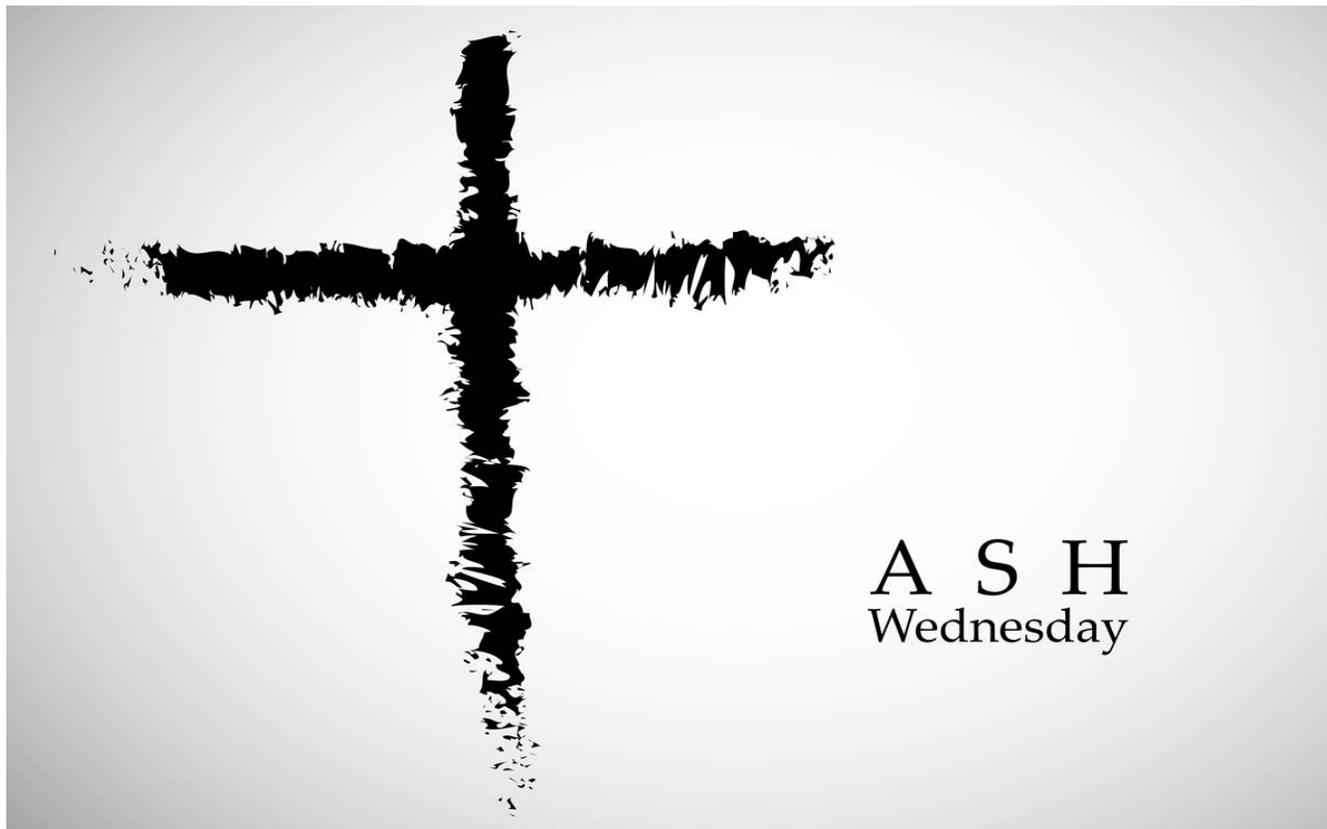


HOPEWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



MUSIC

Amy Jones, piano

–DIRECT –

*How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
Psalm 13:1*

During this time, take a moment to breathe and to reflect. Consider one or more of the following prompts as you reflect:

Talk to the Lord about the kind of day you've had. Describe it to him.
Talk to the Lord about how you are feeling right now.
Ask the Lord to speak to you this evening and reveal more of himself to you.

Be patient and wait for the Lord. Don't rush to fill silence.

GREETING & WELCOME

One: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

All: **God's Mercy endures forever. Amen.**

PRAYER

One: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

All: **Teach us, Lord, to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

- Verse 1** **O soul are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see.
There's light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free.**
- Chorus** **Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in his wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace.**
- Verse 2** **Through death into life everlasting
He passed, and we follow Him there;
O'er us sin no more hath dominion
For more than conqu'rors we are! (Chorus)**
- Verse 3** **His word shall not fail you he promised.
Believe him and all will be well;
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell! (Chorus)**

–DESCRIBE –

*How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?
Psalm 13:1*

SCRIPTURE READING & SILENT REFLECTION

Old Testament Lesson: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17a
Gospel Lesson: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
New Testament Lesson: 1 Peter 1:13-16

LENTEN REFLECTION & INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

RESPONSIVE PSALM

- One:** O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
- All:** **You know me when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.**
- One:** You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.
- All:** **Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.**
- One:** You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
- All:** **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.**
- One:** For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.
- All:** **praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.**
- One:** Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!
- All:** **And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.**

A TIME FOR REFLECTION

Lent is a season of self reflection and an opportunity to be honest about sin in our lives. As we examine our hearts, we also uncover wounds, recognize our anxieties and feel the weight of living life in a fallen world. During this time of reflection consider the following prompts:

How is God at work in your life?

Are you being honest with him (and yourself) about sin in your life?

Are you building your life on Christ's free justification or are you insecure/guilt ridden?

What do you need to repent of?

What is weighing heavy on your heart tonight?

Use the enclosed card to write down a specific lament. It may relate to a sin you are struggling with or a burden that is weighing heavy on your heart tonight, maybe it's both. There are no wrong answers. As you come forward to receive ashes, bring your card with you and place it on the cross as a sign of your faith and hope in Christ's redeeming work.

-DEPEND -

Consider and answer me, O Lord my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death, lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.
Psalm 13:3-4

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

LITANY OF PENITENCE

All: Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, 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.

One: We have not loved you with our whole heart, mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

All: Have mercy on us, O God.

One: 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 the Holy Spirit.

All: Have mercy on us, O God.

One: We confess to you, O God, all of our past unfaithfulness:
The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives.

All: We confess to you, O God,

One: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways.
Our anger, frustration and envy with respect to others.
Our intemperate love of worldly goods and obsession with comfort.
Our negligence in prayer and worship.
Our failure to live out the faith we proclaim.

All: Have mercy on us, O God. Favorably hear us, accept our repentance and lead us in the way everlasting.

- Verse 1** **Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**
- Verse 2** **Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**
- Verse 3** **Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

-DWELL -

*But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me.
Psalm 13:5-6*

ASSURANCE & PARDON

BLESSING AND CHARGE

One: 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.

All: **Amen.**

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**