

ASH WEDNESDAY



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 10, 2016 ✦ 7:30 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

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 #286**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God *TRENTHAM*

*** Prayer of 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.

* Assurance of Forgiveness

Anthem

The Lord's Prayer *Mark Miller*

Chancel Choir

Our God in heaven, holy is your name, your reign come, your will done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and help us forgive as we have been forgiven.

In the time of trial lead us into light, for yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Matthew 6:9-13

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 6:1-4,19-24

Meditation

Emma Troha

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 #707

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord *HALL*

* Blessing, Charge & Passing of the Peace

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.

People: Amen.

Leader: As we journey towards Easter, may 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 2016 Confirmation class:

John Askue

Nelson Cummiskey

Emma Shelton

Emma Troha

Ainsley Brown

Oliver Hurst

Casey Singley

Allie Unold

Dillen Cameron

Ella Moore

Val Thelen

Megan Murphy



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

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770.393.1424 | www.slpres.org | office hours: M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.