



First Presbyterian Church PC (U.S.A.)  
[Starkville Presbyterian Church PC (U.S.A.)]  
Starkville, Mississippi  
February 17 2021  
Ash Wednesday

*Order of Worship*

Prelude      *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

GREETING (From John 3:17, Psalm 46:1-3)

One: God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

**All: God's love endures forever!**

One: God is our refuge and strength, a present help in time of trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**All: God's love endures forever!**

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

**Almighty God, You despise nothing You have made and You forgave the sins of all who trust in You. Create in us new and contrite hearts, that truly repenting of our sins, and acknowledging our brokenness, we may receive from You, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our redeemer, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 51

MEDITATION

Rev. Ron McDougald

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: the early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration there should be forty-day season of spiritual preparation.

During this season converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to participation in the life of the Church. In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to observe a holy Lent: by self-examination

and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word. *(A brief silence is kept.)*

One: Accomplish in us, O God the work of Your salvation,

**All: That we may show forth Your glory in the world.**

One: By the cross of our Savior,

**All: Bring us with all Your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection!**

+BLESSING

One: May the God of peace make you holy in every way and keep your whole being--spirit, soul and body--free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All: Amen.**

Postlude *Jesus, Remember Me*

## PRAYER LIST:

Here are the most recent additions: **Family of Rev. Wilson Ashford, Jr.**; **Family Rev. Marion Fonville** (uncle of Ashley Bryson); **Deb Freeberg** (brain tumor, friend of Cate Van Hurdle); **Cate Van Hurdle**; **Swoope Clan**; **Family of David Webb** (high school friend of Charles Bryson); and **Teachers, Students and their families** at all levels of education as they adjust to learning in this time of COVID 19. Please keep these and all those on the list below in your prayers.

**If you would like to add a request or removal to our list, please contact Nancy Bryson (324-6320 or nancybryson68@gmail.com) or Rev. Ron McDougald (601-942-8040 or chaplain.mcdougald@gmail.com)**

Family of Tim Avant	Ann Chiles	Family of Sarah Cook
David Earnest	Deloris Fratesi	Rev. Wil Howie
Rev. Chris Kiepe	Jetta Kuykendall	Martha Lancaster
Jason Landry & family	Rev. Olin McBride	Richard Mullenax
Norwood Nuckols	Jeff O'Rourke	Family of John Paulk
Bettye Seepe	Family of Ann Thomas	Elizabeth Vance
Clyde Williams	Family of Nathan Wisdom	Anita Zitta
Josephine Zitta		

Please be in constant prayer for those suffering with COVID 19, and those who care for them, those with addictions, homelessness, loneliness, hunger, mental illness, the unemployed, prisoners and the poor.

**SUSPENSION OF 'FACE-TO-FACE' SERVICES.** Out of an abundance of caution, and with love and care for our community and congregation, we continue to suspend all face-to-face services (worship, social, choir, etc.) for the immediate future. The Session reviews this decision at each stated meeting. **Our next meeting is Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>.** Please contact any Elder or Ron, if you have questions or comments

### Session

Rev. Ron McDougald, <i>Moderator</i> , chaplain.mcdougald@gmail.com	
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Ash  
Wednesday  
Service