

Remember our making, Creator God; remember we are dust.

Have mercy on us according to your loving kindness. Breathe new life into us once more, so we might be the people you created us to be. Restore unto us the joy of your salvation that we might do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with the Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray, Amen.

Imposition of Ashes

Those who so desire may come forward to receive an imposition of ashes as a sign of penitence not only for our individual sin, but also in recognition of our complicity in the sin of the world. The use of ashes is a sign of mortality and repentance with a long history in Jewish and Christian worship. This can be a powerful nonverbal and experiential way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation.

Assurance of Pardon from Ezekiel 36:25-27

Hear the promise of God: “I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you will be clean from all your uncleanness, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances.”

Friends, the promises of God are true:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross

That we might be dead to sin and alive to all that is good. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

Hymn *And Can It Be That I Should Gain?*

FPCE Sings #125

Scripture Matthew 6:16-21; 2 Corinthians 4

Sermon *Soul Check*

Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

Communion Liturgy

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God,

creator and ruler of the universe. You hold all our days in your hand, the same hand that created the stars in the sky and shaped dust into human form. You breathed your life into us and set us in your world to love and serve you. But we reject your love. We praise you that you sent Jesus to redeem us with your love.

Living as one of us, baptized in Holy Spirit, he taught us your Way.

Even as our sin was betraying him, he sat at the table with his disciples and took bread and blessed it and broke it, saying,

This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Then he took a cup, and said,

Take this and divide it among yourselves, for I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.

We remember your faithfulness unto death, O Lord, and look with awe upon your tortured love bleeding accursed upon a tree.

We celebrate Christ's rising that released us from bondage to sin.

Thank you for the gift of this table set as a sign of your Kingdom in our midst. Come now, Holy Spirit, and move among us that we might perceive your presence and our union with all the saints of all times and places as we partake of this covenant meal.

Amen.

Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

#85

Communion

Prayer

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

Postlude

Alas and Did My Savior Bleed – Bish

Gary Norris, Organist