

When we eat this bread and drink the cup, we proclaim your life, ministry, death, and resurrection until you come again in glory.

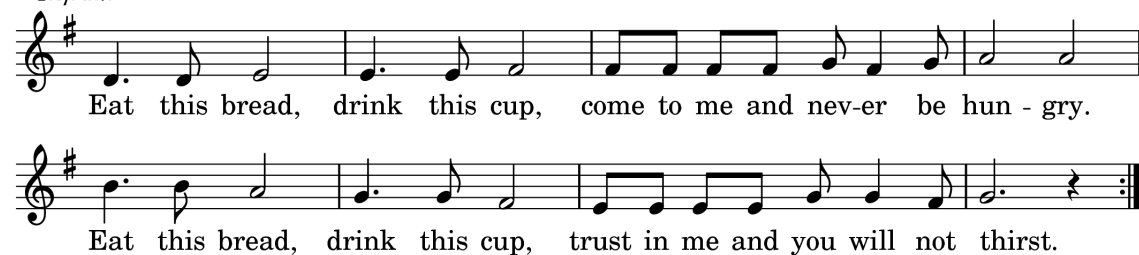
Together, let us offer the words of the Lord's Prayer, saying in one voice:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. They will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine in the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Serving of the Bread and Cup

Hymn Eat This Bread (sung through twice)

Refrain



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun - gry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

Prayer Following Communion

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in this sacrament. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(cont'd. on insert)

Ash Wednesday Service

Westminster Presbyterian Church

7:00 p.m.

**February 17, 2021
on Facebook Live**



Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. By the fourth century the Western church had determined that the Lenten period of fasting and renewal should correspond to Christ’s forty-day fast (Matthew 4:2), and, by counting forty days back from Easter (excluding Sundays, which remain “feast” days), arrived at the Wednesday seven weeks before Easter.

The aim of Ash Wednesday worship is threefold: to meditate on our mortality, sinfulness, and need of a savior; to renew our commitment to daily repentance in the Lenten season and all of life; and to remember with confidence and gratitude that Christ has conquered death and sin. Ash Wednesday worship, then, is filled with gospel truth. It is a witness to the power and beauty of our union with Christ and to the daily dying and rising with Christ that this entails.

During this evening’s service, several meditative Taizé hymns will be sung. The congregation (and choral ensemble) will sing each song softly through the specified number of times, while cantors sing verses (taken mainly from the Psalms).

Call to Worship

Brothers and sisters in Christ, every year at Easter, during the time of the “Christian Passover,” we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to practice with discipline daily repentance, our daily dying and rising in union with Christ.

We begin this season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Let us journey together.

Meditative Hymn Lord of All Goodness (sung through five times)



The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of two measures. The first measure contains five eighth notes: B-flat, D, F, A, and B-flat. The second measure contains five eighth notes: B-flat, D, F, A, and B-flat. The notes are grouped by a brace underneath.

Lord of all good - ness, Son of the Fa - ther,

Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord’s Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give thanks that in the creation of the world, you laid the earth’s foundation and set its cornerstone in place. By the power of your Spirit you made the universe; by the might of your Word you gave us life.

We give thanks that in the new creation, when you gave your Son to us up again, since we and all our human race had fallen, you claimed us for your own people, that we might proclaim the glorious deeds of him who has called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light. By the life of your Spirit you fill the hearts of the faithful, by the light of your Word you give us strength and love. Therefore, with your people of all places and times and with the whole company of heaven we proclaim your greatness and sing your praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus came to be with us in human flesh, like us in all things except sin, that by his death and resurrection he might bring again life to the world. Lord, we are not able to understand the breadth and length and height and depth of your love, but, true to his commandment, we come to this table, which he has left to us, to be used in remembrance of his death until he comes again.

Here we declare and witness before the world that by him alone we have received liberty and life, been claimed as your children and heirs, have access to your favor, freely granted, and are raised into your spiritual kingdom.

- 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.
- 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.
- 14 Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.
- 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.
- 16 For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.
- 17 The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Meditative Hymn My Soul Is at Rest in God Alone (sung 4 times)



While the congregation is singing, Cantor sings from Psalm 62:

In God is my safety and glory, the rock of my strength. Take refuge in God, all you people. Trust God at all times. Pour out your hearts before him for God is our refuge.

