

Ash Wednesday
Prayer Service and Imposition of Ashes

~ *Gather in Silence* ~

CALL TO WORSHIP

God sent Christ into the world 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.

God's love endures forever.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though 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 are penitent.
Create in us new and contrite hearts,
that truly repenting of our sins,
and acknowledging our brokenness,
we may obtain 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 #345

“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 4:1-11

REFLECTION

Rev. Lorenz

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**Wash me through and through from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.**

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

**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil
in your sight.**

And so you are justified when you speak and upright in
your judgment.

**Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.**

For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

**Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

Make me hear of joy and gladness, that the body you
have broken may rejoice.

**Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.**

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

**Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy Spirit from me.**

Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

**I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.**

Deliver me from death, O God, and my tongue shall
sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.

**Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall
proclaim your praise.**

Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,
but you take no delight in burnt offerings.

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

~ Silence is kept ~

THE GENERAL CONFESSION

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against Your Divine Majesty, provoking most justly Your wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us; the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

(Those who desire to receive ashes are invited to come forward to be marked either on the forehead or hand. Those who do not desire to receive ashes may remain seated in silent prayer.)

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER (*debt/debtors . . .*)

God of compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ you have reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray saying: "Our Father . . . "

* HYMN #543 "Abide with me"

* BENEDICTION

* indicates that all who are able, please stand
Bold indicates ALL read

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Participating in this service are:  
Rev. Anthony D. Lorenz  
Pianist Arthur Thompson

Ash Wednesday



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and to dust you shall return.*

E C C L E S I A S T E S 3 : 2 0

First Presbyterian Church  
on the Square  
Carlisle, Pennsylvania

February 26, 2020  
6:00 PM