

12 P.M. & 7 P.M.



The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

(831) 708-2278 125 Canterbury Drive Aptos CA 95003
www.st-john-aptos.org



Ash Wednesday
February 22, 2023

LITURGY FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

from the Book of Common Prayer (1979)

Welcome to St. John's!

- **Face Masks are required indoors for worship.** (The music director does not wear a mask, but tests for COVID before every service. The clergy also test before services.) Masks are optional for outdoor worship and indoor small group meetings, but encouraged when in close proximity with others.
- **Restrooms** are located on both ends of the building.
- **For prayer requests, email prayer@st-john-aptos.org** (routes to a group of 40+ parishioners who will pray for your request immediately upon receipt of the message.)
- **To reach a priest 24/7, call the clergy on-call line: 831-531-7187.**

Opening Hymn: Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes

Faith We Sing #2138

1. *Sun - day's palms are Wednes-day's ash - es as an -
2. We have failed to love our neigh - bors, their of -
3. We are hast - y to judge oth - ers, blind to

oth - er Lent be - gins; thus we kneel be - fore our Mak - er in con -
fenc - es to for - give, have not lis - tened to their trou - bles, nor have
proof of hu - man need; and our lack of un - der - stand - ing dem - on -

tri - tion for our sins. We have marred bap - tis - mal
cared just how they live, we are jeal - ous, proud, im -
strates our in - ner greed; we have wast - ed earth's re -

pledg - es, in re - bel - lion gone a - stray; now, re -
 pa - tient, lov - ing o - ver - much our things; may the
 sourc - es; want and suf - fering we've ig - nored; come and

turn - ing, seek for - give - ness; grant us par - don, God, this day!
 yield - ing of our fail - ings be our Len - ten of - fer - ings.
 cleanse us, then re - store us; make new hearts with - in us, Lord!

Collect of the Day

BCP 264

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray. (Silence.) 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.**

Introduction to the Hebrew Bible Reading

In this passage, God speaks through the prophet Isaiah to the people of Israel, reminding them that fasting and other religious rituals mean nothing if they do not spur the people to act with justice and compassion in their treatment of others. Our Jewish brothers and sisters read this same passage on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

Isaiah 58:1-12

The Jerusalem Bible

Shout for all you are worth, raise your voice like a trumpet. Proclaim their faults to my people, their sins to the House of Jacob.

They seek me day after day, they long to know my ways, like a nation that wants to act with integrity and not ignore the law of its God. They ask me for laws that are just, they long for God to draw near: 'Why should we fast if you never see it, why do penance if you never notice?' Look, you do business on your fastdays, you oppress all your workmen; look, you quarrel and squabble when you fast and strike the poor man with your fist. Fasting like yours today will never make your voice heard on high.

Is that the sort of fast that pleases me, a truly penitential day for men? Hanging your head like a reed, lying down on sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call fasting, a day acceptable to Yahweh? Is not this the sort of fast that pleases me – it is the Lord Yahweh who speaks – to break unjust fetters and undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke, to share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, to clothe the man you see to be naked and not turn from your own kin?

Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of Yahweh behind you. Cry, and Yahweh will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here'. If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

Yahweh will always guide you, giving you relief in desert places. He will give strength to your bones and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never run dry. You will rebuild the ancient ruins, build up on the old foundations. You will be called 'Breach-mender', 'Restorer of ruined houses'.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A bell is rung. We wait until we cannot hear the residual of the bell ringing before continuing.

Psalm 103:8-14

BCP Version

- 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, *
- 4

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.

Introduction to the Epistle Reading

Just before this passage, Paul has described how Christ's saving work on the cross made reconciliation with God possible. Here he tells the Corinthians (and us) that now is the time for us to be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

The Jerusalem Bible

So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God. As his fellow workers, we beg you once again not to neglect the grace of God that you have received. For he says: "At the favourable time, I have listened to you; on the day of salvation I came to your help."

Well, now is the favourable time; this is the day of salvation. We do nothing that people might object to, so as not to bring discredit on our function as God's servants. Instead, we prove we are servants of God by great fortitude in times of suffering: in times of hardship and distress; when we are flogged, or sent to prison, or mobbed; labouring, sleepless, starving. We prove we are God's servants by our purity, knowledge, patience and kindness; by a spirit of holiness, by a love free from affectation; by the word of truth and by the power of God; by being armed with the weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left, prepared for honour or disgrace, for blame or praise; taken for impostors while we are genuine; obscure yet famous; said to be dying and here are we alive; rumoured to be executed before we are sentenced; thought most miserable and yet we are always rejoicing; taken for paupers though we make others rich, for people having nothing though we have everything.

