

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.**

SENDING

*** Departing Hymn #618**

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High (Verses 1, 3 & 5)

*** 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 may depart in silence.

***People stand as they are able.**



(B) Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024

GATHERING

A moment of silence as we gather

Greeting

*** Call to Worship**

(from Joel 2)

Leader: Call a solemn assembly; gather the people.
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble before God.

**People: God knows all the secrets of our hearts
and is aware of all our ways.**

Leader: The day of God is coming; it is near,
a day of clouds and shadows and gloom.

**People: God's judgements are blameless and sure,
and God's grace is sufficient for all our needs.**

Leader: Rend your hearts and not your garments;
Come to God with fasting, weeping, and mourning.

**People: We worship God with purity and genuine love,
seeking to be faithful to the best we know.**

*** Hymn of Preparation #833**

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go (Verses 1 & 4)

PREPARING FOR OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Prayer of the Day

A Scripture Reading

I Corinthians 13

Meditation

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

Invitation to Observe a Holy Lent

Litany of Penitence

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.

(Following this Call to Confession a Time of silence for Personal Confession)

Leader: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Hear us, we pray,

People: Have mercy on us, O God. [a brief pause.]

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.

Hear us, we pray,

People: Have mercy on us, O God. [a brief pause.]

Leader: We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness:

The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

Hear us, we pray,

People: Have mercy on us, O God. [a brief pause.]

Leader: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people,

Hear us, we pray,

People: Have mercy on us, O God. [a brief pause.]

Leader: Our anger at our own frustration

and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

Hear us, we pray,

People: Have mercy on us, O God. [a brief pause.]

Leader: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
Hear us, we pray,

People: Have mercy on us, O God. [a brief pause.]

Leader: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
Hear us, we pray,

People: Have mercy on us, O God. [a brief pause.]

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,
Hear us, we pray,

People: Have mercy on us, O God. [a brief pause.]

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

People: Have mercy on us, O God. [a brief pause.]

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

People: Have mercy on us, O God. [a brief pause.]

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

People: Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Leader: Listen, the time has come at last.

Look, now is the day of salvation!

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God.

The Blessing the Ashes and the Imposition of Ashes

[All who desire may come forward for the imposition of ashes.]

Hymn #488 *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*
(all who wish may sing along)

Leader: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will return.

People: In life and in death, I belong to God.