

*During the Imposition of Ashes, please join in singing:
Hymn No. 422 "Create in Me a Clean Heart"*

Imposition of the Ashes

"Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."

Hymn No. 470

"There Is a Longing in Our Hearts"

Eucharist

Invitation to the Table
Prayer of Thanksgiving

*As Communion is being served, please join in singing:
Hymn No. 423 "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God"
Hymn No. 695 "Change My Heart, O God"*

Breaking of the Bread
Sharing of the Cup
Prayer after Communion

Blessing and Charge



Fasting and Feasting

(for the season of Lent)

by William Arthur

Fast from judging others; feast on the Christ dwelling in them.
Fast from emphasis on differences; feast on the unity of all life.
Fast from thought of illness; feast on the healing power of God.
Fast from words that pollute; feast on the phrases that purify.
Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.
Fast from anger; feast on patience.
Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism.
Fast from worry; feast on hope.
Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.
Fast from negatives; feast on affirmatives.
Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness.
Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.
Fast from discouragement; feast on hope.
Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.
Fast from thoughts that weaken; feast on promises that inspire.
And finally, fast from sin; feast on the abundance of God's mercy.

Ash Wednesday Wednesday, March 6

Call to Worship (John 3:17) Deannine Shipman

Leader: God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world.

People: God sent the Son in order that the world might be saved through him!

Hymn No. 433 "Sign Us with Ashes" (vs. 1-4)

Prayer for Illumination Dean Lindsey

Scripture Reading: Matthew 26:69-75 Page 809

Meditation

Prayers of Confession (from the prayers of Scripture)

Psalm 139 (adapted by Hughes Oliphant Old)

Leader: O Lord, all knowing, most wise God! Our Father,
You have searched me and known me.
You have looked into the deepest desires of
my heart. You know my secret loyalties as
well as my hesitations. You know my doubts
and my reservations.

People: All knowing and still all loving Father, have mercy on us, for we have gotten confused. We love you and we love your ways, yet we have loved this world, too.

Leader: O Lord, our Father, have mercy on us.
We have been wayward.
We have fled your presence.
We have even made our bed in Hell,
and somehow you discovered us there, too.

**People All knowing and still all loving Father, have mercy on us. Grant to us purity of heart.
Focus our erratic desires.
Unite us in Christ.
Grant that in him we may find integrity
and that our hearts may be yours and yours alone.**

Anthem Richard Farrant
"Call to Remembrance" (based on Psalm 25:5,6)

Daniel 9:4-19 (adapted by Hughes Oliphant Old) Peggy Lindsey

Leader: O Lord, merciful Father, you keep covenant and steadfast love with those who love you and keep your commandments.

People We confess that we have not listened to your servants the prophets. We have not heeded your law, nor have we rejoiced in your gospel.

Leader: We confess that things have fallen apart.
What your servants have warned us about has come to pass.

People: Lord, you do keep covenant even when we do not. Your love is steadfast when ours is frail and fallible. You are faithful even when we are faithless.

Leader: O Lord, merciful Father, you keep covenant and steadfast love with those who love you and keep your commandments.

**People: We do want you to be our God and we do want to be your covenant people.
Grant us the gift of faith.**

Psalm 130 (adapted by Hughes Oliphant Old)

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to thee, O Lord!
Lord hear my voice!

People: Wickedness like a black primeval sea has sucked me in, and I am helpless. I thrash about and get nowhere. Sin has gotten ahold of me and darkened my life.

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to thee, O Lord!
Lord hear my voice!

People: You are a merciful God. You know how fallible we are. We fail again and again, and when we come back to you, you always receive us!

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to thee, O Lord!
Lord hear my voice!

People: My hope is set on you. It is for you that I wait. I know you will come through. Your grace will come like the dawn. It is as sure as the sunrise in the morning. All glory be to you, O Daystar from on high!