

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5, 2025 7:00 p.m.

CHIMES

PRELUDE “Prayer” Mark Davis

WELCOME / INVITATION TO LENT Rev. Dr. Stephen D. Adkison

INTROIT “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” John Bowring / Ithamar Conkey

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.  
**God’s love endures forever.**  
God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.  
**God’s love endures forever.**  
Let us worship God in Spirit and in Truth! Amen!

\*HYMN “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” No. 166

INVITATION TO RENEWAL

And so we live our lives imperfectly, for we are flawed. But we are also loved by the God in whose Image we were created. Let us remake ourselves toward that Image as we make our confession before God and each other.

PRAYER OF RENEWAL

**Great and merciful God: You created us in Your own Divine Image and Likeness, but we sometimes would rather make You over in our image, expecting and demanding far less of ourselves. At the opening of this season of penitence, we pray for courage and honesty, that our self-examination may be searching and specific rather than safely general. Save us, Holy Creator, from being satisfied with feeling sorry for the wrong we have done--or condoned or just ignored--and for the good we have failed to do. Move us rather to explore what we can do to make amends; to undo harm we may have caused; to make up for whatever good we have left undone. May these ashes, symbol of repentance, remind us of the cost of true penitence. In the name of the One who, though subject to all our temptations, was alone without sin, Jesus Christ, our compassionate Lord. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Psalm 103:12; Micah 7:19)

As far as the east is from the west, so have our sins been separated from us. They have been thrown into the sea of forgetfulness, and there, they are remembered no more.  
**Our thanks be to God!**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**  
*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen and Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isaiah 58:6-8; Galatians 5:13-17; 22-23

RESPONSE May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart, be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Ps. 19:14)  
**Thanks be to God!**

HOMILY “Fasting IS Feasting!” Rev. Adkison

ANTHEM “Just as I Am, Without One Plea” Charlotte Elliot / William B. Bradbury

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*You are invited to come forward and receive the sign of the cross to remember that you belong to God in life and in death. You may either receive the sign upon your forehead or the back of your hand. After receiving the ashes, you may return to your seat.*

ASH WEDNESDAY PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

\*CLOSING HYMN “What Wondrous Love Is This” No. 215

**\*BENEDICTION**  
Rev. Adkison  
May the God of Peace  
Make you holy in every way  
And keep your whole being--  
Mind, body, and soul--  
Free from every fault  
At the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

CHORAL BENEDICTION “Amen” Marty Hanger

POSTLUDE “If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee” John Andrews

\* Please stand if able

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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

### **Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 58:6-8 (NIV)

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice  
and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?  
Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—  
when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own  
flesh and blood?  
Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear;  
then your righteousness will go before you,  
and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.

Galatians 5:13-17 (NIV)

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge  
the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping  
this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” If you bite and devour each other,  
watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh  
desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in  
conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,  
gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

### Shelter Island Presbyterian Church



“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.  
Repent, and believe the Gospel”