



First Presbyterian Church, Tonawanda

Ash Wednesday Supper Church

February 22, 2023

The people gather, the table is set

Welcome: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Call to worship:

God's people have been called to gather.

ALL: From aged grandparents to breast-feeding infants, All are welcome.

God's people have been called to repent.

ALL: From those who wear their faults on their sleeves,

To those whose secret hearts are broken, All are welcome.

God's people have been called to be reconciled to God.

ALL: From those who have turned away,

To those whose pain whispers in the night, All are welcome.

Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Song: *All the People Said Amen*

Matt Maher

Chorus: And all the people said "Amen," woah, and all the people said "Amen."
Give thanks to the Lord, for his love never ends. And all the people said "Amen."

Enjoy Supper

Conversation Topic: What did you come here expecting to find this Ash Wednesday? What have you found? What difference will it make?

Invitation to Lenten Disciplines

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21 (feel free to use your labyrinth)

Reader: Beware of practicing your piety ...and your Father... will reward you.

All: From dust you came and to dust you will return.

Reader: And whenever you pray... and your Father... will reward you.

All: From dust you came and to dust you will return.

Reader: And whenever you fast... and your Father... will reward you.

All: From dust you came and to dust you will return.

Reader: Do not store ... For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

All: From dust you came and to dust you will return.

Psalm 51:1-17

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²Wash me through and through from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.

And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgment.

⁵Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

⁷Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

⁸Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

¹²Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

¹³I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.

¹⁴Deliver me from death, O God,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.

¹⁵Open my lips, O Lord,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

¹⁶Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Silence

Assurance of pardon:

Thanks be to God, who forgives all who ask. Amen.

The imposition of ashes

Bless the Lord, my soul; and bless God's holy name.

Taizé

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

Choir Song: Written in Red

Gordon Jensen

Communion

We come together today, children of God...

...waiting to help you, even before you say a word.

All: We will come to this table and feast!

Words of Institution & Communion

*Prepare to pass trays around table; each person first is served,
and then takes the tray and serves the next person.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

And all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

And forget not all God's benefits.

Charge and Benediction

Song: By the Stream

Christopher Grundy

Blessed are those who trust in God,
they will be like a tree planted by the water, planted by the water,
And sending out its roots by the stream.