

ASH WEDNESDAY CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

March 1, 2017

7:00 PM

PRELUDE *How Beautiful are the Feet* -- Handel N. SanchezTio/D. Bach

PROCESSION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Chuck Keysor

Leader: This is the first day in the season of Lent --

People: A season of prayer and fasting.

Leader: But the prophet Isaiah reminds us in God's name, that there is fasting and fasting.

People: And that God may not want us to lie in sackcloth and ashes.

Leader: "Is not this the fast that I choose," God asks through the prophet, "to loose the bonds of injustice, ... to share your bread with the hungry ...?"

People: God's call is for sacrifice on behalf of people in need.

Leader: Let us make good use of the symbols of this penitential season.

People: In the name of him who spent his time feeding the hungry, healing the sick, and preaching Good News to the humble.

Leader: Let us worship God!

People: Let us worship God!

† OPENING HYMN *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee* (vs. 1, 2, 4) #175

† OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Roger Zavala

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

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Rev. Roger Zavala

Leader: Our sin rests heavy on our hearts,

People: Free us, O Lord, from this burden.

Leader: Our sin stands before us and obscures our vision.

People: Move us, O Lord, that we may see.

Leader: Our sin has left a painful mark on our souls.

People: Wash us, O Lord, and make us clean

Leader: Our sin has robbed us of the joy of living.

People: Forgive us, O Lord, and restore our joy.

Leader: As we bear this cross of ashes today, O Lord, help us remember that you bore a cross of pain.

People: Remind us, O Lord, again and again, that we are yours.

HYMN OF PREPARATION *What Wondrous Love Is This* (vs. 1, 3, 4) #292

SCRIPTURE READING: Old Testament: Genesis 3:17-29 Chuck Keysor

New Testament: 2 Corinthians 5:17-20

Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

MESSAGE "Be Reconciled With God" Rev. Roger Zavala

HYMN *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* (vs. 1, 3, 4) #384

INVITATION TO OBSERVING LENTEN DISCIPLINE

THANKSGIVING PRAYER OVER THE ASHES Rev. Roger Zavala

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be a sign to us of our mortality and penitence, so that we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Christ our Savior, Amen.

† IMPOSITION OF ASHES

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Psalm 51:1-17

#785

Silent Prayers of Confession

Pastoral Prayer

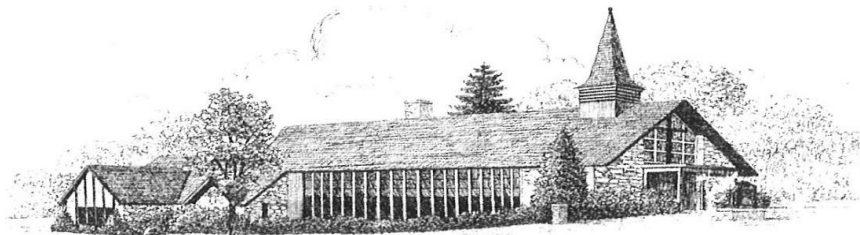
May the almighty and merciful God, who desires not the death of a sinner but that we turn from wickedness and live, accept your repentance, forgive your sins, and restore you by the Holy Spirit to newness of life. Amen.

† THE PEACE Offering each other signs of reconciliation and love.

† HYMN *It Is Well with My Soul* #377

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Above All* N. Sancheztio/D. Bach



Vision:

Living in the light of God's love and following Christ, we joyfully embrace the future as a welcoming multi-cultural church. We gather for worship, learning, spiritual growth and fellowship. We go out to serve, sharing the light of Christ by promoting justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God.

(Adopted by the Wesley Church Council, April 14, 2013)



Ash Wednesday

Create in me a clean heart,
O God,
and put a new and right
spirit within me.

Psalm 51.10