

ASH WEDNESDAY

The Presbyterian Church

Fredericksburg, Virginia

7:00 p.m.

February 17, 2021

***Masks are to be worn throughout the service.
Please remain seated for the hymns.***

The Order of Worship

Prayer and Meditation

(Read Psalm 51:1-17 p. 640 in the pew Bible)

Prelude

Call To Worship

(Joel 1, 12-13)

The Lord invites us to return with our whole heart.

We turn to God, because God is gracious and merciful.

We have received the message of reconciliation,
and we are now Christ's ambassadors.

Indeed, the right time is now.

The day of the Lord is coming.

Prayer of the Day (a brief silence will be kept)

Hymn 166

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

*Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you stay.*

*Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

II Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Anthem

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Healey Willian

Chris Fisher, Mary Ann Casey, Roy Jarnecke, Larry Casey

Silent Reflection and Meditation

Imposition Revisited

Invitation to the Observance of the Lenten Discipline

Litany of Penitence

**Holy and merciful God, we confess to You and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and 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.
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.
Have mercy on us, O God.**

We have not listened 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, O God.

We confess to You, O God, all our past unfaithfulness.

For the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

have mercy on us, O God.

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

have mercy on us, O God.

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

have mercy on us, O God.

For our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,

and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

have mercy on us, O God.

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

have mercy on us, O God.

Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done. For our neglect of human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

have mercy on us, O God.

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

have mercy on us, O God.

For our waste and pollution of Your creation and our lack of concern

for those who come after us,

have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God of our salvation, and show us Your steadfast love.

Turn to us in Your mercy and redeem us.

For the sake of the world, in the Name of Christ we pray. Amen.

Remembrance with Ashes

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

In life and in death, I belong to God.

Prayer

Hymn 739

O for a Closer Walk with God

*O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame,
a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!*

*The dearest idol I have known, whate'er the idol be,
help me to tear it from thy throne, and worship only thee.*

*So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Kindly remain seated during the Postlude.

***You will be dismissed by our Safety Ushers
from the back to the front of the Sanctuary.***

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days – Text: Claudia F. I Hernaman, 1873, alt.

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