

Ash Wednesday Order of Worship

March 6, 2018 ~ 6:30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent. Lent is marked by dedicated attention to sin in our lives leading us to repentance. As you enter the Sanctuary, use this time for silent meditation and preparation for worship.

PRELUDE

“Jesus Paid It All”
Wanda Cooper, Organ

DeRousse

PROCESSIONAL

GREETING

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **God’s mercy endures forever.**

OPENING PRAYER

O God, maker of everything and judge of all that you have made, from the dust of the earth you have formed us and from the dust of death you would raise us up. By the redemptive power of the cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit, that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of your calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN No. 269** *“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”*

Verses 1, 2, 4, 5

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 53:6

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 10:13

*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 6:1-6

MEDITATION

Rev. Bill Price

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Those wishing to receive the symbol of confession are invited to come forward to receive the cross of ashes.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Responsive Reading ~ Psalm 51:1-17
Page No. 785

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERING

“A Tree Once Stood”
Sanctuary Choir

The Ash Wednesday offering is used to assist those in need throughout the year.

***HYMN No. 354**

“I Surrender All”
Verses 1, 2, 4, 5

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

As a sign of humility, please depart the Sanctuary in silence.

*Please stand as you are able.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith. The use of ashes as a sign of mortality and repentance has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship, and the Imposition of Ashes can be a powerful nonverbal and experiential way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation. This practice is the historic focus of Ash Wednesday observance and gave the day its name. *-adapted from the United Methodist Book of Worship.*

The ushers will direct you to come to the altar where you can kneel or stand for the imposition of ashes. After receiving the ashes, you are welcome to spend time at the altar in prayer.

The season of Lent calls us to embrace spiritual disciplines such as praying and fasting. Both Pastor Bill and Pastor Rebecca are challenging our congregation to miss a lunch meal during the weeks across Lent and save the money that would have been spent for the meal for missions. Bring the money saved to worship the Sunday after Easter, April 8th. All monies collected will go to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief.)

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING YOUTH FOR ASSISTING WITH LEADING OUR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

*Sam Cloninger
Wright Dyson
Jacob James
Cam Holtzclaw
Garrett Greer*

*Coleman Kelley
Daniel Bolin
Collins McInnis
Sophie Musselman
Joey O'Connor*

*Will Foil
Belle Smith
Linc Cooper
Libby Davis
Carter Bolin*

 *Spanish Fort*
United Methodist Church
6530 Spanish Fort Boulevard, Suite D
Spanish Fort, AL 36527
251.626.1334
www.spanishfortumc.org

Ash Wednesday Service

**March 6th
6:00 PM**