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The Service of Worship

Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

*Call to Worship

Leader In the midst of darkness we have come.
People **Heal us, Lord Jesus.**
Leader Save us from the darkness of our souls.
People **Save us, Lord Jesus.**
Leader Let us follow you and obey your commands.
People **Direct and guide us, Lord Jesus.**
Leader Brighten our lives and lift our spirits.
People **Bring us to your glorious presence, Lord Jesus.**

***Hymn** [Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days](#) #269

Call to Confession (Leader)

Our hearts long for God, and we know we fall short of God's glory, so let us now confess to God the ways we have individually and collectively fallen short of God's Grace. Please pray with me our prayer of confession.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

O God, just last Sunday we experienced such joy! We were on the mountain top with Jesus, witnessing his conversation with Moses and Elijah. Now we have been cast into the darkness. And this darkness is deeper than night – it is the darkness of the unknown. Tonight we will hear words that will chill our spirits. We will receive the mark of the ashes and be reminded of the sacrifice and commitment we are about to make for the journey. Forgive us for our fears and hesitancy, Lord. Heal our spirits. Enable us to enter into this time of learning and testing with courage and trust. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN!

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Amen

Choir

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Prayer (in unison)

Merciful God, restore in us the joy of your salvation. Free us from all apprehensions and sustain in us a willing spirit to offer these gifts for your glory and purpose. We pray that we give humbly and reverently as we begin this Lenten journey. May our giving truly be a declaration of praise to you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Scripture

[Luke 9: 21-36](#)

Anthem

Come to the Cross

Choir

Message

Taking Something Up for Lent

Rev. McDonald

Invitation to the observance of Lenten Discipline

Thanksgiving over Ashes

Imposition of the Ashes

***Hymn**

[Fill My Cup Lord](#)

#641

The Great Thanksgiving

#13

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Giving the Bread and Cup

