

*He has caused his wonders to be remembered;*



*the Lord is gracious  
and compassionate.  
(Psalm 111:4)*

Ash Wednesday  
March 1, 2017

**OLD FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

7:30 p.m.

March 1, 2017

-- All enter quietly --

**\*Call to Worship**

Minister: God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

**People: God's love endures forever.**

Minister: God is our refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**People: God's love endures forever.**

**Hymn No. 166**

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”  
*Verses 1, 4*

ST. FLAVIAN

**First Reading:**

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

**O.T. p.846,847/P.1037,1038**

-- *A moment of silence is kept for reflection* --

**Second Reading:**

2 Corinthians 5: 20b-6:10

**N.T. p.181-182/P.221**

-- *A moment of silence is kept for reflection* --

**Third Reading:**

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

**N.T. p.5,6/P.6,7**

-- *A moment of silence is kept for reflection* --

**Hymn No. 5**

“What Wondrous Love is This”  
*Verse 1*

WONDRIOUS LOVE

**Invitation to the Observance of the Lenten Discipline**

**Psalm 51**

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

**People: Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.**

Minister: For I know my transgressions and my sin is ever before me.

**People: Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.**

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

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

Minister: Create in my a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

**People: Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

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

**People: I shall teach your ways to the wicked, and sinners shall return to you.**

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

**People :**       **Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim  
your praise.**

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

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

**Hymn No. 555**

“O Lamb of God”

LAND OF REST

### **Litany of Penitence**

Minister:       Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

**People:**       **We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind and strength.**

Minister:       We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

**People:**       **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Minister:       We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

**People:**       **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Minister:       We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness: The pride, hypocrisy, and the impatience in our lives, our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate,

**People:**       **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister:       Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

**People:**       **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister:       Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done. For our neglect of human need and suffering, our indifference to injustice and suffering,

**People:**       **accept our repentance, O God.**

Minister:       For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our waste of your creation, for our lack of concern for those who come after us,

**People:**       **accept our repentance, O God.**

Minister:       Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**People:**       **Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

Minister:       Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

**People:**       **that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

Minister:       By the cross and passion of our Savior,

**People:**       **bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ’s resurrection.**

### **Imposition of Ashes**

*-- Worshippers are invited to come forward to be imposed  
with the sign of the cross --*

Hymn No. 525

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

LET US BREAK BREAD

*Verse 1, 2*

### Invitation to the Table

#### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & Lord’s Prayer

Minister: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### Invitation to the Table

#### Communion of the People

Hymn No. 221

“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”

PASSION CHORALE

Vs. 1, 3

#### Blessing & Charge:

Minister: May the God of peace make you holy in every way and keep your whole being, spirit, soul and body free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: Amen.**

*-- All depart quietly --*

#### **WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Rev. Anne Stewart Miller, Interim Pastor

Tom Bosch, Lector