

Ash
— WEDNESDAY —

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

PSALM 51:10



ASH WEDNESDAY

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:19-21

March 5, 2025

7:00 p.m.

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC (TFWS 2055) “You Are My Hiding Place” Michael Ledner

OLD TESTAMENT READING Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

*OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, through love you have made us, and for love you call us to repentance.

Grant that we who seek to mend our sinful ways may find strength in your compassion and forgiveness.

Restore us to the joy of your salvation; give us your Holy Spirit that we may serve you with willing hearts, bearing witness to your abundant mercy in all the world;

through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*HYMN (TFWS 2138) “Sunday’s Palms are Wednesday’s Ashes” BEACH SPRING

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Psalm 51:1-17

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

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

**Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me
a willing spirit.**

**Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.
Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.**

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

**For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering,
you would not be pleased.**

**The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

OFFERING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

MUSIC MINISTRY

"The Prayer"

Sager & Foster

Kathy Zinn, Melanie Merritt, Sharon Keeler

MESSAGE

"Steadfast Love: Sustain in Me"

Rev. Mary Browne

*HYMN (*TFWS* 2152 – sing 2 times)

"Change My Heart, O God"

CHANGE MY HEART

BLESSING OF ASHES

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

HYMN (*UMH* 354)

"I Surrender All"

SURRENDER

*Please join in singing as you wait in the pew and in line to receive the ashes,
and rejoin in singing as you return to your seat.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*HYMN (UMH 388)

“O Come and Dwell in Me”

ST. MICHAEL

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Created from dust, held together by God’s extravagant love, we turn away from sin,
and leave today embracing God’s love.

Dedicate your hearts to the Holy One during the season of Lent.

Embrace the joy of your salvation and go with God’s blessing.

The God of reconciliation bless you,

the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you,

and the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen you this day and forevermore.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

GOING FORTH (UMH 528)

“Nearer My God to Thee”

Adams & Mason

Please remain seated until the Going Forth is concluded

**please stand, as you are able.*

UMH: The United Methodist Hymnal (red)

TFWS: The Faith We Sing (black)

††This Order of Worship is subject to the direction of the Holy Spirit.††

Participating in the Service:

Rev. Mary H. Browne, Pastor

Ms. Margaret Badger, pianist

Calvin Keeler, Jr., Worship Leader

Mrs. Kathy Zinn, Mrs. Melanie Merritt, Mrs. Sharon Keeler, vocalists

Ebenezer United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerumcnewark.org