



# ASH WEDNESDAY

**MISSION** Responding to God's call and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we invite all to join us in knowing, serving, and sharing Jesus Christ here and around the world.

**VISION** To be a beacon of faith, hope, and love – every member an active disciple in Christ's ministry.



**SAINT LUKE'S**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 18, 2015 ✦ 7:00 p.m.



---

**Liturgical Color:** Purple *Purple marks the seasons of penitence and preparation: Advent and Lent.*

Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sins before God within the community of faith. In this service we focus our lives on the dual themes of sin and death in the light of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ. While the use of ashes as a sign of mortality and penance may be new to some, it has a significant history in Jewish and Christian worship. The imposition of ashes is a powerful nonverbal and experiential way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation. *Prayers and liturgy adapted from Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church and the Iona Community's Lent resource Eggs and Ashes.*

## In Preparation for Worship

“I slowly realize my existence, my being, my very breath, is held together by hands and heart greater than what I can understand, or imagine, or hope for. Like David, I wait for deliverance; the longing for heaven. Like Adam, I wait for another chance to take a stroll with God through the garden; the breaking dawn in a new day.”

*Phuc Luu*

## Prelude

What Wondrous Love Is This? *arr. Victor Labenske*

## Greeting and Invitation to the Lenten Discipline

### \* Call to Worship

Leader: Marked by the cross, cherished and forgiven,

**People: We are traveling home.**

Leader: Called to be holy, called to be happy,

**People: We are traveling home.**

Leader: Across deserts, over mountains,

**People: We are traveling home.**

Leader: God in our hearts, God in our lives,

**All: We are traveling home.**

### \* Hymn #166

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days *ST. FLAVIAN*

### \* Invitation to Confession

Leader: O God, where did I go wrong? How can I find my way back? I am weighted down by this feeling that I have failed You, other people, and myself. My life is a mess.

**People: Forgive us Lord.**



Leader: You know my weakness, You know much better than me: I can't hide it from You.  
How can I bear to face it too?

**People: Forgive us Lord.**

Leader: Guilty as charged – however much I argue my case. It's Your laws I have broken; it's  
Your way I have lost; it's Your word I have chosen not to hear over and over again.

**People: Forgive us Lord.**

Leader: O God, where did I go wrong? How can I find my way back?

**People: Forgive us Lord. Forgive us Lord. Amen.**

## **Anthem**

Pilgrim's Hymn *Stephen Paulus*

Chancel Choir

Even before we call on your name to ask you, O God. When we seek for the words to glorify you, you hear our prayer; Unceasing love, O unceasing love, surpassing all we know. Glory to the father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Even with darkness sealing us in, we breathe your name. And through all the days that follow so fast, we trust in you; Endless your grace, O endless your grace, beyond all mortal dream. Both now and forever, and unto ages and ages. Amen.

*Michael Dennis Browne*

## **New Testament Lesson**

Matthew 4:1-11

## **Meditation**

Chris Wolfe

## **New Testament Lesson**

Matthew 6:19-24

## **Meditation**

Phil Brown

## **Offering**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving Over the Ashes**

## **Imposition of Ashes**

Those who desire may come forward to the communion rail in order to receive the imposition of ashes as a sign of penitence not only for our individual sin, but also in recognition of our complicity in the sin of the world. If you are unable to come forward but would like to receive ashes, please notify an usher and a Pastor will come to your seat.

“In life and in death you belong to God.  
Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.”

## Prayer for Lent and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

### \* Hymn #470

There is a Longing in Our Hearts *LONGING*

### \* Blessing & Charge

Leader: Go forth into the world in the strength of God's mercy to live and to serve in newness of life. May Jesus Christ, the Bread of Heaven, bless and keep you.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: May the Lamb of God, Who laid down His life for all, graciously smile upon you.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: May the Lord God order all your days and deeds in peace.

All: **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

### \* Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

---

## Special Thanks

For sharing their gifts in this service and for their commitment to the confirmation process, we thank the following members of the 2015 Confirmation class:

Jack Armstrong	William Koller	Andrew Rice	Laura Thornton
Riley Biondo	Matthew Mason	Kate Saunders	Matthew Turnbull
Ben Coffie	Katie Miller	Luke Schiller	Emily Wills
Carter Coffie	James Moebes	Molli Shuker	Chris Wolfe
Rosie Coffie	William Pile	Sydney Sloan	Liliana Years



**SAINT LUKE'S**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

*Nursery available at all services & Sunday School*

1978 Mount Vernon Road | Dunwoody, Georgia 30338

770.393.1424 | [www.slpres.org](http://www.slpres.org) | office hours: M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.