

February 18, 2015
Order for the Worship of God

Music for Gathering *Near The Cross* William H. Diane
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, Piano Arr. Lani Smith

Call to Worship from John 3:17; Psalm 46:1-3

Leader: God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.

People: **God's love endures forever.**

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear
though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though the waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

People: **God's love endures forever.**

Prayer of the Day (in unison)

**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 *Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining* No. 425

The Old Testament Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Music for Reflection *Beneath The Cross of Jesus* Frederick C. Maker
Arr. Lani Smith

The Epistle II Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10

Reflection *Ashes to Ashes* Laura S. Sugg

*Congregation may stand.

Invitation to the Observance of the Lenten Discipline

Litany of Penitence and the Imposition of Ashes

Leader: Let us pray.

People: **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.**

Leader: We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and
strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

People: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Leader: We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.
We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

People: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

A Period of Silent Reflection

Leader: Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done.
For our neglect of human need and suffering
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

People: **accept our repentance, O God,**

Leader: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our
neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who
differ from us,

People: **accept our repentance, O God,**

Leader: For our waste and pollution of your creation
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

People: **accept our repentance, O God,**

Leader: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

People: **Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.
May these ashes be for us
a sign of our mortality and penitence,
and a reminder that only by your gracious gift
are we given everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

[People come forward in silence to receive the imposition of ashes.]

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

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

Leader: By the cross and passion of our Savior,

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

***Hymn** *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* No. 81

The Gospel Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

***Blessing and Charge**

Leader: May the God of peace make you holy in every way
and keep your whole being—spirit, soul, and body—
free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

[All depart in silence.]

Many thanks to the Worship Committee and volunteers who
made the 5:30pm supper possible.

Thank you also to Ralph and Marcia Hecox for ushering.

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Dir. of C.E., Children and Youth: Addie Crabbe • C.E. Assistant: Rachael Axtman

Organist, Hand Bell Choir Director: Julie Pulliam, M.A.

Choir Director: Kevin Crowe, M.M.

Treasurer: Eileen Gardner, C.P.A • Assistant Treasurer: Caroline Clovesko

Administrative Assistant: Jenny Garner