

ASH WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 17, 2021  
7:30 P.M.

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent with a public act of confession. Acknowledging that we have all sinned and fallen short of God's glory, we repent and express our utter reliance on God's saving grace. Ashes are an ancient symbol of repentance, sorrow, and sacrifice. We begin our Lenten journey with the ritual of Imposition of Ashes, a reminder that from dust we have come and to dust we will return.

As we prepare for worship, you are invited to reflect silently on your own mortality and confess your sins before God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

CJ PRATER

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

**God's love endures forever.**

God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble.

**God's love endures forever.**

Therefore, we will not fear though the earth should change.

**God's love endures forever.**

Therefore, we will not fear though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea.

**God's love endures forever.**

Therefore, we will not fear, though the waters roar and foam.

**God's love endures forever.**

Therefore we will not fear, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**God's love endures forever.**

OPENING PRAYER

ANTHEM "Man That is Born of a Woman" from *Pilgrimage* C. Floyd  
Jeff Snider - Baritone

READING OF GOD'S WORD: Joel 2: 12-17

ASH WEDNESDAY REFLECTIONS

Headed for the Wilderness

HYMN 433 Sign Us with Ashes (Vss. 1, 3, 6)

LENTEN MOMENT

Lisa

Patterson

INVITATION TO THE ASHES

PRAYER OVER THE ASHES

*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. Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth; Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so that we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.*

IMPOSITION OF ASHES (You are invited to impose ashes on yourself or with the people with whom you gather. As you make the sign of the cross, you are invited to say, "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return)

PARTING HYMN, 724 O Jesus, I have Promised (Vss. 1, 2)

BENEDICTION (Silent)

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. Amen. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.