Lector **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

A bell is rung. We wait until we cannot hear the bell ringing before continuing.

Gospel Acclamation: Kum ba Yah

GTG #472 Vs 1,4

The musical score is written for a choir in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are: 1 *Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah! Some-one's pray - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some-one's pray - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some-one's pray - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

Introduction to the Gospel Reading

In this passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus warns against practicing one's faith for the attention and approval of others rather than out of a sincere devotion to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

The Jerusalem Bible

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus said,]“Be careful not to parade your good deeds before men to attract their notice; by doing this you will lose all reward from your Father in heaven.

“So when you give alms, do not have it trumpeted before you; this is what the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win men’s admiration. I tell you solemnly, they have had their reward. But when you give alms, your left hand must not know what your right is doing; your almsgiving must be secret, and your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you.

“And when you pray, do not imitate the hypocrites: they love to say their prayers standing up in the synagogues and at the street corners for people to see them; I tell you solemnly, they have had their reward. But when you pray, go to your private room and,

when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in that secret place, and your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you.

“When you fast, do not put on a gloomy look as the hypocrites do: they pull long faces to let men know they are fasting. I tell you solemnly, they have had their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that no one will know you are fasting except your Father who sees all that is done in secret; and your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you.

“Do not store up treasures for yourselves on earth, where moths and woodworms destroy them and thieves can break in and steal. But store up treasures for yourselves in heaven, where neither moth nor woodworms destroy them and thieves cannot break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon: Rev. Mary Craig Caruthers, Assisting Priest

A moment of silence follows the sermon.

Invitation to a Holy Lent

BCP 264

Presider Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord’s passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting.

This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

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.

And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is then kept for a time, all kneeling.

The Blessing of Ashes

BCP 265

Presider 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. 7

Amen.

The Imposition of Ashes

BCP 265

The ashes are imposed with the following words:
Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Psalm 51

BCP 266

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
 - 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
 - 3 For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.
 - 4 Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.
 - 5 And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.
 - 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.
 - 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
 - 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
 - 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
 - 10 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.
 - 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
 - 12 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
 - 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
 - 14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, *
and sinners shall return to you.
 - 15 Deliver me from death, O God, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.
- 8

- 16 Open my lips, O Lord, *
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice; *
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
- 18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Litany of Penitence

BCP 267-269

All 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.**

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.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

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

We confess to you, Lord.

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

We confess to you, Lord.

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

We confess to you, Lord.

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

We confess to you, Lord.

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

We confess to you, Lord.

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,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,
and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
Accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation,
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
Accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;
Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

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

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

The Absolution

Presider 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.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Among in-person attendees, please share the peace with those around you, maintaining at least six feet of physical distance at all times (no hugging, shaking hands, etc). If you're attending online, you can share the peace in the chat box.

† The Holy Communion †

The Offertory

During the offertory portion of the service, we offer our gifts to God. At St. John's, that takes the form of both financial gifts and gifts of our time. Time donated is documented on a form and put in the offering plate along with financial offerings. If you're participating online, you can find links to donate on the Virtual Worship page of our website: www.st-john-aptos.org/virtual-worship.html

Offertory Sentence

2 Corinthians 9:8, Jerusalem Bible

“There is no limit to the blessings which God can send you – he will make sure that you will always have all you need for yourselves in every possible circumstance, and still have something to spare for all sorts of good works.” - The Apostle Paul

Offertory Hymn: We Rise Again from Ashes

GATHER #643



1. We rise a - gain from ash - es, from the
2. We of - fer you our fail - ures, we
3. Then rise a - gain from ash - es, let
4. † Thanks be to the Fa - ther, who



good we've failed to do. We rise a - gain from
of - fer you at - tempts, The gifts not ful - ly
heal - ing come to pain, Though spring has turned to
made us like him - self. Thanks be to the



ash - es, to cre - ate our - selves a - new. If
giv - en, the dreams not ful - ly dreamt. Give our
win - ter, and sun - shine turned to rain. The
Son, who saved us by his death.



all our world is ash - es, then
stum - bl - ings di - rec - tion, give our
rain we'll use for grow - ing, and cre -
Thanks be to the Spir - it, who cre -



must our lives be true, An of - fer - ing of
vi - sions wid - er view, An of - fer - ing of
ate the world a - new From an of - fer - ing of
ates the world a - new From an of - fer - ing of



ash - es, an of - fer - ing to you.

