

## Worship Note

*From the Book of Common Worship:* Ash Wednesday developed in the medieval period as a time when penitent sinners were presented for church discipline during the season of Lent, to be reconciled with the community of faith on Maundy Thursday. Ash Wednesday also came to be the occasion for new believers to enroll in the catechumenate, a period of preparation for baptism at Easter. For those who undertake spiritual disciplines, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten fast. Ashes are an ancient symbol of repentance, sorrow, and sacrifice. Traditionally, the ashes for this service are made from the palm branches of the previous year; thus the ashes and palms together frame the season of Lent.



**FAITH IMMANUEL  
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**March 5, 2025  
Ash Wednesday**



**FAITH IMMANUEL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

# FAITH IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ash Wednesday

Worship at 7:00 p.m.

March 5, 2025

## WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

“Jesus, Rose of Sharon”  
C. H. Gabriel / arr. P. Mickelson  
Wanda Beaver, Organist

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Beloved in Christ, we come at the invitation of the Gentle One.

**All: And we are loved and received with joy.**

One: We come, broken and in need.

**All: And we are healed.**

One: We come, dust and ashes.

**All: And we are filled with the Breath of Life.**

**God of grace, receive us, bless us,  
and renew in us the gift of life. Amen.**

### OPENING PRAYER

**\*HYMN # 166 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days**

## WE RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**All: Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

One: We praise you for the work and ministry of your son... Great is the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

## WE GO INTO THE WORLD AS CHRIST'S OWN

**\*HYMN # 739 O for a Closer Walk with God**

### \*BLESSING

One: May the God of peace...  
...Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Please, quietly depart.*

\* Please, stand in body or in spirit.

## IMPOSITION OF ASHES

### LITANY OF PARDON

One: Into your loving and merciful ways, Source of Being,

**All: we commend our lives.**

One: Accomplish in us, Holy One, Holy Mighty,  
Holy Immortal,

**All: the work of your saving grace.**

One: By the passion of our Savior, Jesus Christ,

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

### SILENCE

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### INVITATION

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: Let us pray... joining with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

(The people sing, using verse 1 of Hymn 1,  
*Holy, Holy, Holy!*)

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 58: 1-12  
Old Testament, pg. # 688

## SECOND READING

Psalm 51 (responsively)

One: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

**All: According to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

One: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

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

One: Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight,

**All: So that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.**

One: Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

**All: You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

One: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**All: Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

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

**All: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.**

One: Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

**All: Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.**

One: Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

**All: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.**

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

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

### THIRD READING

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21  
New Testament, pg. # 5

### MEDITATION

Rev. Kristal Smith

### ANTHEM

“A Shadow Fell on Sharon’s Rose”

Words by B. Leach / Music by J. Martin Chancel Choir

### OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

### INVITATION AND CALL TO CONFESSION

### LITANY OF PENITENCE

One: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, you are one who guards and guides our way.

**All: Have mercy upon us.**

One: To follow you is to trust you in paradox; that from a broken, aching heart,

**All: rises a healing and hopeful heart.**

One: that out of weakness and vulnerability,

**All: grows the quickening of Christ’s Love.**

One: that in darkness and despair,

**All: the radiance of Christ’s Light shines.**

One: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, we fail to follow you; we turn away.

**All: Forgive us, we pray.**

One: As certain as the morning sun that rises, you are here, Lord.

**All: Forgive us, we pray.**

One: This day. This Evening.

**All: There was evening, then morning, the first day. And it was good. Very good.**

One: This day. This Evening. Ashes to Ashes.  
Dust to Dust.

**All: We are grounded in the Source of All Being. This day. This Evening.**

One: For needing evidence for every holy matter, and wanting none for our indifference to all injustice,

**All: Forgive and accept our repentance.**

One: For failure to speak and praise your name alone and that we do not make a defense for the hope that is within us,

**All: Forgive and accept our repentance.**

One: Restore us, O God.

**All: Favorably hear us, for your mercy and forgiveness are great. Amen.**