

Ash Wednesday Service

3 PM and 7 PM

February 26, 2020

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ

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Rev. Danielle E. Neff, Senior Pastor

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Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director

Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Secretary

Ash Wednesday

3:00 & 7:00 PM

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: There is a wisdom in the ash that we need so much but seldom hear.

P: It's the wisdom of grief that reminds us of our mortality and that Life is more than this dust can contain.

L: It's the wisdom of confession that brings our darkness out of hiding and opens the windows to Light.

P: It's the wisdom of repentance that stops us in our tracks and charts the way to Love.

L: There's a wisdom in the ash and tonight, we welcome it.

P: We welcome it, Jesus and we are thankful for the renewing gifts it brings.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 2138** (see p. 5)

Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

*TIME OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (based on Psalm 51)

L: O God, may the measure of Your eternal love be the measure of Your mercy.

ALL: And may the measure of Your mercy be sufficient to blot out my great sins and cancel out the guilt of my wrongdoing.

L: I have failed, O Lord, and my failures weigh heavily upon my heart. I cannot share them all with my brother lest they weigh too heavily upon him and may even threaten my relationship to him.

ALL: But You know what they are, O God, and how far I have fallen short of Your standards and expectations.

Da Pacem Cordium / Give Peace

Canon—3 voices

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three staves, each representing a different voice part labeled A, B, and C. Each staff begins with a circled letter indicating the voice part. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words split across lines. The first line of music (A) contains the lyrics: "Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give". The second line (B) contains: "pa peace, - cem. Lord. Da Give". The third line (C) contains: "pa peace, - cem. Lord." The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Text: Taizé Community, 1991
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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ALL SING (music above): Give peace to ev'ry heart. Give peace to ev'ry heart. Give peace, Lord. Give peace, Lord.

L: I am only human, Lord. It was not by my choice that I was propelled into this fractured world. The weaknesses that plague me are not all of my doing, nor can I handle them by my strength alone.

ALL: I know that nothing can be hidden from you. I can only acknowledge my indictment and accept Your loving forgiveness. Purge me of guilt, O Lord; heal the hurts of those who have been afflicted by my failures.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

ALL SING (see p. 2): Give peace to ev'ry heart. Give peace to ev'ry heart. Give peace, Lord. Give peace, Lord.

L: Revive my flagging spirit, O God.

ALL: Restore to me the joy and assurance of a right relationship with You. Reinstate me in Your purposes, and help me to avoid the snares and pitfalls along the way.

L: It is only then that my tongue will be set free to sing Your praises and my hands to perform the tasks You have set before me.

ALL: It is only then that I can relate deeply and meaningfully to my brother and communicate to him the message of reconciling love.

ALL SING (see p. 2): Give peace to ev'ry heart. Give peace to ev'ry heart. Give peace, Lord. Give peace, Lord.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 2030 (FWS)

The First Song of Isaiah

ALL SING: Surely it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.

SCRIPTURE

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

(7:00 PM) **WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM** *Be With Us Now, O Lord* by Althouse

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES, HOLY COMMUNION & PRAYER FOR THE LENTEN JOURNEY

During this time in the service, we welcome you to come down the center aisle where you will first receive the imposition of ashes. We receive the ashes as a symbol of our humanity, an acknowledgement of our sin, and an expression of our desire to receive God's forgiveness. Upon receiving the ashes, please continue to the Communion elements to receive the bread and the cup by intinction. Simply take a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. In receiving communion, we are partaking in a symbol of God's forgiveness and welcome into the covenant of grace made known in Jesus Christ. Finally, make your way to the table and pick up a cross and a prayer card. We encourage you to pray each morning with this prayer and this cross, a Lenten practice to begin your day focused on God.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Thank you God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus, for goodness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the splendors of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Give us the fruits of this holy communion: oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and life that never ends. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN NO. 354 (see p. 6)

I Surrender All

SENDING WORDS

Blessing the Dust

Jan Richardson

POSTLUDE

¹John van de Laar. Posted on the **Sacredise** website. <http://sacredise.com/>

²**Beloved Dust to Dust: Services Prayers for Ash Wednesday** was written by the Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel, Conference Minister for Missouri Mid-South Conference, UCC.


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*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes


♩ = 80

Grand Piano



1. Sun - day's palms are Wednes - day's ash - es as an - other - er Lent be -
 2. We have failed to love our neigh - bors, their of - fence - es to for -
 3. We are hast - y to judge oth - ers, blind to proof of hu - man

5



- gins; thus we kneel be - fore our Mak - er in con - tri - tion for our sins. We have
 - give, have not lis - tened to their trou - bles, nor have cared just how they live, we are
 need; and our lack of un - der - stand - ing dem - on - strates our in - ner greed; we have

10



marred bap - tis - mal pledg - es, in re - bel - lion gone a - stray; now, re -
 jeal - ous, proud, im - pat - tient, lov - ing o - ver much our things; may the
 wast - ed earth's re - sourc - es; want and suf - fering we've ig - nored; come and

14



- turn - ing, seek for - give - ness; grant us par - don, God, this day!
 yield - ing of our fail - ings be our Lent - en of - fer - ings.
 cleanse us, then re - store us; make new hearts with - in us, Lord!

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

I Surrender All

♩ = 80

Grand Piano



1. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der; all to him I
2. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der; hum - bly at his
3. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der; make me, Sav - ior,
4. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der; Lord, I give my -
5. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der; now I feel the

4



free - ly give; I will ev - er love and trust him, in his pres - ence
feet I bow, world - ly plea - sures all for - sak - en; take me, Je - sus,
whol - ly thine; let me feel the Ho - ly Spir - it, tru - ly know that
- self to thee; fill me with thy love and pow - er; let thy bless - ing
sac - red flame. O the joy of full sal - va - tion! Glo - ry, glo - ry

8



dai - ly live. I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all,
take me now.
thou art mine.
fall on me.
to his name!

13



all to thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.