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also 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 God thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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:

All **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider 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:

All **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Presider 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.

All **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread and says,

Presider Jesus, Lamb of God,

People **have mercy on us.**

Presider Jesus, bearer of our sins,

People **Have mercy on us.**

Presider Jesus, redeemer of the world,

People **give us your peace.**

Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Receiving communion is an act of renewing one's commitment to Christ and receiving grace to continue to follow him. Please join us in the circle, even if you choose not to receive communion, which you can indicate by crossing your arms over your chest as the servers come by. If you choose not to receive, the priest will say a blessing over you instead.

Distribution of Communion

The bread is distributed first. Please hold out your hands to indicate your desire to receive; the priest will place the bread in your hand. Gluten-free wafers are available if needed; they are in a separate gold container on the paten (plate) with the bread.

The wine will be served in the common cup (chalice) and from a flagon (pitcher) that is not shared with others. To receive from the non-shared flagon, you must have brought a cup from home; hold out that cup as the servers come around so they can see that you would like to receive from the flagon instead of the chalice. If you would like to abstain from the wine entirely, cross your arms over your chest when the wine comes by.

For Online Participants: Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Those not physically present to receive communion can say this prayer while communion is being distributed: "In union, O Lord, with the faithful of St. John's, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen."

If you live in Santa Cruz County and would like someone to bring you communion at home, please contact the church office at 831-708-2278 or email LEVs@st-john-aptos.org.

Communion Hymn: O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Taizé #20

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call an - swer me. O
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: All my hope comes from God. The

Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O
Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well - spring of life. The

The Postcommunion Prayer

Anglican Church of Australia (adapted)

All Compassionate and loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ you have fed us, and reconciled your people to yourself. May we who have shared in this holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world. Following Christ's example of fasting and prayer, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love. Amen.

Solemn Prayer Over the People

BOS 2018, p. 11

Deacon Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel (in body or in spirit as they are able).

Presider 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.**

Closing Hymn: The Glory of These Forty Days

Hymnal 1982 #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.

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

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Serving Today

12 p.m.

<i>Presider:</i>	The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller
<i>Preacher:</i>	The Rev. Mary Craig Caruthers
<i>Deacon:</i>	The Rev. Joan Anderson
<i>Musician:</i>	Andrew Carter
<i>Acolyte:</i>	Debra Spencer
<i>Hebrew Scripture:</i>	Sherrie DeWitt
<i>Epistle:</i>	Barbara Raney
<i>Intercessor:</i>	Jeanne O'Grady
<i>LEM, Psalm Leader:</i>	Anne Baker
<i>Usher:</i>	Brian Raney

7 p.m.

The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller
The Rev. Mary Craig Caruthers
The Rev. Joan Anderson
Andrew Carter
Charles Greenleaf
Tom Butler
Nelson Crandall
Kathy Butler
Michael Hudson
Jane Dawson



The Leadership of St. John's

Ministers: All of us!



Clergy Staff

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Lisa Freeman, Community Youth Prog. Director
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Realm (view directory & giving info, post messages to parishioners)
www.onrealm.org (contact the office for a password)

Assisting Clergy clergy@st-john-aptos.org
The Rev. Mary Craig Caruthers (“Rev. Mary Craig”)
The Rev. John Duncan (“Father John”)
The Rev. Eliza Linley (“Amma Eliza”)
The Rev. Mary Lou McKenney (“Rev. Mary Lou”)

Vestry (Governing Board)

To reach the entire vestry, email vestry@st-john-aptos.org.

Administration Team vestry-admin@st-john-aptos.org
Mother Tracy, Rector
Win Fernald, Senior Warden
Debra Spencer, Junior Warden
Alliee DeArmond, Clerk
Nelson Crandall, Treasurer
Jon Showalter

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Anne Baker, Liz Lindsley, Antonette Wood

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