

# ASH WEDNESDAY MORNING

February 17, 2010, 7:00 a.m.

St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church

(revised 2/2/10)

# Cast List

## Vested Ministers

- Deacon 1 (lead) .....
- Deacon 2.....
- Presider .....
- Cantor .....

## Advanced Set Up

- Prepare crosses, furniture with Lenten hangings  
—THIS MUST BE DONE BEFORE WEDNESDAY MORNING.

## Deacon Set Up

### Rotunda:

- Chair for Presider with small bowl-bell on the seat.
- Wooden benches, chairs, kneelers & cushions set in 1 circle around Table.
- Altar lamps filled and lit.
- Table covered with mud cloth
- Cross stand underneath edge of Table on font side.
- Stand for the Deacons candle set in circle around altar, on vestry doors side

### Altar

- 4 small bowls of ashes
- 1 plate with 4 damp dark-colored washcloths

### Kitchen: (quantities work for up to 50 people)

- 2 patens, one with 2 loaves of bread
- 4 chalices
- Carafe with about 1/3 bottle of wine in it
- 2 palls
- Missal, marked with ribbons at “The Great Thanksgiving of Cain, Our Father”
- Copy of the AW prayer that replaces the Baruch, moved to back of the Missal

**Entry:**

- Signs: "Please enter in silence and take a place around the Altar" on the glass doors
- Icon on mud cloth-draped stand centered on concrete between welcome & info tables.
- 4 medium-sized bowls of very hot, slightly soapy water on welcome table
- 1 sea sponge in each bowl
- 4 dark-colored hand towels
- MFL2 books stuffed w/service insert on welcome table

**Vestry:**

- Drum set by Vestry door
- 4 complete scripts
- Deacon's Candle & matches
- Presider's cross

**Presider's Chair:**

- Covered with mud cloth
- Glass of water & cough-drops
- Small brass bucket, partly full of water, with aspergillum in it

**Lectern:**

- Book on lectern
- Lectern, menorah stand & incense stand all covered with mud cloth.
- Standing thurible prepared with a lit charcoal.
- Incense boat filled.
- Candles in menorah (refilled as needed)
- Brass candle-lighters (refilled as needed) on menorah stand
- Small box of matches on marble under menorah
- Oil lamp with wicks trimmed and filled with sesame oil

**Recruitment:**

- A welcomer to offer service books and ask people to sit around the altar
- Deacons recruit people to impose ashes on latecomers
- Chalice server.

# Opening Rites

## Procession Order:

**Deacon 2** with candle

**Deacon 1**, (no Gospel book –it’s on lectern)

**Presider**, with cross

**Cantor**

**Vested party** enters a few minutes before the service and take positions in circle with people.

**Presider** puts cross in stand by Altar Table and takes place in circle at flat side

**Deacon 2** puts candle on stand near vestry door and finds nearby place in circle

<b>Cantor</b>	Stand and sing #20 in your books, “ <b>Come, Heavenly Comforter,</b> ” #20. We’ll sing it three times, the first in unison and then twice in harmony.
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**Cantor** leads “Come Heavenly Comforter”

*During singing:*

**Deacon 1** takes 2 bowls of ashes and 2 damp towels from Altar Table and stands in the circle opposite Presider

<b>NOTE</b>	<b>if there are fewer than 40 people use two bowls of ashes.</b>
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## #20 Come Heavenly Comforter

Come, Heavenly Com - fort - er, and Spirit of Truth, blowing everywhere and filling all things.

Treasury of bless - ings and giver of life: come and a - bide in us,

and cleanse us from every im - pur - i - ty, and in your great good - ness save us.

**Presider**    *♩* O God our Creator, you made us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence. May we remember that it is only by your grace that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People**        *♩* Amen.

**Deacon 2**    Kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

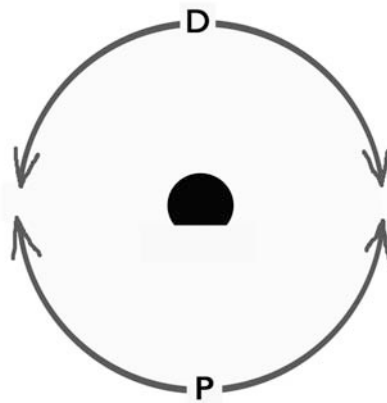
**Presider**    observes TWO minute silence; rings hand-bells  
—All stand

**Deacon 1** We will stand and mark each other with ashes. After you've received the bowl of ashes, turn to the person beside you, and mark their forehead with the ashes.

**Deacon 2** brings other bowl and wash cloth to *Presider*

**Presider, Deacon 1** impose ashes on the people beside them.

**Cantor** chants "Remember that you are dust and to dust you will return" after receiving ashes, continuing until all have received



**Deacons and Presider** receive ashes as is most convenient (going to the end of the line, having the nearest person impose, etc.)

