



1978 Mount Vernon Road • Dunwoody, Georgia 30338 770.393.1424 • www.slpres.org

#### March 5, 2025

Ash Wednesday

#### In Preparation for Worship

"God meets us in the night- before the sun rises, before the wounds heal... God meets us in the light where joy is effervescent." - Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed

**Prelude** Gymnopédie, No. III Lent et grave

Erik Satie

#### Call to Worship\*

Leader: If you have days when you feel a little bit lost and a little bit found,

People: then you are in the right place.

Leader If you have days when you are desperate for rest and eager to grow,

People: then you are in the right place.

Leader: God meets us here, in the messy middle of our lives.

People: So may we bring our full selves into this service and into this season.

Leader: With God's help, may it be so. **People:** Let us worship our all-loving God.

# Opening Hymn\* 165

The Glory of These Forty Days

# **Prayer of Confession\***

Leader: Jesus said, "Follow me."

People: And I said, let me get ready.

Leader: Jesus said, "follow me."

People: And I said, just one minute!

Leader: Jesus said, "Follow me."

People: And I said, I'll be there soon!

Leader: The invitation is simple, but the work is hard.

People: Jesus, forgive my delay. I want to follow you.

Turn my intentions into actions.

Show me the way.

(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 Luke 9:51-62

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

**Anthem** O love of whom is truth and light Chancel Choir

Finn Viderö

O love of whom is truth and light, The word and spirit, life and power, Whose heart was bared to smite, To shield us in our trial hour: O love, I give myself to thee, Thine ever, only thine to be.

Meditation Abby Bunn

#### **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**

As the Deer with Bach's "Air" from Suite in D arr. Lauri Wood

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.

\*please stand

#### 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\* 694

Great God of Every Blessing

**Blessing and Charge\*** 

Postlude\*

Gymnopédie, No. I Lent et douloureux Erik Satie

Music: All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net (A-719333).

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