

# St Peter's Scottish Episcopal Church, Kirkcaldy

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Ash Wednesday



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

E C C L E S I A S T E S 3 : 2 0

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021, Ash Wednesday (2pm)

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*Introit Hymn:* Forty Days and Forty Nights

*Welcome:* Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

*Address:* Dear friends in Christ, as we begin the season of Lent we are reminded that, in our Christian lives, we seek to realise the death of Jesus so that God may be glorified in our worship and through our witness in the world.

Saint Paul writes of 'carrying around the death of Jesus in our bodies, so that the life of Jesus may be clearly shown in our bodies' (2 Cor 4. 10).

It is through baptism that we die into Christ's death (Rom 6. 3-4) so that we may share in his resurrection. In beginning our Lenten observance, we are therefore reminded of our baptism, and how Christ's death on the cross may clearly be shown in our lives.

We now come before God in penitence, reflecting on our life in Christ. We pledge ourselves to observe this season of self-examination, discipline, and self-denial with sincerity, prayer, and reverent reflection on holy Scripture, seeking God's purpose for us, and modelling our lives on the example of Christ Jesus.

*Old Testament Reading:* Isaiah 58. 1-12 (Page 721)

*Epistle:* 2 Corinthians 5. 20-6.10 (Page 226)

*Gradual Hymn:* Just as I am

*Gospel:* Matthew 6. 1-6, 16-21

When it is announced:  
**Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

At end:

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.  
**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

*The Litany:*

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

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

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

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, **have mercy on us.**

From all evil and mischief: from pride, vanity, and hypocrisy:  
from envy, hatred, and malice: and from all evil intent. **Good Lord, deliver us.**

From sloth, worldliness, and love of money:  
from hardness of heart and contempt for your word and your laws, **good Lord,  
deliver us.**

From sins of body and mind: from the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil;  
from error and false doctrine, **good Lord, deliver us.**

In all times of sorrow, in all times of joy:  
in the hour of death, and at the day of judgement, **good Lord, deliver us.**

Govern and direct your holy Church: fill it with love and truth:  
and grant it that unity which is your will. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world, and to make disciples of all the  
nations. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Enlighten your ministers with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and  
their lives they may proclaim your word. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give your people grace to hear and receive your word, and to bring forth the fruit of the  
Spirit. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Strengthen those who stand: comfort and help the faint-hearted:  
raise up the fallen; and finally beat down Satan under our feet. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give us true repentance: forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance  
and our deliberate sins: and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit  
to amend our lives according to your holy word.

**Holy God, Holy Strong, Holy Immortal Have mercy on us.**

*Act of Penitence:*

**Create in us clean hearts, O God: and renew a right spirit within us.**

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence

**Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth,  
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed.**

**We have not loved you with all our being, we have not loved our neighbours  
as ourselves:  
we have disfigured your image in which we are made.**

**In your mercy, forgive what we have been and what we have done, guide us and help us to amend our lives, and bring us to fullness of life in you, for the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Silence

*Imposition of Ashes:*

You are warmly invited to reflect on the cross of ash as we say together:



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

*Prayer:*

**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.**

*Peace:*

We meet in Christ's name.  
**Let us share his peace.**

*Offertory Hymn:*

I heard the voice of Jesus say

*Communion Prayer:*

**God of infinite mercy. We thank you for Jesus our Saviour who feeds his people and gives them eternal life. Though we cannot consume the gifts of bread and wine we thank you that we do receive Christ's saving presence, the forgiveness of sins and all other benefits of his passion. Grant that we may continue for ever in the risen and ascended life of our Saviour. Amen. (This prayer is said during the online Provincial service).**

*Lord's Prayer:*

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and 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,  
the power and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Communion Hymn:* Lord Jesus think on me

*Sentence:* Give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious.  
**And his mercy endures for ever.**

*Concluding Prayer:* **God of Compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ you reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy Love through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Blessing:* Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; 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.**

*Recessional Hymn:* Bind us together

