

Ash Wednesday – March 2, 2022

Welcome

Following new CDC guidelines, wearing masks is optional.

We encourage everyone to wear a mask based on your personal preference, informed by your personal level of risk. We recommend those not vaccinated and who have not had COVID in the last 90 days mask to protect yourself and others. Thank you for being careful and gracious toward one another as we live into these new times.

In Preparation for Worship

"You said return to me, so here I am, skin and bones held together with memories and a little bit of duct tape. I am bringing the worst of me, consider yourself warned— ... You said you'd take it all, so here I come. Me and all my humanity." - *On My Way,* Rev. Sarah A. Speed

Prelude

I'm Just a Poor, Wayfaring Stranger

arr. Mark Hayes

Call to Worship

Leader: People:	"Even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart." Roll up your sleeves.
Leader:	Let down your guard.
People:	Come in from the storm.
Leader:	Make yourself at home.
People:	Pull up to the table.
Leader:	Release the tension in your jaw. Take a deep breath. Return to God with all your heart.
People:	May it be so.

Hymn

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Prayer of Confession

Leader:	Holy God, I confess: I don't return to you fully. I share with you the pieces of my life that are convenient. I put on different hats in different rooms. I forget that I am called, invited, and loved with all that I am— including my mess, my beauty, my faith, and my doubt. Forgive me, and give me a heart that longs to return.
People:	Friend, God sees you. God hears you. God loves you. You are forgiven and claimed with all that you are. Rest in that good news.
Leader:	Thanks be to God, amen.
People:	Holy God, we confess: we don't return to you fully. We share with you the pieces of our lives that are convenient. We put on different hats in different rooms. We forget that we are called, invited, and loved with all that we are — including our mess, our beauty, our faith, and our doubt. Forgive us, and give us hearts that long to return.
Leader:	Friends, God sees you. God hears you. God loves you. You are forgiven and claimed with all that you are. Rest in that good news.

People: Thanks be to God, amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Leader: The Word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God**

Meditation

Full to the Brim with All That You Are

Erin Rugh

Invitation to the Imposition of Ashes

Prayer Over the Ashes 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.

Imposition of Ashes

Those who desire may come forward in order to receive the imposition of ashes in the form of a cross on the forehead, or top of hand. The ashes signify that we exist and are loved by the grace of God.

Music #433

Sign Us with Ashes

Affirmation of Faith*

from A Sanctified Art

We believe in an expansive love that healed the sick, welcomed the children, and saw this world as it could be. We believe that that expansive love runs over the edges of our lives, smoothing our rough places, and pulling us home. We call that expansive love Yaweh and Mother God, Jesus and Divine Creator. hanks be to God for a Love like that. Amen.	
Hymn	Just a Closer Walk with Thee
Blessing and Charge	
Postlude	l Want to Be a Christian

<u>Musicians</u> Josh Klein, trumpet Paul Vogler, drums