A Service of Ashes Ash Wednesday February 26, 2020

(In order to maintain the solemn nature of the service the screens will not be used. Please follow in the hymnal.)

Gathering (*The people gather in quietness.*)

Prelude and Acolyte

Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you. Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins. God's mercy endures forever.

Opening Prayer

| *Hymn "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" 269 | | |
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| Old Testament Less | | Page 802 (O.T.) |
| Gospel Lesson | Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 | Page 11 (N.T.) |
| Lenten Meditation | | Rev. John Jordan |
| Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline | | |
| Prayer Over the Ashes | | |
| Imposition of Ashes | | |
| Prayer of Confessio | n Psalm 51 | 785 |
| *Hymn | "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" | 402 |
| *Dismissal With Blessing | | |
| Going Forth | (Please Depart in Silence) | |
| *The Congregation May Stand. | | |

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent. Lent is forty days of fasting and prayer in preparation for Easter. It is a time in which those new to the Christian faith would be taught the doctrines of our faith. The forty days is also a reminder of the forty days Jesus was tempted in the wilderness before he began his ministry.

Lent begins with signs of mourning. The placing of ashes over one's head was an ancient sign of mourning as we mourn the reality that we are born into and live in a state of sin; being separated from God.

Though Lent begins with mourning, it ends with hope. It ends at Easter as we celebrate the risen Lord. While we place signs of mourning reminding us of the penultimate act, death, we are also reminded of God's ultimate act; Resurrection. After death comes resurrection and we are reunited with God.



MinistersThe CongregationPastorJohn D. JordanResident BishopJonathan HolstonDistrict SuperintendentRev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our vision is to Connect, Nurture, Inspire and Transform



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