

# ASH

WEDNESDAY

March 2

# NOON

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East Liberty  
Presbyterian Church

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THE CATHEDRAL OF HOPE

116 South Highland Ave • Pittsburgh, PA 15206

[www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)

*Order Of Worship*  
**Ash Wednesday**

\* Indicates where to please rise in body or spirit.

## LITANY OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: Let us pray.

**People: 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.**

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

Leader: 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.**

Leader: We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness: The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

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

Leader: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people,

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

Leader: Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

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

Leader: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

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

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

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

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

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

Leader: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

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

Leader: For our waste and pollution of your creation and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

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

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

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Schoenewolf

## INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

*Siblings in Christ, every year at the beginning of Lent we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes. This ancient sign speaks of the frailty and uncertainty of human life and marks the sincere penitence of this community. I invite you to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, prayer, and fasting, by works of love, reading and meditating on the Word of God, and through service to others.*

## IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence, and a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**People: Amen.**

## \* HYMN #433 DURING IMPOSITION OF ASHES

PHOENIX

“Sign Us With Ashes”

## \* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Kathryn Ophardt

## POSTLUDE

Dr. Moore, *organ*

### PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

PREACHING:

Kathryn Ophardt

LITURGISTS:

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

ORGANIST:

Dr. Edward Alan Moore

CANTOR:

David Jennings-Smith