

KIRK IN THE HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

ASH WEDNESDAY  
MARCH 2, 2022



*This is the moment we ask for the blessing  
that lives within the ancient ashes,  
That makes its home inside the soil  
of this sacred earth. —Jan Richardson*

**Cover Art** - *Blessing the Dust* © Jan Richardson, used with permission

*Blessing the Dust* is from the blog *The Painted Prayerbook* by Jan Richardson. In this space, the artist explores the intersections of writing, art and faith. The art pieces that appear with the weekly reflections, like today's cover art, are painted paper collages.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

### THE GATHERING

#### OPENING VOLUNTARIES

**Prelude au Kyrie**

*Jean Langlais*

**Sonata in G Minor, BWV 1020b—Adagio**

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

*Merideth Hite Estevez, oboe*

#### PRAYER TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

*Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desire known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

\* *Those who are able are invited to stand at the ringing of the tower bell.*

#### \* SILENT PROCESSIONAL

#### \* INTROIT

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
And purge away my sin.  
From earthborn passions set me free,  
And make me pure within.

*Southwell*

#### \* HYMN 675

**All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night**

*Tallis' Canon*

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

*(based on Matthew 11:28-30)*

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,  
and I will give you rest."

**When our load is heavy and too much to bear,**

**God's arms stretch out to help us and give the grace we depend on.**

Jesus continues, "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,  
for I am gentle and humble in heart,  
and you will find rest for your souls."

**In times of weakness and in our hour of need,**

**God's voice is heard and surrounds us with gentleness.**

Jesus promises, "My yoke is easy and my burden is light."

**We commit to learning and living faithfully,  
embracing God's purpose for our lives.**

#### \* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Covenant God of love and mercy,  
we come to you at the beginning of these forty days,  
remembering how Jesus fasted and prayed  
for forty days in the wilderness.  
We remember how he was obedient in living and dying,  
even through death on a cross.  
We too would walk these next forty days in humble obedience,

following our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Prepare us anew, we pray,

to keep our hearts and minds fixed on Jesus,

ready and willing from now on to live for him. Amen.

## KYRIE ELEISON

*Healey Willan*

Kyrie eleison. *Lord, have mercy.*

Christe eleison. *Christ, have mercy.*

Kyrie eleison. *Lord, have mercy.*

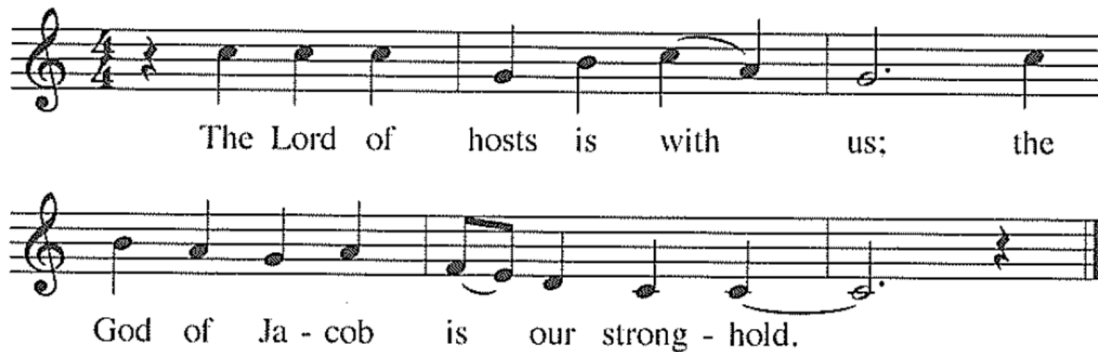
## THE WORD

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Joel 2:12-17**

**Psalm 46**

*The congregation will join in the singing of the antiphon following designated verses on cue from the conductor.*



### *Antiphon*

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
And though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;  
Though its waters roar and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult. **Antiphon.**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.  
God is in the midst of the her; she shall not be moved;  
God shall help her at the break of day. **Antiphon.**

The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken;  
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.  
Come now and look upon the works of the Lord,  
What awesome things he has done on earth. **Antiphon.**

It is he who makes war to cease in the all the world;  
He breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields

with fire.

'Be still, and know that I am God!

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth.' **Antiphon.**

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## MEDITATION

Rev. Jasmine Smart

\* HYMN 819

**Be Still, My Soul**

*Finlandia*

## INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENT

### LITANY OF PENITENCE

Lord, hear us as we confess our sins and shortcomings.

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.

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

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.

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

We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness:

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways,

our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,

**We confess to you, O God.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship,

and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

**We confess to you, O God.**

Accept our repentance, O God,

for all false judgments,

for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,

and for our prejudice and contempt

toward those who differ from us,

**Accept our repentance, O God.**

**Favorably hear us, dear Lord,**

**for your mercy is great.**

**In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

### THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*Those who wish to do so are invited to come forward for the imposition of ashes.*

## ANTHEMS

### Lent Prose

*mode V, arr. John Scott*

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:  
For we have sinned against thee.

To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory:  
Lift we our eyes in penitence:  
Listen, O Jesus, to our supplications.  
Hear us, O Lord...

O thou chief Cornerstone, Right Hand of the Father:  
Way of salvation, Gate of Life Celestial,  
Cleanse thou our sinful souls from vain desires.  
Hear us, O Lord...

God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated,  
Bow down and grant to thy children,  
Mercy and pardon for all our sins.  
Hear us, O Lord...

### Fix Me, Jesus

*Hall Johnson*

*Oh fix me, oh fix me, oh fix me.  
Fix me Jesus, fix me.  
Fix me for my long, white robe.  
Fix me Jesus, fix me.*

Fix me for my starry crown.  
Fix me Jesus, fix me.  
*Oh fix me...*

Fix me for my dyin' bed.  
Fix me Jesus, fix me.  
*Oh fix me...*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,  
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.

**Forgive what our lips tremble to name,  
what our hearts can no longer bear,  
and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.  
Set us free from a past we cannot change;  
open us to a future in which we can be changed;  
and grant us grace to grow in your likeness and image.**

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.**

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,  
That we may show forth your glory in the world.  
By the cross and passion of our Savior,  
bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection.

Thanks to your grace in Jesus Christ,  
 these bones live to proclaim your greatness, O Lord.  
 You love us to the end,  
 feeding us from your own hand scarred with love.  
 You have placed your Spirit within and among us  
 to set our lives spinning free into the New Creation  
 according to your designs.  
 May we go forth to serve as vessels of praise in all we do,  
 to serve a hurting world in your name and to your glory, we pray.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

#### THE SENDING

\* HYMN 676

Day is Done

*Ar Hyd Y Nos*

#### BENEDICTION

#### TITHES AND OFFERING

*Your offering for the Kirk's ministry will be received as you leave worship*

#### CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Oboe Concerto in D Minor—Adagio**

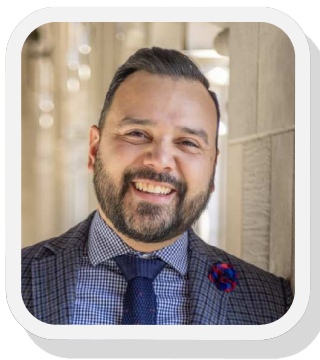
*Alessandro Marcello*

*Merideth Hite Estevez, oboe*

**Chorale Prelude on 'O Man, Bewail Thy Grievous Fall'**

*Johan Sebastian Bach*

From left to right: Rev. Angela Ryo, Rev. Edwin Estevez, Rev. Kelsey Sorge



*We envision a world where every heart experiences God's transforming love.*



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