



ASH WEDNESDAY

FROM DUST TO DUST

SERVICE OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION

MARCH 2, 2022

GATHERING

Please enter into silence in preparation for worship.

Silent Procession

*Call to Worship

Responsively

Blow the trumpet in Zion. Sound the alarm on God's holy mountain! The day of the Lord draws near.

Let us rend our hearts, not our clothing. Let us return to the Lord, who abounds in steadfast love.

Leave behind the ways that lead to death, and return to God with all your heart!

Have mercy on us, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.

*Hymn 269

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray,

teach us with thee to mourn our sins and close by thee to stay.

As thou with Satan didst contend, and didst the victory win,

O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to conquer sin.

As thou didst hunger bear, and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,

to die to self, and chiefly live by thy most holy word.

And through these days of penitence, and through thy passiontide,

yea, evermore in life and death, Jesus, with us abide.

Abide with us, that so, this life of suffering over past,

an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.

*Opening Prayer

In Unison

Holy One: we are always in your presence. In this moment, may we be aware of you as our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. We were created in your image, born as you were, and we know that death awaits us. In this brief span of time, may we turn back to you in a spirit of repentance and renewal. May we remember that we are your beloved children, and we belong to you, in life and death. Holy One, make your presence known to us, now and always, as we worship you. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 51 selected verses

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. According to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity. Cleanse me from my sin. I know my transgressions.

My sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart,
O God, you will not despise.

Anthem

“Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy’s Sake”

Anonymous

***Gospel Lesson**

John 17:6-26

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“The Power of Unity”

The Reverend Donnie Evans Jones

RESPONSE

Hymn 2152

“Change My Heart, O God”

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the Potter, I am the clay.

Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

Invitation to Observance of Lenten Discipline

Thanksgiving Over the Ashes

In Unison

God of dust and ash, you fashioned us from the dust of the earth, and to dust we shall return. May these ashes remind us of who and whose we are. Amen.

***Imposition of the Ashes**

You are invited to come forward when you are ready. The pastor will make a cross on your forehead with the ash, saying to you these words: “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

Anthem

“Forty Days and Forty Nights”

Heinlein

Silent Prayers of Confession and Pardon

SENDING FORTH

*Hymn 402

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

in my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

*Dismissal with Blessing

*The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Please greet one another with words of reconciliation and peace.

A love offering to support our community partners (IFC, TABLE, Habitat and Zoe) will be collected at the end of the worship service. Collection baskets will be available as you depart.

Participants

The Reverend Donnie Evans Jones, Amity UMC

The Reverend G. Brenda W. Jones, Amity UMC

The Reverend Justin Coleman, University UMC

The Reverend Tobi Nguyen, University UMC

The Reverend Daniel Childs, Kindred Church

Tim Baker, Music Minister, University UMC