



ASH WEDNESDAY

I want to know Christ –
yes, to know the power of His resurrection
and participation in His sufferings,
becoming like Him in His death,
and so, somehow,
attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

--Philippians 3:10-11

Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is near

--Matthew 4:17

AN ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP & COMMUNION

West End Presbyterian Church 2.14.24 6:30PM



“Lent is inescapably about repenting.”

--Esau McCaulley

Tonight’s communion service marks the beginning of the season of Lent. It marks a season of preparation, preceding the celebration of Easter, in which we focus on repentance.

To repent means to make a God-centered change in our attitudes, words, and living. As sixteenth-century reformer Martin Luther taught, the whole Christian life is a life of repentance. Beginning when we first trust Christ, and continuing throughout our lives, the Holy Spirit enables us more and more to turn away from sin and self-centeredness, and toward our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

This service will be an opportunity to worship God in light of the grace He gives in enabling His people to repent and trust Christ alone.

In this next hour, give the Savior glory: meditate on your mortality, long to be conformed to Christ’s likeness, and remember with confidence and gratitude that Jesus has conquered sin and death. By these, we testify to the power and beauty of our union with Christ and to the daily dying and rising in which He leads His people.

CALL TO WORSHIP

BASED ON THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM 88-90

:: Congregation, please rise if you are able. ::

Genuine repentance involves two things:

the dying-away of the old self

and the coming-to-life of the new.

The dying-away of the old self

is to be genuinely sorry for sin,

to hate it more and more,

and to run away from it.

The coming-to-life of the new self

is wholehearted joy in God through Christ

and a delight to do every kind of good

as God wants us to.

Remember that you are dust,

and to dust you shall return.

Genesis 3:19

Consider yourself dead to sin

and alive to God in Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:11

COME YE SINNERS, POOR & NEEDY

“Come and take the free gift of the water of life.” Revelation 22:17

**Come, ye sinners, poor and needy
Weak and wounded, sick and sore
Jesus ready stands to save you
Full of pity, love and pow’r**

**Come, ye thirsty, come and welcome
God’s free bounty glorify
True belief and true repentance
Every Grace that brings you nigh**

**Let not conscience make you linger
Nor of fitness fondly dream
All the fitness He requireth
Is to feel your need of Him**

**Come, ye weary, heavy laden
Lost and ruined by the fall
If you tarry till you’re better
You will never come at all**

**I will arise and go to Jesus
He will embrace me in His arms
In the arms of my dear Savior
O, there are ten thousand charms**

Joseph Hart (1759); Traditional American melody, Walker’s Southern Harmony (1835). Public domain.

:: Congregation, please be seated and remain seated through the Scripture reading. ::

SCRIPTURE

JOEL 2:1-2, 12-18

¹Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain!

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near,

²a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness!

Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains
a great and powerful people; their like has never been before,
nor will be again after them through the years of all generations...

¹²"Yet even now," declares the LORD,
"return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³and rend your hearts and not your garments."

Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;
and he relents over disaster.

¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion;
consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly;
¹⁶gather the people.

Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders;
gather the children, even nursing infants.
Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber.

¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep
and say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
and make not your heritage a reproach,
a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the peoples, "Where is their God?"

¹⁸Then the LORD became jealous for his land
and had pity on his people.

PENSIVE, DOUBTING, FEARFUL HEART

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God" Isaiah 41:10a

:: Congregation, please rise if you are able. ::

**1. Pensive, doubting, fearful heart
Hear what Christ the Savior says
Every word should joy impart
Change thy mourning into praise
Yes, He speaks
And speaks to thee
May he help thee to believe
Then thou presently wilt see
Thou hast little cause to grieve**

**2. Fear thou not, nor be ashamed
All thy sorrows soon shall end
I, who heaven and earth
Have framed
Am thy husband and thy friend
I, the High and Holy One
Israel's GOD by all adored
As thy Savior will be known
Thy Redeemer and thy Lord**

**3. For a moment I withdrew
And thy heart was filled with pain
But my mercies I'll renew
Thou shalt soon rejoice again
Though I scorn to hide my face
Very soon my wrath shall cease
'Tis but for a moment's space
Ending in eternal peace**

**4. Though afflicted
Tempest-tossed
Comfortless awhile thou art
Do not think thou canst be lost
Thou art graven on my heart
All thy walls I will repair
Thou shalt be rebuilt anew
And in thee it shall appear
What the God of love can do**

Words: John Newton; Music: Justin Smith ©2012 Justin Smith Music. Used by permission.

:: Congregation, please be seated until you come forward to participate in the Lord's Supper. ::

SERMON

JOB 42:1-6

¹Then Job answered the LORD and said: ²"I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. ³"Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?" Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. ⁴"Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you make it known to me." ⁵I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; ⁶therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

I CORINTHIANS 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you:
The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread,
and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said,

*"This is My body, which is for you;
do this in remembrance of Me."*

In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying,

*"This cup is the new covenant in My blood;
do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

CONFESSION of SIN

adapted from the Book of Common Prayer

Lord, have mercy;

Christ, have mercy;

Lord, have mercy;

**Most holy and merciful Father,
We confess to You and to one another,
that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed;
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
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.**

We repent before You, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord.

