



Ash Wednesday

CARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 2, 2022
7:00 P.M.



Ash Wednesday

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering

Prelude

***Call to Worship / Opening Words**

God sent Christ into the world John 3:17; Ps. 46:1–3
not to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.
God's love endures forever.
God is our refuge and strength,
a present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear
though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though the waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
God's love endures forever.

***Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God,
you despise nothing you have made
and you forgive the sins of all who trust in you.
Create in us new and contrite hearts,
that truly repenting of our sins,
and acknowledging our brokenness,
we may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
full pardon and forgiveness;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our redeemer,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn** *Ash Wednesday Comes and, Lord, We Hear*
TALLIS' CANON 8.8.8.8 ("All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night")

Ash Wednesday comes, and Lord, we hear
The word for which our spirits yearn;
Amid this world's distress and fear,
We hear your loving call: "Return!"

"Return to me with all your heart"
With fasting, weeping, mourning, too.
O God, we seek a brand new start,
A new beginning here with you.

You call to us — the old, the young;
You summon nations strong and weak.
When we have drifted toward the wrong,
You call us back, your way to seek.

O God most merciful and kind,
Your love is not a prize we earn;
Yet in our life with you we find
The joy that comes when we return.

Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Matt. 6:1 *"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.*

Matt. 6:2 *"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*

Matt. 6:5 *"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*

Matt. 6:7 *"When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.*

⁹ *"Pray then in this way:*

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name.

¹⁰ *Your kingdom come.*

Your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ *Give us this day our daily bread.*

¹² *And forgive us our debts,*

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ *And do not bring us to the time of trial,*

but rescue us from the evil one.

¹⁴ *For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*

Matt. 6:16 *"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*

Joel 2:1 *Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—*
² *a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains
a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
nor will be again after them
in ages to come.*

Joel 2:3 *Fire devours in front of them,
and behind them a flame burns.
Before them the land is like the garden of Eden,
but after them a desolate wilderness,
and nothing escapes them.*

Joel 2:4 *They have the appearance of horses,
and like war-horses they charge.*

5 *As with the rumbling of chariots,
they leap on the tops of the mountains,
like the crackling of a flame of fire
devouring the stubble,
like a powerful army
drawn up for battle.*

Joel 2:6 *Before them peoples are in anguish,
all faces grow pale.*

7 *Like warriors they charge,
like soldiers they scale the wall.*

*Each keeps to its own course,
they do not swerve from their paths.*

8 *They do not jostle one another,
each keeps to its own track;
they burst through the weapons
and are not halted.*

9 *They leap upon the city,
they run upon the walls;
they climb up into the houses,
they enter through the windows like a thief.*

Joel 2:10 *The earth quakes before them,
the heavens tremble.*

*The sun and the moon are darkened,
and the stars withdraw their shining.*

11 *The LORD utters his voice
at the head of his army;
how vast is his host!*

*Numberless are those who obey his command.
Truly the day of the LORD is great;
terrible indeed—who can endure it?*

Joel 2:12 *Yet even now, says the LORD,
return to me with all your heart,*

*with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
rend your hearts and not your clothing.*

13 *Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and relents from punishing.*

14 *Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
 and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering
 for the LORD, your God?*

Joel 2:15 *Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sanctify a fast;
 call a solemn assembly;
16 gather the people.*

*Sanctify the congregation;
 assemble the aged;
gather the children,
 even infants at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
 and the bride her canopy.*

Joel 2:17 *Between the vestibule and the altar
 let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
 and do not make your heritage a mockery,
 a byword among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
 "Where is their God?""*

Sermon *Full to the Brim — With All That You Are*
 Paul Lang



***Hymn**

With All That You Are (vv. 1, 2, 4, 5) Fearing/Kraus

Piano

1. With all that you are, come dine in God's grace;
 2. With all of your doubts, those an - swers un - heard,
 3. With all that is bro - ken, loot, or a - bused,
 4. With all of your weep - ing tears of de - spair,
 5. We ga - ther with ash - es marked on our head;

Pno.

4
 for here you are found and here is your place.
 and all of those quest - ions seek - ing God's word;
 and all that's a - ban - doned, batt - ered, or bruised.
 and cries of la - ment, you lift up in prayer;
 the sign of the cross, of wild - er - ness bread.

Pno.

8
 Your sa - vior is call - ing you, all of you, here;
 come ga - ther like Ja - cob to wrest - le with God,
 There's no - thing with - in you that God can't re - deem.
 This part of you's wel - come, you need not pre - tend.
 The path laid be - fore us is not one of shame.

Pno.

12
 for now is the Spi - rit of God draw - ing near.
 and we'll find to - ge - ther a love deep and broad.
 Be filled to the brim by a ne'er - end - ing stream.
 for you're God's be - lov - ed, and here we can mend.
 We're pil - grims of prop - mised with grace to pro - claim!

