ly way.
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see, and share thy joy at last.

Communion Meditation

Bless the Lord my soul

Taizé Community



Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

Prayer over the People

CW

Silence is kept and the Presider says

Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel and the Presider continues

Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

CW

Presider Let us pray.

The People remain kneeling.

God of our pilgrimage, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

V. Going out as God's People

Sending Hymn

Erhalt uns, Herr

Hymnal 143

1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
2 A lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -
4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full
*5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to

1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
2 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
3 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
4 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en
5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold

1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
2 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
3 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
4 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.
5 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

Dismissal

BCP 366

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Voluntary in E minor – John Stanley