



SAMPSON'S MILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025

A Taizé Worship Service with the Imposition of Ashes

Prelude

Welcome and Introduction to the Service

Gathering Music *Sing, Praise, and Bless the Lord*
Sing, praise, and bless the Lord. Sing, praise, and bless the Lord.
Peoples! Nations! Alleluia!
(repeat)

The Call to Worship (Please stand.)

Liturgist: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Liturgist: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

People: Hope in God; for we shall praise him, our help and our God.

Song *Bless the Lord, My Soul*
Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

Unison Prayer of the Day

Lord, our God, you are full of compassion. As we enter this season of Lent, send your Spirit so that we may grow more and more aware of our need for a Savior, turn away from our sinful habits regularly and genuinely, resist temptations great and small, and remember with confidence that our Lord Jesus conquered sin and death. Amen.

Song *Come and Fill Our Hearts with Your Peace*
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our heart with your peace. Alleluia.

Scripture Readings

Psalm 51:1-12

2 Corinthians 5:20-21

Meditation

“Our Hope in Ashes”

Rev. Dr. Steve Wilson

Special Music

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Choir

Invitation to a Holy Lent

Friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life and faith in the paschal mystery. We will begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes – an invitation to confess our sins and fragility, trusting also in the abundance and assurance of God’s grace and promise to make beautiful things out of the dust.

I invite you, therefore, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by reading and meditating on the Word of God.

Let us bow before God, our Creator and Redeemer and confess our sin.

Unison Prayer

Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

...time for silent confession

O God, accept our repentance, for the wrongs we have done. For our neglect of human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty. Accept our repentance, O God, for all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us for great is your power and your mercy. Amen.

Song

O, Lord Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

Come and listen to me.

The Imposition of Ashes

All are invited forward to receive the Imposition of Ashes. Ashes are a reminder of our mortality and as a sign of repentance. Receive ashes on your forehead or hand before returning to your seat. Anyone unable to come forward may receive ashes where they are seated.

The Closing Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

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

People: that we may show forth your glory in the world.

Liturgist: By the cross and passion of our Savior,

People: bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection. Amen.

Liturgist: As Jesus taught his followers, we are bold to pray,

People: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Sending Song

Jesus, Remember Me

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

You are invited to linger the sanctuary in song and silence for as long as you like. You may continue in prayer. When you are ready to leave, please leave in silence.