Ash Wednesday

February 17, 2021

Prelude

Welcome and Gathering

Call to Worship

One: Friends in Christ, we begin a forty-day journey toward

Easter.

Many: We enter the Lenten season to prepare ourselves

to welcome Christ who invites us all.

One: We will engage in practices of self-examination, prayer,

service, repentance, and love.

Many: We dedicate ourselves to meditate upon the scriptures and

to connect with God through prayer.

One: We seek to be more faithful disciples of Christ by following

a path other Christians have walked before us.

Many: We open our hearts, minds and souls to what God might be

leading us to hear.

One: From ancient times Christians have on this day searched for

wholeness and strength.

Many: We, too, come seeking reconciliation with God and with one

another.

One: God has created us out of the dust of this earth.

Many: Let today be a time for us to see the mortality and fragile

nature of the human story.

One: Holy God, through these forty days, make your Spirit burn

within us.

Many: Make us signs of your passionate love that is meant to be

extended to us and all people.

All: All this we say in Christ's name. Amen.

Opening Hymn "When We Are Living"

Children's Moment

Scripture Mark 1:12-13a

Meditation

Invitation to Receive Ashes and Communion

Special Music "When Charity and Love Prevail"

Giving Thanks

One: Long ago, the prophet told the people.

"Rend your hearts and not your clothing."

All: Tonight, we weep for what we could have been and are not.

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We grieve for what we should have done and did not.

Our hearts are broken open.

One: We know, Holy One,

That with each of our breakings you break,

and with each of our woundings

your own wounds grow deeper.

Yet you hold the pieces together,

till we learn to make the new connections.

All: You remind us that it is our delight you seek,

not our suffering.

And you tell us it is not the wounds that give us life,

but the tending of them in each other.

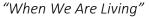
It is not the breaking that makes us whole

but the mending of the pieces

that brings us life anew. Amen.

Benediction Hymn "Make Us One" (page 2)

Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. Chris Wilson & Rev. Denise Dugan Musician: Darin Seidel





- 3. 'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain, when sensing beauty or in love's embrace, whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing, we belong to God, we belong to God.
- 4. Across this wide world, we shall always find those who are crying with no peace of mind, but when we help them, or when we feed them, we belong to God, we belong to God.

"Make Us One"

