

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 14, 2024



TODAY'S OFFERING OF WORSHIP THIS ASH WEDNESDAY

We gather together...

PRELUDE: *Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir (Out of the Depths I Cry to You)*

~ F.W. Zachau

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP: *Create in me a clean heart, O God*

~ Carl F. Mueller

*Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence and take not thy holy spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.
Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.*

...to hear God's Word...

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 58:1-12 (*Old Testament page 688*)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Amen.**

PSALM

HYMNAL #808 Psalm 51: 1-17 (*Response 1, "Create in me"*)

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 (*New Testament pages 181-182*)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Amen.**

***GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew: 6:1-6, 16-21 (*New Testament pages 5-6*)

The Gospel of our Lord, God's living Word. **Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION: *Rev. Todd Johnson*

...and to respond with our lives...

CALL TO A HOLY LENT

CALL TO CONFESSION

HYMN #358: *Kind and Merciful God (verses 1-3) Choir and Congregation*

LITANY OF CONFESSION

1. Kind and merciful God:

We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

2. We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

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

3. We have turned a deaf ear to your call to serve, as Christ served us.

We have not been true to your mission in the world. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

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

4. We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives; our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of your creation and of other people;

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

5. Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves; our unhindered love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work;

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

6. Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us to others;

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

7. Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done:

for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty;

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

8. For all false judgments, for prejudiced thoughts toward our neighbors, because of their racial, gender, economic, and ethnic identities;

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

9. For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

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

SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CHOIR: *Kind and Merciful God (verses 4-5)*

THANKSGIVING OVER ASHES

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

CHORAL ANTHEM: *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*

...in the places we now go.

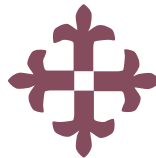
CHARGE

***HYMN #357:** *Lord Jesus, I Long to be Perfectly Whole*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *O Mensch, beweine deine Sünde gross (O man, bewail thy sin so great) BWV 622*

~ J. S. Bach



GREETER: Cinda Madonna

READERS: Deeann and Rich Puffert