Hear us, good Lord, for Your mercy is great.

HAVE MERCY

“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.” Psalm 51:1a

**Have mercy on me
Have mercy on me
O Lord, have mercy
O Lord, have mercy**

**O, help my unbelief
O, help my unbelief
O Lord, have mercy
O Lord, have mercy**

Musical notation for the hymn "Have Mercy" in 4/4 time, featuring four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The notes are: G (C4), A4, B4, C5 (F4), G4, A4, B4, C5 (C4). The lyrics are: Have mercy on me. O Lord, have mercy. O, help my unbelief. O Lord, have mercy.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Psalm 103:8-14

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

West End Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin and heart-idols, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the Gospel, to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us. The Elders presiding over the Supper are praying for you as the congregation participates in the sacrament.

At the center aisle station, wine and grape juice with gluten-free wafers are available in double cups. The gluten-free wafer is found in the bottom cup. Juice is in the purple cup. Wine is in the clear cup. At all the other stations, grape juice is in purple cups, wine is in the clear cups on the outer ring of the tray, and gluten-free bread is served alongside. For a list of ingredients in the wafers, see www.wepc.org/communion.

PASS ME NOT, O GENTLE SAVIOR

"He said, 'If I have found favor in your eyes, my Lord, do not pass your servant by.'" Genesis 18:3

**1. Pass me not, O gentle Savior
Hear my humble cry
While on others Thou art calling
Do not pass me by...**

**Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry
While on others Thou art calling
Do not pass me by**

**2. Let me at Thy throne of mercy
Find a sweet relief
Kneeling there in deep contrition
Help my unbelief**

**3. Trusting only in Thy merit
Would I seek Thy face
Heal my wounded broken spirit
Save me by Thy grace**

**4. Thou the Spring of all my comfort
More than life to me
Whom have I on earth beside Thee
Whom in heaven but Thee**

Words: Fanny J. Crosby (1868). Music: W. Howard Doane (1870) Used by permission.

OFFERING

Tonight's offering provides financial assistance for the needy in our church and community and for ministries approved by the WEPC Diaconate.

AMAZING GRACE

"For by grace you have been saved through faith." Ephesians 2:8

Solo voice:

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see

All:

**2. T'was grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace, my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed**

**3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home**

**4. The Lord has promised good to me
His Word my hope secures
He will my Shield and Portion be
As long as life endures**

**5. When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

ANNOUNCING THE COMING OF GOD'S KINGDOM

:: Congregation, please rise if you are able. ::

Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

Matthew 4:17

From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.

Matthew 11:12

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Matthew 13:44-45

BREAK EVERY CHAIN

"At the name of Jesus every knee should bow." Philippians 2:10

There is power in the name of Jesus

There is power in the name of Jesus

There is power in the name of Jesus

To break every chain, break every chain, break every chain

All sufficient sacrifice

So freely given, such a price

Bought our redemption, heaven's gates swing wide

BY THY MERCY

"The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer." II Samuel 22:2

**1. Jesus, Lord of life and glory
Bend from Heav'n Thy gracious ear
While our waiting souls adore Thee
Friend of helpless sinners, hear...**

**By Thy mercy, O deliver us
Good Lord, good Lord
By Thy mercy, O deliver us
Good Lord, good Lord**

**2. From the depth of nature's blindness
From the hardening power of sin
From all malice and unkindness
From the pride that lurks within...**

**3. When the world around is smiling
In the time of wealth and ease
Earthly joys our hearts beguiling
In the day of health and peace...**

**4. In the solemn hour of dying
In the awful judgment day
May our souls, on Thee relying
Find Thee still our Rock and Stay...**

BENEDICTION

I THESSALONIANS 5:23-24

May God Himself, the God of peace,
sanctify you through and through.
May your whole spirit, soul and body
be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
The One who calls you is faithful.

Tonight's sermon was given
by Tom Krieger, WEPC Elder.

Worship was led and the Lord's Supper was administered
by Pastor Kevin Greene.

Jimmy, Megan, Stella Garrity, and Worship Arts Director Becca
Wethered led music & congregational singing.
Sound was managed by Ross Bruning & Greg Stiles;
tonight's livestream was managed by Chris Malak.

Scripture was read by Tucker Tetterton & Stella Garrity.
All Scripture readings from the Holy Bible, English Standard Version.
ESV ©2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of
Good News Publishers.

Please visit www.wepc.org to learn more about the life and ministries of
our congregation.

LENT & EASTER 2024

West End Presbyterian Church

www.wepc.org

Lent 2024 Devotional

Available online & in the
WEPC gallery

PERSONAL RETREAT

March 9 8:30am-12:30pm

EYES for the KINGDOM

March 16 Carl & Karen Ellis

LENTEN HYMN SING

March 24 9:00am

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28 7:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY

March 29 7:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31
9:00 & 10:30am

