

ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 17, 2021

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong: Amen.

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Pastor: If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess. Gracious God,

Cong: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

Pastor: Receive good news: God turns to us in love. "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God. All our sin is forgiven in the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you.

Cong: Amen.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*Those who desire to receive ashes may come forward.
After all who desire ashes have received them:*

Pastor: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

Cong: That we may show forth your glory in the world.

Pastor: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

Cong: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Pastor: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Cong: Amen.

SERMON



HYMN

Be Thou My Vision.....WOV #776

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Irish, 8th-10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt. Public Domain

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen, and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS

Pastor: Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Each petition ends with "Hear us, O God,"

The response is "Your mercy is great"

Pastor: According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you, through Christ our Lord.

Cong: Amen.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: Merciful God,

Cong: Holy and generous host, you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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 trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray,

All: We thank you, living God, for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

BLESSING

Pastor: Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, † bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace.

Cong: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling.....WOV #734

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me.
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.

Refrain:

*"Come home, come home! You who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home!"*

2. Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me?

Refrain

3. Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me.

Refrain

Text: Will Thompson, 1847-1909 Public Domain

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Share the good news.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

