

Ash Wednesday Service

Trinity United Methodist Church

Justin Judy, pastor | February 26, 2020

Theme: Ash Wednesday is an invitation to undergo a forty-day Lenten journey—a journey of preparation that culminates in the Triduum (the three days beginning with Holy Thursday), and the Easter celebration. The call to repentance is the beginning of the journey.

Prelude “When Jesus the Healer Passed
Through Galilee”

Imposition of the Ashes

Leader: To make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now humble ourselves before our Creator and Redeemer.

Response: These ashes are a sign of our mortality, penitence, and need of your gracious gift to us through Jesus Christ.

Unison Prayer

Gracious and merciful God, we gather in your name on this holy day. May our hearts return to you as we begin the season of Lent. When we struggle with sorrow, remind us of the joy of your amazing love. When we focus on the things we lack, remind us of

your limitless generosity. When we think that we have nothing, remind us that through the sacrifice of your Son, we possess everything we truly need. Take our hearts and make them clean, O God. Take our lives and make them your own. Amen.

*Hymn #496 “Sweet Hour of Prayer”

Gospel Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

New Testament Lesson
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

*Hymn #294 “Alas! and Did My Savoir Bleed”

Hebrew Lesson Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Anthem “Change My Heart, O God”
arr. Joel Raney

Message The First Steps

The Great Thanksgiving (hymnal, pp. 9-10)

*Passing the Peace of Christ

*Hymn #402 “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

*Benediction and Blessing

*Postlude “Silence, Frenzied, Unclean Spirit”

♦ *Rise in body or in spirit*