

**Ash Wednesday
February 22, 2012**

Call to Worship:

Leader: Let us worship God. God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

People: **God's love endures forever.**

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear.

People: **God's love endures forever.**

Prayer of the Day

Hymn 87 The Glory of These Forty Days (Erhalt Uns, Herr)

Prayer for Illumination

Readings from Scripture:

First Reading: Isaiah 58:9-14

Second Reading: Mathew 6:1-6, 16-21

Message: Not For Show

Invitation to the Observance of the Lenten Discipline

Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

Imposition of Ashes

Closing Prayer and Blessing for the Meal

Blessing and Charge