

Ash Wednesday Order of Worship February 17, 2021

PRELUDE “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” American Folk Song Catalina Daggett

CHIMES

OPENING PRAYER Landes Dung

Most merciful God, by whose command we live or die: You have summoned us into your presence. You have the right to judge us in your wrath, but you choose instead to appeal to us through your astonishing love. Come into our hearts; fill us with your power and peace, that we may learn to love as you have first loved us. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

HYMN “Create In Me” Landes and Cassel Dung

PSALTER Psalm 51 Responsive Reading

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!
- 3 **For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.**
- 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless in your judgment.
- 5 **Behold, I was born into iniquity,
and I have been sinful since my mother conceived me.**
- 6 Behold, you desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
- 7 **Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow;**
- 8 Make me hear with joy and gladness;
let the bones which you have broken rejoice.
- 9 **Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.**
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and 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 in me a willing spirit.
- 13 **Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.**

14 Deliver me from death, O God, God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

15 **O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall show forth your praise.**

16 For you have no delight in sacrifice;
were I to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

17 **The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

SILENT REST

You are invited to sit quietly in silence without any expectation of what you “ought” to be thinking. Don’t worry about sounds from others – simply let them float into and out of your attention. And if you find it difficult to settle your thoughts, focus on your breath.

EXAMEN Pastor Allison

Liturgist: For that which, then, I thought was right...

All: have mercy, God.

Silent prayer

Liturgist: For that which, now, I regret...

All: forgive me, God.

Silent prayer

Liturgist: For that which, hence, I know not what to do...

All: guide me, God.

Silent prayer

Pastor: Come and rest, come and listen.

Know that grace, forgiveness, and guidance are available to you at each and every moment that we turn to receive them.

All: Thanks be to God.

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 trespasses as we forgive those who have trespassed against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

HOMILY “Fair Weather Friends”
Luke 9:51-62

HYMN: “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus” Landes and Cassel Dung

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: the early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation.

During this season converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to participation in the life of the Church.

In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word.

To make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now bow before our Creator and Redeemer

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

Pastor: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so that we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Remove clear cover on the tattoo. Place image facedown on your skin. Press a damp cloth or sponge over the tattoo paper. Hold for 60 seconds. Gently peel off the paper. Wait for the tattoo to dry.

DECLARATION OF PARDON AND PEACE

Pastor: In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: In Jesus Christ, we all have peace.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May God, who has forgiven us,
now make us strong for these days ahead.

All: May Jesus lead us, and we be found faithful to follow.

Pastor: May the Spirit drive us into the wilderness,

**All: burning away the chaff of our lives,
and purifying our hearts for all to see
and be blessed.**

Pastor: And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be with us and remain with us always!

POSTLUDE

"Go To Dark Gethsemane" American Folk Melody

Catalina Daggett

February 17, 2021 Ash Wednesday

WELCOME

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Our Mission Statement:
**To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for
the Transformation of the World**



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