

THE BLESSING OF THE ASHES

CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS

IMPOSITION OF ASHES and HOLY COMMUNION

The marking on the forehead with ashes and the receiving of the Bread and Cup will take place at the kneeling rail. Those not wanting the imposition of the ashes may indicate so. The communion will be served at the same time.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus" #297

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE AND GOING FORTH OF GOD'S PEOPLE



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St. Andrew United Methodist Church

I turned to the Lord God and
pleaded with him in prayer
and petition, in fasting,
and in sackcloth and ashes.



Daniel 9:3

February 22, 2012

Ash Wednesday

Liturgical Color - Purple



PRELUDE

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Tonight is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent,
The time of preparation for Easter.

**We recall the journey of Jesus Christ
to the cross, where He suffered and died for us.**

God knows our reluctance to enter the story.
May God go with us on the journey.

**May God go with us through the ashes, confession,
almsgiving, prayers, and fasting.
May God strengthen us for this journey toward Easter
which we begin together in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Let us continue to pray as one congregation.

Gracious God, too easily we take our faith for granted. We dabble with the scriptures, neglect the gift of prayer, cave into the ways of the world, and know little about how to follow Jesus. In moments like this we know we fall short of your desires, and we ask forgiveness. Give us new resolve to value our calling to be your disciples. Thank you for this season of Lent. Help us to use this time to grow in your grace and be better equipped for the life of service you call us to. Deepen our love for you and your people, and deepen our desire to use our gifts for your purpose. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen.

*HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" - #298

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Joel 2:12-18

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 51

#785-786

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE EPISTLE READING

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Praise the Lord!

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Thank you, Lord!

MEDITATION IN MUSIC

HOMILY

Rev. Barry Cannon

2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10

"The Mark That Shows Our Credentials"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

Take a few moments to pray for strength to forgive and to accept forgiveness.

God's grace is now working in your life.

The Scripture tells us that, "If you confess your sins, He is faithful and just to forgive your sins and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:8) In the name of Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. **And yours also.**