



Ash Wednesday

Create in me a clean heart,
O God,
and put a new and right
spirit within me.

Psalm 51.10

The Presbyterian Church on Edisto Island
Ash Wednesday Service
February 10, 2016
6:00 PM

Please use silence and meditation to begin our worship together.

Call to Worship

Leader: *Blow the trumpet; sanctify a fast. Call a solemn assembly.*

People: **Gather the aged and the children, even the newborn baby. Call God's people.**

Leader: *With open hearts and minds we come before God.*

People: **We come to confess our sins, our faults, our failures. We turn to the God who is slow to anger and abounding in great mercy.**

Unison Prayer

Almighty God, you despise nothing you have made and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts, that truly repenting of our sins, and acknowledging our brokenness, we may obtain 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.

Psalm of Confession and Penitence

Psalm 51
TALLIS' CANON

*Have mercy God in your great grace
Wash me from every staining trace
Of sin and evil I have done
I pray to you the Holy One*

*Before you only have I sinned
Your eyes have seen what I have been
A sinner from the time of birth
Come now, transform me, give me worth*

*Cleanse me from sin, I shall be pure
Your joy and gladness will endure
My broken spirit in your hands
Help me to follow your commands*

*Create O God within my heart
A path to make a fresh new start
And shape a spirit within me
That steadfast, sure and right will be*

*Do not remove me from your sight
Or take your Spirit shining bright
Give me the joy your help provides
Your Holy Spirit as my guide*

*God, I will teach your ways of grace
And sinners then will seek your face
Save me and rescue, God of mine
And I will sing your praise divine*

*Open my mouth that I may raise
A song to you of glorious praise
The sacrifice that brings your joy
A humble heart you will employ*

Prayer for Illumination

Readings from Scripture

Isaiah 58:1-12

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Lenten Meditation and Invitation to the Discipline of Lent

Psalter Reading

Psalm 103:8-18

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.

The LORD remembers that we are dust.

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him.

The LORD remembers that we are dust.

Far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

The LORD remembers that we are dust.

As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him. For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust.

The LORD remembers that we are dust.

As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower in the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

The LORD remembers that we are dust.

But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.

The LORD remembers that we are dust.

Imposition of the Ashes

Closing Prayer

Leader: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
People: that we may show forth your glory in the world.
Leader: By the cross and passion of our Savior,
People: bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection.
Amen.

Hymn #541

Now the Day is Over

MERRIAL

Blessing

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for Soup and Cornbread.