



Lancaster Christ Church C of E Primary School



## Welcome to our Ash Wednesday service

### Welcome and introduction (Rev'd Carol):

We open the Bible to remind us...

**That God speaks to us through his word.**

We place the cross at the centre to remind us that...

**Jesus is at the centre of our school.**

We light the three candles to remind us...

**That God's love burns brightly for each one of us; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,  
**slow to anger and of great kindness.** Psalm 103.8

### Opening Prayer: (Year 3):



Lent is time of reflection and renewal,  
a time for us to think about how we treat others,  
the way we live our lives,  
and how we can be more like Jesus in our prayer and service.

Loving God, be with us in a special way during this time of Lent so that we can become people of love and forgiveness.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

**Amen**



### **God is love – His the care**

God is love: his the care,  
tending each, ev'rywhere,  
God is love, all is there!  
Jesus came to show him,  
that we all might know him!

Jesus lived on the earth,  
hope and life brought to birth  
and affirmed human worth,  
for he came to save us  
by the truth he gave us.

*Sing aloud, loud, loud!  
sing aloud, loud, loud!  
God is good! God is truth!  
God is beauty! Praise him!*

To our Lord praise we sing,  
light and life, friend and King,  
coming down, love to bring,  
pattern for our duty,  
showing God in beauty.

## **What is Ash Wednesday? (Year 4)**

Today is Ash Wednesday. It is the first day of LENT.

Jesus got ready to serve God by spending forty days of prayer and fasting out in the desert. During the 40 days of Lent, friends of Jesus prepare for Easter by taking time to be quiet in our hearts, by praying, by doing good deeds, by being forgiving and asking for forgiveness.

Christians look forward to Good Friday, when Jesus' cross shows just how much love God has for the world, and how much God will forgive us for the wrong we have done. We will receive ashes on our foreheads today to remind us that even when things go wrong and we make mistakes - God forgives us and gives us a fresh start.



### **Reading (Year 6):**

*A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew 4:1-11:*

*"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, He was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.'*

*"Jesus answered, 'It is written: "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."*

*"Then the devil took Him to the holy city and had Him stand on the highest point of the temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command His angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike Your foot against a stone."*

*"Jesus answered him, 'It is also written: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."*

*"Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'All this I will give You,' he said, 'if you will bow down and worship me.'*

*"Jesus said to him, 'Away from me, Satan! For it is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only."*

*"Then the devil left Him, and angels came and attended Him."*

### **Talk (Rev'd Carol)**



#### **Be still and know that I am God**

Be still and  
know that I am God  
Be still and know that  
I am God  
Be still and know that  
I am God

I am the Lord that  
healeth thee  
I am the Lord that  
healeth thee  
I am the Lord that  
healeth thee

In thee, O Lord, I put  
my trust  
In thee, O Lord, I put  
my trust  
In thee, O Lord, I put  
my trust.



### **Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness (Year 5):**

In the blazing light of your love  
**our failings are illuminated**

**our failure to give  
our failure to love  
our failure to follow  
our failure to serve  
our failure to be the people  
you would have us be.**

Forgive us and renew us.  
You know our nature  
know our failings  
Enfold us in your arms  
that we might daily know  
your forgiveness and healing love.

**The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
Amen**



### **Reflection (Year 5):**

*In a few moments of silence, think about things that we do that we know are wrong, and the things in our world which hurt others.*

For all the things that I do that I know I shouldn't,  
**I'm sorry.**

For all the things that happen in the world that hurt others  
**I'm sorry.**

### **Distribution of ashes**

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

(Music)

### **Words of forgiveness (Rev'd Carol)**

The Lord enrich us with his grace,  
and nourish us with his blessing;  
the Lord defend us in trouble and keep us from all evil;  
the Lord accept our prayers,  
and forgive us our sins  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.  
**Amen.**



### **Closing prayer (Year 6):**

Father God,

When we turn away from your love, you are always ready to meet us when we realise our wrong.

We are sorry for our sins and we thank You for sending Jesus to forgive us and share with us His risen life in heaven.

In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**



### **Love will never come to an end (Verses 1 & 3)**

*Love will never come to an end,*

*Love will never come to an end,*

*Love will never come to an end,*

*Three things will last:*

*Faith, hope and love,*

*But the greatest of all is love,*

*Love, love, love*

*Like an angel, I may speak,*

*Know the truths that others seek.*

*Give my goods and life away,*

*I am nothing without love.*

*Love will never come to an end,*

*Love will never come to an end,*

*Three things will last:*

*Faith, hope and love,*

*But the greatest of all is love,*

*Love, love, love*

*Love is patient, love is kind.*

*Love requires a truthful mind.*

*Love will keep no score of wrongs.*

*There is nothing love can't face.*

*Love will never come to an end,*

*Love will never come to an end,*

*Three things will last:*

*Faith, hope and love,*

*But the greatest of all is love,*

*Love, love, love*

### **Sending out and blessing (Rev'd Carol):**

May Christ,

who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,  
fill you with his new life;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**