The Second Lesson Matthew 6:19-21 The New Testament

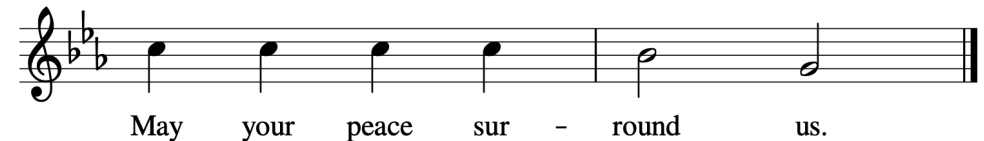
19 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Pastor's Reflections/Invitation to a Holy Lent

The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

Invitation to The Lord's Table

Come to this table: you who have much faith, and you who would like to have more; you who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.



While the congregation is singing, the cantors sing from Psalm 130:

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on God's word. My soul is longing for the Lord, more than the watchman for daybreak.

Give praise to the Father almighty, to God's son Jesus Christ, our Lord, to the spirit who dwells in our hearts, both now and forever. Amen!

Call to Confession

Genuine repentance involves two things: the dying-away of the old self and the coming-to-life of the new. The dying-away of the old self is to be genuinely sorry for sin, and to choose a better way. The coming-to-life of the new self is wholehearted joy in God through Christ and a desire to do every kind of good. Together, as Christ's body, we now confess our sin and express our longing to live in joyful obedience to God.

Prayer of Confession

Have mercy, O God, have mercy on us. We have many treasures on earth that we hold too dearly; that we withhold from others in need. When we sin against neighbor, condone injustice, and quarrel with one another, we sin against you. Forgive us, we pray, for we are broken in spirit. Do not see us for our faults, and do not go away from us. Keep us always in your presence so that we may be restored to the joy of your salvation. Sustain in us a willing spirit to treasure what you

**desire; then our hearts will be opened in joy and gladness.
In Jesus Christ, our Treasure, we pray. Amen.**

Response: O Lord, Hear Our Prayer (sung twice)

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
or The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise:
When I call, an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O
all my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song; the
Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.
Lord is my praise: God, the well - spring of life.

Assurance of Pardon

According to God’s steadfast love, according to God’s abundant mercy,
God does not pass the judgment upon us that we deserve.
**Instead, God creates in us clean hearts and gives a new and
right spirit. In the grace of Jesus Christ, we return to God
forgiven. Praise God for our salvation!**

Response: Bless the Lord, My Soul (sung 4 times)

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s ho - ly name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

While the congregation is singing, the cantors sing from Psalm 103:

It is God who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,

*who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and
compassion.*

*The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy,
God does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to
our faults.*

*As a Father has compassion on his children, the Lord has pity on those
who fear him: for God knows of what we are made, God remembers
that we are dust.*

Prayer for Illumination

In this purple-hued season, God of mercy, we need the light of your Word
to break forth like the dawn. If you will guide us continually, then even the
parched places in us will be like a watered garden. If words of blame are
replaced with your Word of grace and truth, then our crumbling
foundations can be rebuilt for generations. By the power of your Holy
Spirit, speak to us and do not hold back. In Christ’s name we ask it. Amen.

The First Lesson Psalm 51:1-17 The Old Testament

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your
sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you
pass judgment.
- 5 Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- 6 You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my
secret heart.
- 7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be
whiter than snow.
- 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed
rejoice.
- 9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit
within me.
- 11 Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy
spirit from me.

Closing Hymn In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful
(sung through three times)



While congregation is singing, the cantors sing:

With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation. Give thanks to the Lord. Acclaim God's name.

*Charge and Benediction

Psalm 91:14-16

Give generously, but quietly;
pray constantly, but confidently;
fast with gratitude to God;
and store up that which is in your heart;
for it cannot be taken from you.

Hear these words of promise from your God:
“Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honor them.
With long life will I satisfy them,
And show them my salvation.” **Amen.**

Please depart in silence.