

Jesse Lee United Methodist Church
March 2, 2022
Ash Wednesday

Prelude **“Seasonal Music”**

Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you
Bless the Lord who forgives all sins.
God’s mercy endures forever.

Opening Prayer (Unison)

***O God, maker of everything and judge of all that
You have made, from the dust of the earth you have formed us and from
the dust of death you would raise us up. By the redemptive power of the
cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit, that we
may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of your calling; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Hymn: *“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”* UMH#269

Scripture Reading: *Joel 2:1-2, 12-17*

Anthem **“Out of Ashes”** **Words by Paul Marino and Greg Nelson**
Music by Jeremy Johnson, Arrangement by Travis Cottrell

Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21*

Message *Pastor Fern Blair Hart*

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ:

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 should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation. During this season converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism.

It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness and restored to participation in the life of the Church.

In this way, the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith.

I invite you therefore, in the name of the Church to observe a holy Lent:

By self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial, and by reading and meditation on God’s Holy Word.

To make a right beginning of repentance, and as mark of our mortal nature, let us now bow before our Creator and Redeemer.

Moment of Silence

Thanksgiving over the Ashes

*Almighty God you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so that we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.***

Imposition of Ashes

Confession and Pardon

At this time all are invited to offer confession in silence.

Words of Pardon

May the almighty and merciful God, who desires not the death of a sinner but that we turn from wickedness and live, accept your repentance, forgive your sins, and restore you by the Holy Spirit to newness of life. Amen.

The Peace

At this time everyone is invited to stand in place and share the signs of reconciliation and love.

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen

Hymn: *"Have Thine Own Way"*

UMH #382

Blessing

Postlude: *"Elegy"*

Music by Joe Swindon

Jesse Lee United Methodist Church



Jesse Lee United Methodist Church

Our Shepherd: Jesus the Christ

Ministers: All followers of Jesus Christ

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Music Director: Joe Swindon

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