

ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 17, 2021

PRELUDE "Elegy" Nicholas Bowden

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lord is merciful and gracious,
All: slow to anger and abounding in love.

LITANY FOR LENT

One: For forty days and nights the rain fell, and the waters covered the face of the earth.

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

One: For forty years the people wandered, seeking the land of God's promise.

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

One: Moses spent forty days on the mountain, learning the commandments of God.

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

One: Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness to hear the voice of God in the silence.

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

One: Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh: "Repent, or in forty days you will perish."

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

One: Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days and was tested by the devil.

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

(Silence)

One: Eternal God, as we are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ, so give us the grace of repentance that we may pass through the grave with him and be born again to eternal life. For he is the One who was crucified, dead, and buried, and rose again for us, Jesus our Savior.

All: Amen.

HYMN 165 "The Glory of These Forty Days" Erhalt Uns, Herr

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 6:5-14

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 18:9-14

MEDITATION "Owning It" Ken Hockenberry

OFFERING

(The offering supports One Great Hour of Sharing, which provides disaster relief, self-development of communities, and hunger assistance. We will also receive One Great Hour of Sharing offerings on Palm Sunday.)

OFFERTORY "God Be In My Head" G. Alex Kevan

"God be in my head and in my understanding. God be in my eyes and in my looking. God be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be in my heart and in my thinking. God be at my end and at my departing. Amen."

Megan Hendrickson, soprano; Kristen Walter, alto;
William Dwyer, tenor; Dan Richardson, bass

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

THE THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

UNISON PRAYER

Thank you, Gracious God, for giving us bread for the journey of these forty days. As we travel on through the wilderness, help us to share your grace with others and draw us ever closer to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN 166

“Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days”

St. Flavian

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Psalm XVIII”

Benedetto Marcello

Psalm 18; I will praise Thee, O Lord, my strength.

Pastors: Alex Lang, Judy Hockenberry, and TC Anderson

Guest Preacher: Ken Hockenberry

Music: Adam Hendrickson and Chris Urban

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights



Ash Wednesday Worship

February 17, 2021

Choose love. Be the light. Change the world.



First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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