

THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Jesus said, "Come unto me all who labor and I will give you rest."

P: But it is Ash Wednesday. It is not a time of rest.

L: Jesus said, "Your faith will make you well."

P: How can this be? Jesus could not avoid what was to come.

L: Jesus said, "Love one another as I have loved you."

P: How can we love when we see the inhumanity around us every day?

L: Jesus said, "If you do it for the least of these, you do it for me."

P: How can helping someone else help Jesus?

L: Jesus said, "Do not worry about tomorrow for tomorrow will bring worries of its own." Listen! Jesus offers rest in times of trouble and love when it is least deserved. Jesus challenges us to rise to our better selves in the faith-full life.

All: Let us then walk where we would rather not go in the sure knowledge that we walk with Jesus. To the one whose life is a gift of grace, we lift our voices in praise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, we come to this place of worship subdued as we think about what is to come. We ponder the journey ahead of 40 long days. We want the ashes traced on our foreheads. And yet we don't. Clearly we gather with mixed feelings. Help us to clear our minds and open our hearts to hear the good news of the Scripture lesson. Let us listen with confidence to you, for you are gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Let us listen carefully so that we might know that it is so. Amen.

+*HYMN #450 *Be Thou My Vision*

CALL TO CONFESSION

The word itself sounds so heavy; so much more heavy than the burdens we carry. And yet, here we are in Lent, Lord. So we offer up to you the remembrance of times when we have been less than our best.

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, February 26 Transfiguration Sunday

10:00 AM – Worship Service

11:00 AM – Annual Congregational Meeting

11:00 AM – JuBELLation Choir – Bell Choir Room

Monday, February 27

9:30AM – Senior Exercise Class – Library

7:00 PM – Life Groups – Parlor

Tuesday, February 28

8:30AM – Men's Bowling - Brookgate Lanes

7:00 PM – Boy Scouts – Multi-Purpose Room

Wednesday, March 1 Ash Wednesday

9:30AM – Senior Exercise Class – Library

10:00 AM – Life Groups – 2nd Floor Conf. Room

10:30 AM – Al-Anon – MPR

7:00 PM – Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, March 2

8:30 AM – Men's Bowling – Brookgate Lanes

6:00 PM – Carillon Choir – Bell Choir Room

7:00 PM – Chancel Choir – Sanctuary

7:00 PM – Boys Basketball Practice – Gym

Friday, March 3

10:00 AM – Lenten Study: The Apostle's Creed - Parlor

Saturday, March 4

9:00 AM – Men's Square – Pappou's Restaurant

Sunday, March 5 - Communion Sunday

10:00 AM – Worship Service

11:00 AM – Coffee Hour

11:00 AM – JuBELLation Choir – Bell Choir Room

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord of my life, I readily acknowledge my devotion to my family. And yet ... and yet ... I choose to work overtime. I love my job, and yet ... I cut corners just for the sake of getting the job done. I like to work out, and yet ... I get coffee and go on the Internet instead of going to the gym. I believe in making good use of our limited resources, and yet ... I am too lazy to recycle. I love to read, and yet ... I watch mindless television night after night. I know I should get a good night's sleep, and yet ... I am lurking on Facebook instead. Clearly, I do not like where I find myself. Help me to rearrange my priorities, O Lord, so that what I am really devoted to is clearly apparent in the way I live my life.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Listen! Hear this good news. Our Lord, who walked these roads and faced temptation, understands our quandaries and temptations. Remember that Jesus always listens, forgives and calls us to new life. In the name of Jesus Christ, your confession is heard and your shortcomings already forgotten. Amen! Amen!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING **II Corinthians 5:20-6:10**
N.T. p 181-182

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ANTHEM *Lamb of God* arr. L. Larson

OLD TESTAMENT READING **II Samuel 12:7-16**
O.T. p. 285

MOMENT OF SILENCE

MEDITATION **"You Are The Man"**

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

READING: Psalm 51:1-5 O.T. p 520

Choral Response Hymn 442

RESPONSE: **Just As I am without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou biddest me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

READING: Psalm 51:6-9

RESPONSE: **Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Struggles and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

READING: Psalm 51:10-12

RESPONSE: **Just as I am, Thou will receive
Will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

READING: Psalm 51:16-17

RESPONSE: **Just as I am, Thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

POSTLUDE *Wonderful, Merciful Savior* D. Rodgers
and E. Wyse

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN 438 *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

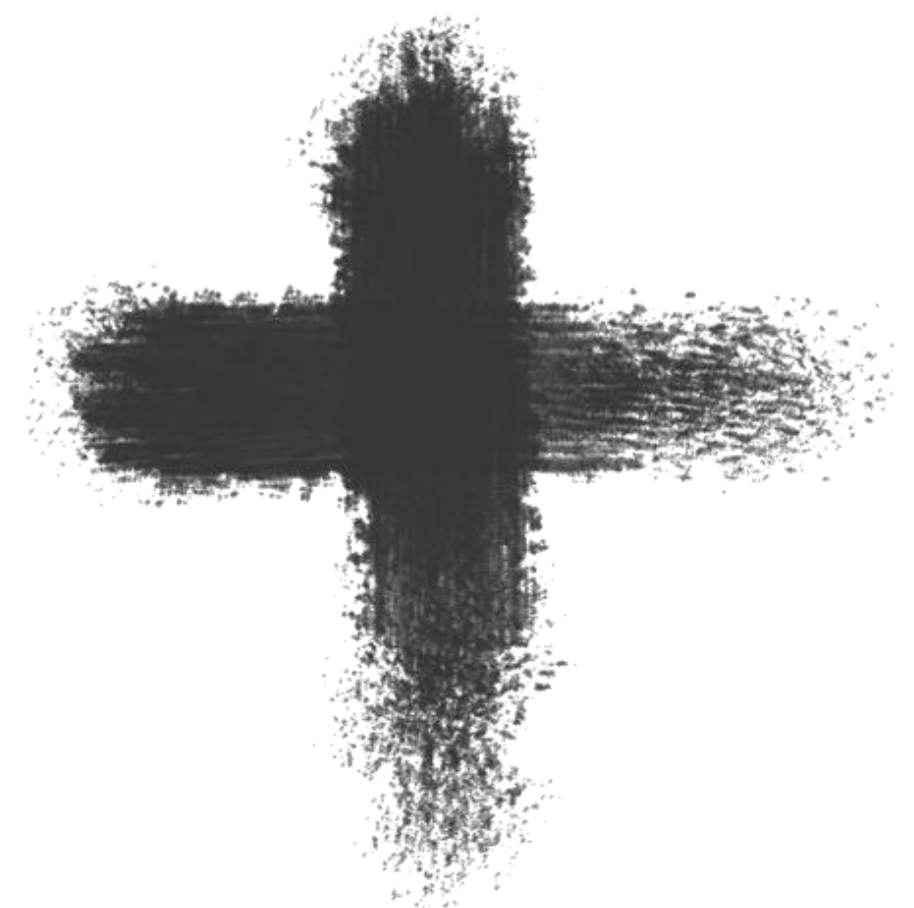
CLOSING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER
(We will leave the sanctuary in silence)

BENEDICTION

Ushers: Pat Moncol, Sally Moncol, Ron Shaffer,
Glenn Hess

Parma-South Presbyterian Church

Changing lives through Christ



**Ash Wednesday
March 5, 2017**

2017 Theme Verse

"But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." – Isaiah 40:31

*Those who are able, please stand
+Appropriate time for the Ushers to seat latecomers