



ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday Service

Tonight we inaugurate our celebration of the season of Lent. By the fourth century the church had determined that a period of fasting and repentance that corresponded with Jesus' forty days of temptation in the wilderness was an appropriate way to prepare for the celebration of the passion and death of our Savior. By counting backwards from Easter (excluding Sundays which were "feast days"), Wednesday became the start of the seven-week period we continue to observe today. The Lenten season is characterized by personal reflection upon one's own sin, repentance (the "giving up" of all that which contributes to sin and separation from God) and a celebration of all that Christ has accomplished for us through His suffering and death.

THE LORD GATHERS US FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

What Wondrous Love Is This
Jinna Park, Accompanist and Organist

Dixon

*The first note of the prelude marks the beginning of worship. Please use this brief period of time for prayer and preparation while keeping conversation at a low volume and to a minimum. **Please refrain from clapping unless led to do so.***

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor

Call to Worship

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

People: Hope in God; for we shall praise Him, our help and our God.

Choral Introit

*Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, have mercy, Lord.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy, have mercy, Lord.*

Franklin Kyrie

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 103

Rev. Peter A. Chace, Assistant Pastor

Prayer of Invocation

Holy and loving God, as we worship You this evening, we long for Your Spirit to both comfort and challenge us, to help us become more holy and more loving. In a world that does not understand repentance, we pray for new understanding, humility, patience, and discipline that will help us die to sin and live for Jesus. Amen.

Gathering Hymn No. 497

vv. 1-3

I Need Thee, Precious Jesus

The Great Litany

Pastor Devlin

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy upon us.

I Need Thee, Precious Jesus

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. John 6:68

1. I need thee, pre - cious Je - sus, for I am full of sin;
 2. I need thee, pre - cious Je - sus, for I am ver - y poor;
 3. I need thee, pre - cious Je - sus, and hope to see thee soon,

my soul is dark and guilt - y, my heart is dead with - in.
 a strang - er and a pil - grim, I have no earth - ly store.
 en - cir - cled with the rain - bow and seat - ed on thy throne.

I need the cleans - ing foun - tain where I can al - ways flee,
 I need the love of Je - sus to cheer me on my way,
 There, with thy blood - bought chil - dren, my joy shall ev - er be,

the blood of Christ most pre - cious, the sin - ner's per - fect plea.
 to guide my doubt - ing foot - steps, to be my strength and stay.
 to sing my Je - sus' prais - es, to gaze, O Lord, on thee.

O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful,
Have mercy upon us.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,
Have mercy upon us.

Remember not, Lord Jesus, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forebears; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare Your people, whom You have redeemed with Your most precious blood, and by Your mercy preserve us forever.
Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and wickedness; from sin, from the works and assaults of the devil; from Your wrath and everlasting condemnation,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vanity, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all lack of charity,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all disordered and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of your Word and commandments,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity and submission to the Law; by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your Cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; by the sending of the Holy Spirit; by Your heavenly intercession; and by Your coming again in power and great glory,
Good Lord, deliver us.

In all times of tribulation; in all times of prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,
Good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners beseech You to hear us, O Lord God: That it may please You to rule and govern Your holy Church universal in the right way,
We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To illumine all Pastors, Elders, and Deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of Your Word; and that, both by their preaching and living, they may show it accordingly,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To send forth laborers into Your harvest; to prosper their work by Your Holy Spirit; to make Your saving health known unto all nations; and to hasten the coming of Your kingdom,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To give all Your people increase of grace to hear Your Word with humility, to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To give us a heart to love and fear You, and diligently to keep Your commandments,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To bless and keep all Your people,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please You to rule the hearts of Your servant the President of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and show mercy, and walk humbly before You,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To bless and guide all judges, giving them grace to execute justice, and to maintain truth,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To bless and keep our armed forces by sea, and land, and air, and to shield them in all dangers and adversities,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To bless and protect all who serve their communities by their labor and learning,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To give and preserve for us and for others the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that at the harvest we all may enjoy them,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To make wars to cease in all the world, and to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please You to show mercy on all prisoners and captives; refugees, the homeless, and the hungry; and all those who are desolate and oppressed,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To preserve all who are in danger by reason of their work or travel,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To strengthen the bonds of those in Holy Matrimony; to uphold the widowed and abandoned; and to comfort all whose homes are torn by strife,

We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To protect the unborn and their parents, and to preserve all women in childbirth;
We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To care for those who have lost children or face infertility, and to provide for young children and orphans,
We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To visit the lonely and those who grieve; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit; and to comfort with Your presence those who are failing and infirm,
We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To support, help, and deliver all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,
We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To have mercy upon all people,
We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please You to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sin, negligence, and ignorance; and to endue us with the grace of Your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to Your holy Word,
We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,
We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To strengthen those who stand; to encourage the faint-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,
We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,
We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

To grant that, in the fellowship of Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church, we may attain to Your heavenly kingdom,
We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God, we beseech You to hear us.
Son of God, we beseech You to hear us.

O Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
Grant us your peace.

O Christ, hear us.
O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.

THE LORD CLEANSSES OUR SIN

Unison Prayer of Repentance

Pastor Chace

Almighty God, You despise nothing You have made, and You forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts, that, truly repenting of our sins and acknowledging our brokenness, we may obtain from You, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

Silent Private Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

Please bow your head. For those who are able, you are invited to kneel during the confession of sin.

Lenten Response *(see back of bulletin)*

Franklin Agnus Dei

Choral Anthem

Mercy

Courtney

*I dare not lift my guilty eyes. I hide my lips in trembling shame.
And in the darkness of my soul, I shrink from Your rekindling flame.*

Kyrie eleison, kyrie eleison, have mercy.

In mercy cover me with grace and blot out my iniquity. Renew my heart and wash me clean; grant with Your pardon, purity.

Kyrie eleison, kyrie eleison, have mercy.

In equal measure of Your love, You promise mercy, tender compassion to the one who seeks Your face.

A broken heart, a fainting soul, a contrite spirit, together cry for Your forgiveness and Your grace.

Against You only have I sinned. My deeds are evil in Your sight.

Of Your forgiveness let me sing, and in my singing take delight.

Kyrie eleison, kyrie eleison, have mercy, have mercy, have mercy.

Congregational Response

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

THE LORD SANCTIFIES OUR LIVES

Scripture Reading

Joel 2:12-17

Meditation

The Practice of Repentance

Rev. Dr. Kyle David Bennett

O Thou That Hear'st When Sinners Cry

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Ps. 51:10

Capo 3: ♮ (D) (A) (D) (Em) (B) (Em) (D) (A) (D) 7

1. O thou that hear'st when sinners cry, though all my
 2. Cre - ate my na - ture pure with - in, and form my
 3. I can - not live with - out thy light, cast out and
 4. A bro - ken heart, my God, my King, is all the

(G) (D) (A⁷) (D) (A⁷) (D) (A) (D) (A) (D) (Em) (B)

crimes be - fore thee lie, be - hold them not with
 soul a - verse to sin; let thy good Spir - it
 ban - ished from thy sight; thy ho - ly joys, my
 sac - ri - fice I bring; the God of grace will

(Em) (D) (A) (D) ♮ (A⁷) (Bm) (Em⁷) (A⁷) (D) 7

an - gry look, but blot their mem - 'ry from thy book.
 ne'er de - part, nor hide thy pres - ence from my heart.
 God, re - store, and guard me, that I fall no more.
 ne'er de - spise a bro - ken heart for sac - ri - fice.

THE LORD SCATTERS US TO ADVANCE HIS KINGDOM

Closing Hymn **No. 248**

vv. 1, 3, 5

Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended

Closing Unison Prayer

Gracious God, out of Your love and mercy You breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve You and our neighbors. In this season of repentance, restore to us the joy of our salvation and strengthen us to face our mortality, that we may reach with confidence for Your mercy, in Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

Postlude

Ah, Holy Jesus

McDonald

Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended

248

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. Is. 53:4

1. Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed,
 2. Who was the guilt - y who brought this up - on thee?
 3. Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered;
 4. For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion,
 5. There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee,

that man to judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de -
 A - las, my trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord
 • the slave hath sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered: for man's a -
 thy mor - tal sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion: thy death of
 I do a - dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee, think on thy

rid - ed, by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 Je - sus, I it was de - nied thee: I cru - ci - fied thee.
 • tone - ment, while he noth - ing heed - eth, God in - ter - ced - eth.
 an - guish and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 pit - y and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Franklin Agnus Dei

Text: John 1:29

Gregory D Wilbur, 2009

Cm G m/C A^b/C G m/C A^b/C B^b/C G m/C Cm

Lamb of God who takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us.

C min G min A^b G min A^b B^b G min C min

Lamb of God who takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us.

C min G min A^b B^b F min C min

Lamb of God who takes a - way the sins of the world,

G min A^b B^b A^b B^b C no/C

Grant us Your peace. Grant us Your peace. Grant us Your peace.

(c) 2009 Gregory D Wilbur
www.greyfriarspress.com
greyfriarspress@gmail.com

Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church

1207 Washington Road ❖ Mt. Lebanon, PA ❖ 15228

www.beverlyheights.org ❖ 412-561-5100

Gathered By His Love For Us ~ Scattered By Our Love For Him