

Ash Wednesday Worship

THE MUSIC FOR
GATHERING

SILENCE AND
MEDITATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (Joel 2)

Blow the trumpets and sound the alarm; this is the Lord's Day!

We come before the Lord this day with praise and with repentance.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

We the Lord's people gather in solemn assembly.

Even now, the Lord says: Return to me with all your heart.

We return to the Lord.

ALL: Let us worship God.

THE OPENING PRAYER

O God, Maker of every thing and judge of all that you have made, From the dust of the earth you have formed us; and from the dust of death you would raise us up. By the redemptive power of the cross, create in us clean hearts; and put within us a new spirit, that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of your calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

HYMN # 298 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

THE EPISTLE READING 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

HYMN # 301 "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

ANTHEM "What Wondrous Love Is This"

MEDITATION Dr. Bill Etheridge
"THE SECOND SIN"

The Invitation to the Observance Of Lenten Discipline

Thanksgiving Over The Ashes

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. **Amen**

Reading of Psalms 51:1-17

No. 785



Confession of Sin

Loving and forgiving God, on this Ash Wednesday, we confess before you alone our sins and shortcomings. You have said that you desire that we come to you in secret to unburden our souls, and so we have come. Hear now our secret, private confessions.

(Silent confession)

As we begin our Lenten journeys, O God, we begin by acknowledging our need for your mercy. Blot out our transgressions, wash us thoroughly, cleanse us of our sin. Prepare us for the miracle of Easter. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

When we, like David, sincerely confess our sins before God, God receives and restores us. God creates clean hearts and right spirits within us. Friends, believe the good news through the love of God in Jesus Christ; we are forgiven!

The Imposition Of Ashes

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

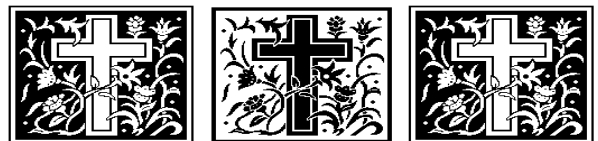
Repent, and believe in the Gospel.

Minister: May the almighty and merciful God, who desires not the death of a sinner but that we turn from wickedness and live, accept your repentance, forgive your sins, and restore you by the Holy Spirit to newness of life. **Amen**

HYMN # 351 "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Go forth from here this Ash Wednesday knowing that the ashes of this day point forward to the redemptive power of the Resurrection. And may God's grace flow over you, drawing you ever more to Jesus Christ, and filling you ever more with the Holy Spirit. Go and begin your Lenten journeys.



Lent begins

TRUSSVILLE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 14, 2018

6:30 am and 6:30 pm