**Deacons** collect ash bowls & towels; place one on welcome table for latecomers and return the rest to the kitchen

When all have received ashes,

**Deacon 2** We will go into the seating area, singing number 45 in your books, "*Truly I Say to You*", number 45.

**Cantor** leads *Truly I Say to You*, #45

# #45 Truly I say to you

Tru-ly I say to you, this day you will be with me in par - a - dise.

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the power of God.  
Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.  
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice: for they shall be satisfied.

Tru-ly I say to you, this day you will be with me in par - a - dise.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.  
Blessed are they that strive for peace: for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are the pure of heart: for they shall see God.  
 Blessed are they that suffer persecution for con - science' sake: for theirs is the power of God.

Tru-ly I say to you, this day you will be with me in par - a - dise.

Blessed are you when all re - vile you, and speak all manner of evil against you for my sake:

Re-joyce and be glad; for great is your re - ward in heav - en!

Tru-ly I say to you, this day you will be with me in par - a - dise.

**CUE**    *move to seated area after first verse of #45*

**Deacon 2**    *w/candle*

**Presider**    *w/cross*

**Deacon 1**

**Cantor**    *brings up rear*

**Presider**    *goes to stand at Presider's chair*

**Deacon 2**    *carries candle to lectern; lights menorah/oil lamp; adds incense to standing thurible*

**Deacon 1**    *gets Reader; carries book to lectern*

**Cantor**    *goes and stands in place*

**Deacon 1**    Please take your seats and hear a reading from John Chrysostom.

**Reading #1: A Reading from Isaac of Nineveh (The Ascetical Treatises)**

Do not say God is just. David may call God just and fair, but God's own Son, Jesus, has revealed to us that above all, God is good and kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. It is not someone we might doubt who has told us this, but God's own Son himself. Where is God's justice? Here, in the fact that we were sinners, and Christ died for us.

O wonderful grace of our Creator! O unfathomable goodness with which He blesses us sinners in order to create us anew! Anyone who has offended God, God raises up again. Where is the hell that could afflict us? Where is the damnation that could make us afraid enough to overwhelm the joy of God's love? In place of what sinners justly deserve, God gives them resurrection.

**Deacons**     *thank reader and return to seats*

**Cantor**     *rings bell—2 Minutes silence—rings hand cymbals*

**Cantor**     We'll sing Psalm 51 on page ONE of your leaflet. We'll sing antiphonally, one side of the room singing to the other. Each side will sing one verse, beginning with this side, and taking a full, natural breath at the asterisk. The psalm tone sounds like this: *(Intones, then leads)*

## **Psalm 51**

Have mercy, tender God, forget that I defied you.\*

Wash away my sin, cleanse me from my guilt.

I know my evil well, it stares me in the face, \*

evil done to you alone before your very eyes.

How right your condemnation! Your verdict clearly just.\*

You see me for what I am, a sinner before my birth.

You love those centered in truth; teach me your hidden wisdom.\*

Wash me with fresh water, wash me bright as snow.

Fill me with happy songs, let the bones you bruised now dance.\*

Shut your eyes to my sin, make my guilt disappear.

Creator, reshape my heart, God, steady my spirit.\*

Do not cast me aside stripped of your holy spirit.

Save me, bring back my joy, support me, strengthen my will.\*

Then I will teach your way and sinners will turn to you.

Help me, stop my tears, and I will sing your goodness.\*

Lord, give me words and I will shout your praise.

When I offer burnt sacrifices, the gift does not please you.\*  
So I offer my shattered spirit; a changed heart you welcome.

In your love make Zion lovely, rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.\*  
Then sacrifice will please you, young bulls upon your altar.

*Cantor* Please stand and sing Psalm 85 the Hallel, the Psalm of praise. We'll sing this psalm just as we did the others, but this time we'll all sing together.

<i>Deacons</i> bring next Reader to Lectern mid-way through the Psalm
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**Hallel: Psalm 85**

Lord, you loved your land, brought Jacob back,\*  
forgot our guilt, forgave our sins, swallowed your anger your  
blazing anger.

Bring us back, saving God. End your wrath.\*  
Will it stop, or drag on for ever?

Turn, revive us, nourish our joy.\*  
Show us mercy, save us, Lord!


I listen to God speaking: "I, the Lord, speak peace,\*  
peace to my faithful people who turn their hearts to me."

Salvation is coming near, glory is filling our land.\*  
Love and fidelity embrace, peace and justice kiss.

Fidelity sprouts from the earth,\*  
justice leans down from heaven.

