

Order of worship

February 17, 2021



Ash
Wednesday

**First
Presbyterian
Church** IN VICTOR
WHOEVER YOU ARE.
HOWEVER YOU HAVE COME.
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.

Prelude

“What Wondrous Love is This”

Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

From Bethlehem to Nazareth, from Jordan to Jericho, from Bethany to Jerusalem, from then to now,

come, Lord Jesus.

To heal the sick, to mend the brokenhearted, to comfort the disturbed, to disturb the comfortable, to cleanse the temple, to liberate faith from convention,

come, Lord Jesus.

To carry the cross, to lead the way, to shoulder the sin of the world, and take it away,

come, Lord Jesus.

Today, to this place, to us,

come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Opening Hymn #81

“Lord Who Throughout these Forty Days”

Prayer of Confession

Word of God Incarnate, you came to this world to accomplish salvation. By your grace you call us to repent, to be crucified with you, that we might be raised as new creations. But we confess that often we do not live as renewed people.

We confess that often we “go with the flow” instead of stemming sin’s tide.

Forgive us when we do not show evidence of renewal.

Forgive us when we let the fruit of the Spirit be choked by the weeds of evil.

You have made us your children, members of your kingdom.

Help us to show evidence of that every day as we work to bring your justice, peace, gentleness, goodness, love, joy, and hope to all we meet.

For Jesus’ sake, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Receive the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Sung Prayer for Illumination #316(vv.1-2) “Breathe on me Breath of God”

Scripture Luke 4:1-12
John 15:1-5

Homily “The Wilderness and the Plants”

Hymn of Response (GTG #735) “I Need Thee Every Hour”

Practice for Self Reflection (*in place of the Imposition of Ashes)

“We plant these seeds as a reminder that we must consider ourselves dead to sin, and alive to God in Jesus Christ.”

(At this time take some seeds, plant them in the dirt of your pot, cover the seeds with soil, and be sure to give them plenty of water)

Song of Dedication (GTG # 698) “Take O Take me As I Am”

Prayer for our Lenten Journey

God of the covenant, as the forty days of deluge swept away the world’s corruption and watered new beginnings of righteousness and life, so in the saving flood of baptism we are washed clean and born again.

Throughout these forty days, unseal within us the wellspring of your grace, cleanse our hearts of all that is not holy, and cause your gift of new life to flourish once again. Grant this through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

May the God of peace sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. Amen.

Postlude “Abide with Me”



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