

Ash Wednesday

February 18, 2015

[Welcome](#)

[Procession pg. 2](#)

[Evening Hymn pg. 3](#)

[Evening Thanksgiving pg. 4](#)

[Psalm 141 pg. 4-7](#)

Leader: May our prayers come before you, O God, as incense, and may your presence surround and fill us, so that in union with all creation, we might sing your praise and your love in our lives.

All: Amen.

(Silence for meditation)

[Gospel Reading: Matthew 8](#)

[Jesus said:] “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. “Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

[Jesus said:] “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Leader: The Light shines in the darkness

All: and the darkness has not overcome it.

[Imposition of Ashes](#)

All are invited forward to receive ashes on the forehead in the sign of the cross as the words are said:
Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

[Hymn "Green Book" 93](#) [Jesus, Refuge of the Weary](#)

Jesus refuge of the weary, Blest redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above:
Often have your eyes, offended, Gazed upon the sinner's fall;
Yet upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.

Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see you wounded, bleeding, See your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet your sinless death has brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what your grace has taught us Calms the sinner's deep distress.

Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for you;
May our eyes be ever turning To behold your cross anew;
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

[Message](#) [The Word of Pardon](#)

[Prayer](#)

Prayer: O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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