The Lord pours out riches, our land springs to life.\*  
Justice clears God's path, justice points the way.

## The Holy Gospel

**Deacon**      The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People*     *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Be careful not to parade your good deeds before people to attract their notice. When you give alms, your left hand must not know what your right is doing; your almsgiving must be secret, and your God who sees all that is done in secret will reward you. When you fast do not put on a gloomy look, but put oil on your head and wash your face, so that no one will know you are fasting, and your God who sees all that is done in secret will reward you.

**Deacon 2**   *w/candle returns to seat in procession*

**Deacon 1**   *brings Gospel\_Book to **Presider** and goes to seat*

**Deacon**      The Gospel of the Lord

*People*     *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**Cantor**     *rings bell—TWO minutes silence—*

**Presider**     *ends silence with hand-bells.*

## Sermon

**Reader**     *stands in place, facing the people, says:*

**Reader**     Listen to a reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

**Reader**     *reads the lesson then sits.*

**Preacher**     *gives **FIVE** minute sermon. Indicates to Cantor when complete.*

**Cantor**     *rings pot bells; observes **TWO** minutes of silence and rings hand-bells*

*Preacher* The Word is very near you; it is on your lips and in your hearts. Share a word or experience that you hear now.

*People* share freely.

*Preacher* Amen.

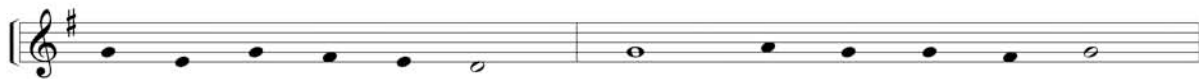
## The Lord's Prayer & Litany of Penance

*Deacon 2* We'll sing the Lord's Prayer at #108 in your books. When we stop singing the responses to the Confession are printed on page two of your service leaflet. Please stand and sing #108.

*Cantor* leads the Lord's Prayer,



Our Fa-ther in hea-ven, hal-losed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your will be done,



on earth and in hea - ven. Give us to - day the bread of life



and for give us our sins as we forgivethose who sin a - gainst us.



Save us from the time of tri - al, and deliv - er us from e - vil.

**Presider** God of mercy and compassion, we confess to you the hardness of our hearts and the failings of our community.

**Deacon 1** We turn away from your mercy and mistreat each other.  
[SILENCE] We have sinned.

**People** *Forgive and heal us.*

**Deacon 2** We deny your faith and distrust one another.  
[SILENCE] We have sinned.

**People** *Forgive and heal us.*

**Deacon 1** We reject your love and ignore those who seek our help.  
[SILENCE] We have sinned.

**People** *Forgive and heal us.*

**Deacon 2** We hide our addictions and sacrifice our loved ones.  
[SILENCE] We have sinned.

**People** *Forgive and heal us.*

**Deacon 1** We disobey your call to give and cling to our possessions.  
[SILENCE] We have sinned.

**People** *Forgive and heal us.*

**Deacon 2** We misuse your gifts to us and abuse your creation.  
[SILENCE] We have sinned.

**People** *Forgive and heal us.*

**Deacon 1** We turn away strangers and live selfishly.  
[SILENCE] We have sinned.


**People** *Forgive and heal us.*

**Deacon 2** We are afraid to be changed and envy other's gifts.  
[SILENCE] We have sinned.

**People** *Forgive and heal us.*

**Deacon 1** *holds bucket for Presider*

**Presider** *sprinkles people with water from the bucket while praying:*

**Presider**  May God enrich you with her grace,  
and nourish you with her blessing;  
May God defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil;  
May God accept your prayers,  
and cleanse you from your sin.  
For the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**People** *finish prayer by singing Doxology*



For the kingdom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Music: Plainchant Tone III.6, arr. Donald Schell (b. 1947), litany SRK

## Tripudium

**Presider** *takes cross from stand*

**Deacon 1** We'll go up to the Table in step, singing "*Eternal Lord of Love*" on p. 3 of your leaflet, "*Eternal Lord of Love*", p. 3.

The step is very simple and it goes like this: Right, left, right, back; Right, left, right, back. Please stand and put your right hand on the shoulder of the person ahead of you, and Caroline will tell us when to step off.

**Cantor** At the word "walking", at the beginning of the second line, please step off on your right foot, and begin the right, left, right, back pattern.

