



Wandering Heart

"Tune my heart"

Ash Wednesday



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 14, 2024 7:00 pm



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Ash Wednesday

In Preparation for Worship

“And then, when we’re ready, When this creaky heart is tuned, teach me a new song.”
– *Tune My Heart*, Rev. Sarah A. Speed

Prelude

Mazurka Op. 17, No. 4
Frédéric Chopin

Call to Worship*

Leader: God, we are here because of your steadfast love.

People: **Your steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: God, your mercy floods over us.

People: **By your mercy and love, create in us a clean heart.**

Leader: Restore in us the joy of your salvation.

People: **Let us confidently worship our loving and merciful God, Amen!**

Opening Hymn* 166

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

Prayer of Confession*

Compassionate Lord, forgive us when we falter along life’s journey; when the road ahead seems too uncertain, and we are afraid. We admit that following Jesus is not an easy task, requiring our whole lives. Give us confidence and courage to face the future with hope. Let us place our trust in you that the message of peace and mercy you have given to us through Jesus Christ may be offered to others through our witness to your healing mercy. Now Lord, hear the silent prayers in our hearts.

(a moment of silence is kept for personal prayers)

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Psalm 51:1-17

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Wondrous Love
arr. Alice Parker & Robert Shaw

Chancel Choir

Meditation

Rebekah Adams

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 on the back of the hand.

The ashes signify that we exist and are loved by the grace of God.

Affirmation of Faith*

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn* 828

More Love to Thee, O Christ

Blessing and Charge*

Beloved wanderer,
as you leave this place,
may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve.
May you look for God in every face.
May you find the courage to get out of the boat,
to run to the tomb,
and to speak of your faith.
And when the world falls apart,
may you hear God's voice deep within,
saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid."
You are called.
You are blessed.
In both your ups and your downs,
you always belong to God.
Go now in peace.
Go trusting that good news.
Amen.

Postlude*

Hallelujah! What a Savior
arr. Carol Tornquist

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Many of today's worship elements are written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*