Invitation to Observe a Holy Lent

Beloved people of God:
every year at the time of the Christian Passover
we celebrate our redemption
through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration
and to renew our life in the paschal mystery.
We begin this holy season
by acknowledging our need for repentance,
and for the mercy and forgiveness
proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes.
This ancient sign speaks of the frailty and uncertainty
of human life,
and marks the penitence of this community.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of Christ,
to observe a holy Lent
by self-examination and penitence,
by prayer and fasting,
by works of love,
and by meditating on God's word.
Now let us bow before God, our creator and redeemer,
and confess our sin.

Psalm 51

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**2 Wash me thorough and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.**

3 For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

**4 Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak
and right in your judgment.**

5 Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

**6 Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

7 Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

**8 Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

9 Hide your face from my sins, and
blot out all my wickedness.

**10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

11 Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

**12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

13 Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.

**14 Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

15 O LORD, open my lips,
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

**16 For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give
it. You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

**[Unison] 17 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not
despise.**

Litany of Penitence

Holy and merciful God,
we confess to you and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints
in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart,
and mind, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.
Have mercy on us, O God.

We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.
We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness.
For the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,
have mercy on us, O God.

For our self-indulgent appetites and ways
and our exploitation of other people,
have mercy on us, O God.

For our anger at our own frustration
and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
have mercy on us, O God.

For our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
have mercy on us, O God.

For our negligence in prayer and worship,
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
have mercy on us, O God.

Accept our repentance, O God,
for the wrongs we have done.
For our neglect of human need and suffering
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
have mercy on us, O God.

For all false judgments,
for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,
and for our prejudice and contempt
toward those who differ from us,
have mercy on us, O God.

For our waste and pollution of your creation
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God of our salvation,
and show us your steadfast love.

**Turn to us in your mercy
and redeem us.**

Imposition of Ashes

Musical Offering

Be Merciful, O Lord
Chancel Choir

Joncas

Sending

Blessing and Charge

May the God of peace
make you holy in every way
and keep your whole being—
spirit, soul, and body—
free from every fault
at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Response:**

Stay with Me

No. 204

***Stay with me; remain here with me;
watch and pray. Watch and pray.***

Please depart the Sanctuary singing, then in silence.

Worship Service Participants

Ministers: Rev. Dr. Paul H. Lang, Pastor Kim Rubish

Music Director: Ed Yasick

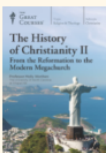
Choir: Chancel Choir

CCLI No. 3015474

Adult Faith Formation Offerings



Full to the Brim
(Sundays 9:20-10:20 AM over Zoom)
Explore the topics, themes, artwork, and commentary found in the Full to the Brim resources, especially the Lenten Devotional. This group loves a fruitful conversation, and enjoys learning together. This class is led by Hunter Piermont and Lisa Weber
Zoom Link for Full to the Brim
Passcode: 352979



Bible and Beyond
(Wednesdays 7:30-8:30 PM over Zoom)
We will study the history of Christianity in the U.S. using selected lectures from the Great Courses' video series *The History of Christianity II: From the Reformation to the Modern Megachurch*. This class is led by Alan and Lisa Ward.
Zoom Link for Bible and Beyond
Passcode: 614614



Pastor's Class (Sundays 9:20-10:20 Fellowship Hall)

Seeking the Good Life A Study of Virtue

The Pastor's Class will make a survey of moral philosophy focused on the concept of virtue. First we will examine the basics of moral philosophy as a foundation upon which we can then engage in a careful study of the *Seven Deadly Sins* and the *Seven Heavenly Virtues*.

Spiritual Formation Offerings

The Practice of Mindfulness with Jason Troiano

This class will meet in person, five times, on Thursday evenings, beginning on March 3rd, from 6:00-7:15 pm in the high school youth room. The classes will be informal and involve guided meditation practice, a brief talk of aspects of mindfulness practice, and time for conversation and fellowship. It is open to anyone who is curious about starting a meditation practice. If you are interested in attending, please email Jason at jtroiano@yaboa.com.

Full to the Brim Art Installation

Visio Divina, latin for "divine seeing," is a method of meditation, reflection, and prayer through a process of intentional seeing. We invite you to engage with pieces of art by various artists provided by A Sanctified Art. These will be displayed in worship, and will remain in the Sanctuary/Narthex, along with Artist Statements that provide theological reflections on their process creating these works. They can also be found in the Full to the Brim Lenten Devotional.

Labyrinth Walking

As the days grow longer and warmer, we invite you to walk the outdoor labyrinth on the church grounds. During Holy Week, the indoor labyrinth will also be available in the Fellowship Hall.