



**FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN**  
*celebrating & inspiring*

**Ash Wednesday**

March 5, 2025

12:00 and 6:00 p.m.

## Ash Wednesday Service

\*Please stand as you are able.

**All are invited to join together in parts printed in bold.**

### PRELUDE

*Please light one (or more) of the candles located on the table in the back of the Chapel. We light these candles as an act of repentance; acknowledging our mortality and sinful nature.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent with a public act of confession. It is here we acknowledge that we have all sinned and fallen short of God's glory, so we repent and return to our loving God. Acutely aware of our failure and frailty, it is here we express our utter reliance of God's saving grace.

*(BCW: Daily Prayer, "Lent")*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Almighty God, you despise nothing you have made and you forgive the sins of all who trust in you. Create in us new and contrite hearts, that truly repenting of our sins, and acknowledging our brokenness, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### \*HYMN #417: JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA

Just as I am, without one plea but that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thy love unknown has broken every barrier down;  
Now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

SCRIPTURE READINGS: JOEL 2:1-2, 12-17  
ISAIAH 58:1-12

### MEDITATION: "TINY THINGS"

\*Inspired by Olivia Hamilton, Cincinnati, OH: Journal for Preachers\*

### INVITATION TO OBSERVE A HOLY LENT

## LITANY OF PENITENCE

**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.**

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.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

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.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

**we confess to you, O God.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways

and our exploitation of other people,

**we confess to you, O God.**

Our anger at our own frustration

and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

**we confess to you, O God.**

Our imperative love of worldly goods and comforts,

and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

**we confess to you, O God.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship,

and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

**we confess to you, O God.**

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. For all false judgements,  
for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our  
prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us. For  
our waste and pollution of your creation and our lack of  
concern for those who come after us. Accept our repentance,  
O God, and restore us, for your mercy is great. Amen.**

## IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*(All are invited to come forward to receive the mark of ashes.)*

***“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”***

***“Consider yourself dead to sin and alive in Jesus Christ.”***

## RESPONSE

Leader: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

**All: that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

Leader: By the cross and passion of our Savior,

**All: bring us with all your saints  
to the joy of Christ's resurrection.**

## MEDITATIVE REFLECTION

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### LENT and EASTER @ FPCLY

**Sweet Hour of Prayer...** Women of the church (and friends), join Kara Byrne in the chapel for a time of peaceful prayer for family, friends, faith, and future. We will meet each Sunday during Lent, from 5:15-6:15 (Chapel), beginning TONIGHT.

**Taking the Time to See...** Beginning Wednesday, March 12th Gary and Beth Williams will lead a series of reflections based on the stained-glass windows of the Church. We will meet in the Sanctuary from 5:30 - 6pm, then transition to the Fellowship Hall for a simple dinner and conversation. All ages are welcome! Please RSVP with Alex Collier, Gary Williams, or by Sign-Up sheet at FPCLY by Monday, March 10th.

### **Holy Week Activities**

- April 13 at 10:45am, Palm Sunday Worship
- April 17 at 6:00pm, Maundy Thursday Seder Meal
- April 18 at 7:00pm, "Seven Last Words" Good Friday Concert
- April 20 at 7:00am, Sunrise Service
- April 20 at 8:30am, Easter Worship (No Choir)
- April 20 at 10:45am, Easter Worship