**Cantor** *intones and leads "Eternal Lord of Love"*

**Deacons** *immediately go to kitchen, get Gifts and bring them to Table.*

*At conclusion of Tripudium,*

**Presider** *puts cross in stand at Table*

# Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church

Old 124th

1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church walk - ing once  
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self, so dai - ly  
3 If dead in you, so in you wa a - rise, you the first -

1 more the pil - gim way of Lent, Led by your cloud by  
2 liv - ing to your way of love, we walk the road, Lord  
3 born of all the faith - ful dead; and as through ston - y

1 day, by night your fire, moved by your love and toward your  
2 Je - sus, that you trod, know - ing our - selves bap - tized in -  
3 ground the green shoots break, glo - rious in spring-time dress of

1 pres - ence bent: far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.  
2 to your death: so we are dead and live with you in God.  
3 leaf and flower, so in the Fa - ther's glo - ry shall we wake.

Words: Thomas H Cain (b. 1931). Music: *Old 124th*, melody *Pseaumes octante trois de david*, 1551; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944).

## The Peace

**Presider** Christ is among us now, bringing the gift of his peace; share it with those around you. The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People** *And also with you.*

## The Great Thanksgiving

**Cantor** The service continues at #116 in your books, #116.

Deacon or cantor: *[Parents, take your children in hand]*



*Let us love one another that we may offer the holy sac-ri-fice in Peace!*

All:



A bless - ing of peace! A sac - ri - fice of praise!

Presider:



*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spi-rit be with you all.*

All:

Presider:

All:



And al - so with you. *Lift up your hearts.* We lift them to the Lord.

Presider:

All:



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

# Prayer of Cain Our Father

*Presider* It is truly fitting and right to praise you God our redeemer. You breathed your Spirit over the darkness and called all things into being. You created us from the dust of the earth in your own image, and told us to live together in love.

And though Cain our father rose in anger and killed his brother, you had mercy even on him. Whenever we made war, you made peace; Whenever we sinned you forgave us, whenever we wandered you called us home.

Then you gave us your Word to abide with us forever. He came, a mortal as we are, to give us the gift of his immortality. He sought out the lost and chose sinners for his friends. He touched the sick and healed them. He showed the fullness of your love.

But we turned away and betrayed him making him a sacrifice for our sins.

On the night his friends handed him over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; he gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to them saying: "Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Whenever you eat this, do it in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink this do it for the remembrance of me."



Presider: "...and all the company of heaven, we sing the triumphal song—"



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



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



Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! Ho -



san - na in the high - est!

## Servant of God

**Cantor** leads congregation in singing "Servant of God"

**Presider** breaks bread

**Deacon 2** pours wine into chalices

**Deacon 1** assists Presider with breaking of bread



Serv-ant of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us.



Serv-ant of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us.

Serv-ant of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us.



Serv-ant of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us.

**Deacon 1** Jesus welcomes everyone to his table and so we offer everyone, without exception, the bread and wine, which are Christ's body and blood.

*offers bread and wine to the Presider saying*

\_\_\_\_\_ (Presider's name), the Body of Christ. (Amen)

The Blood of Christ. (Amen)

**Presider** communicates Cantor, Deacons

Deacons, Presider, Chalice Bearer communicate congregation

**Cantor** As we share communion with each other, we'll sing number 139 in your books, *Oh wheat whose crushing was for bread*, number 139.

**Presider and Deacon 1** start at crosses and move right;

**Deacon 2 and Chalice Bearer** start at crosses and move left.

**Deacons** cover chalices and paten with palls after communion.

# 139 O wheat, whose crushing was for bread

McRae New Society

1 O wheat, whose crush-ing was for bread, O bread whose break-ing is for life,  
2 O fruit whose crush-ing was for wine, O wine whose flow-ing is for blood,  
3 O life whose crush-ing was for love, O love whose spend-ing was to death,

1 O life, your seem-ing end is seed, A seed for wheat, our bread and life.  
2 O blood, your pour-ing out is life, Our life in you, O fruit-ful vine.  
3 O death, your mourn-ing is our joy, Full joy and birth to last-ing life.

*In place of the Baruch:*

**Presider** In union with God,  
the heart absorbs the Lord,  
and the Lord the heart,  
and the two become one.

Open your heart in joy  
to receive the coming of your God,  
and embrace God's friendship,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**All** *Amen.*

**NOTE:** *no offering or Polychronia*

## Washing Ashes

*Deacon 2* Hear these words from the Gospel of Matthew: “When you fast do not put on a gloomy look, but put oil on your head and wash your face, so that no one will know you are fasting, and your God who sees all that is done in secret will reward you.”

*Deacon 1* Before leaving you are welcome to wash the ashes from your face. Use the basins of water on the welcome table.

*Deacon 1* Leave your offerings for the work of the church in the baskets next to the basins on the welcome table.

## Carol

*Deacon 2* We’ll sing and dance the carol at number \_\_\_ in your insert, \_\_\_\_\_ at number \_\_\_.

*Teacher* teaches & demonstrates tune, words, and step.

*Presider* signals close, then saying

*Presider* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**END.**