



Ash Wednesday

Attend an Ash Wednesday Service on
February 18 at 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM, or 6:30 PM.

The early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration, there was a forty-day season of spiritual preparation.

"During these 40 days, let me put away all my pride. Let me change my heart and give up all that is not good within me. Let me love God with all that I am and all that I have."

~ Genesis Grain

Receive this invitation, in the love of our Lord Jesus, to observe holy Lent:

- by self-examination and repentance,
- by prayer, fasting, and self-denial,
- by acts of generosity, compassion, peacemaking, and service,
- and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word.

Daily Reflections

On Ash Wednesday, February 18, read Luke 4:1-13. Where am I tempted to define myself by power or scarcity? How is Christ inviting me to trust God's sustaining presence?

On Thursday, February 19, read Exodus 3:1-15. What would change if I trusted that the great "I AM" sees my suffering, calls me by name, and sends me forth with purpose?

On Friday, February 20, read Revelation 21:1-7. How does God's promise to make all things new reshape the way I face grief, injustice, or uncertainty in this season?

On Saturday, February 21, read Matthew 16:13-17. My words, actions, and choices confess who Jesus is to me. How might my confession open me to deeper transformation?

"As we cross the threshold into Lent, we will hear the words of the prophet Joel as he tells us, 'Rend your hearts.' We can choose to do this, to turn toward God, because God has already opened God's own heart to us.

God keeps letting God's heart break for us. Keeps choosing to become bound to us. To become entangled with us. To covenant with us and with creation and with those who will come after us. Keeps taking our side even when we have wandered into the far country, bent on a path of our own stubborn choosing. In this season God asks us, invites us, dares us to let ourselves be claimed." – Jan Richardson