



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Imposition of Ashes

Sacrament of Holy Communion

March 2, 2022 - 7 p.m. - In person & virtually

ASH WEDNESDAY

Greeting

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

C: Let us prayer together: **Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all your children. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may experience from you, the God of mercy, full pardon and forgiveness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm 51:1-17 *Please read the indented lines*

1. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love,
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 offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.
4. Against you only have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight.
**And so you are justified when you speak,
and right in your judgment.**
5. Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.
6. Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
**and would have me know wisdom
deep within.**
7. Remove my sins with hyssop and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
8. Let me hear joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
9. Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.
10. Create in me a clean heart, O God.

- and renew a right spirit within me.**
11. Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
12. Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
13. Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.
14. Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
15. O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise
16. You take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it
You are not pleased with burnt offering.
17. The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

Gospel Acclamation (Joel 2:13)

P: Return to the Lord, your God,
**C: who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger;
and abounding in steadfast love.**

**Gospel
Sermon**

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Pastor Susan

Invitation to the Discipline of Lent

P: Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life and our life in Christ is renewed

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation.

But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbor, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent:
self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting,
sacrificial giving and works of love--
strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament.

Let us begin our journey through these forty days

to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

The Confession – *Silence for self-examination*

P: Most holy and merciful Lord,

**C: we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault,
by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed;
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

A: 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.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: We have shut our ears 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

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

A: Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

A: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

A: Our false judgements, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

A: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

C: Hear us O God for your mercy is great. Amen.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Ashes are applied to the forehead in the sign of the cross with the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." All ages are encouraged to receive this reminder of our mortality and dependence upon God.

P: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of Jesus are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

After the imposition of ashes is given and received.

P: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

C: that we may show forth your glory in the world.

P: By the cross and Passion of your Son, our Savior,

C: bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

P: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live.

Therefore, we implore God to grant us true repentance and the Holy Spirit, that those things which we do on this night may please God, that the rest of our life may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to God's eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Silence for reflection

The Offering - *A time to process your special offering through adventolathe.org; tithely.org or by writing a check to be mailed to the church office. Thank you for supporting the ministries of Advent. In the sanctuary, you may bring your offering forward when you come to commune.*

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Distribution of Holy Communion

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

P: Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all, that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction

Dismissal

A: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness;

Be of good courage;

Hold fast to that which is good;

Render to no one evil for evil;

Strengthen the fainthearted;

Support the weak;

Help the afflicted; honor all people;

Love and serve God,

Rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.



