



Starkville Presbyterian Church PC (U.S.A.)

Starkville, Mississippi

February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday

*Order of Worship*

Prelude *We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom* MERLE'S TUNE

Call to Worship (From Psalm 51)

One: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your loving-kindness in Your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**All: Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.**

One: Create in me a clean heart, O God and renew a right spirit within me.

**All: Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.**

+ Hymn #442 *Just as I Am, Without One Plea* WOODWORTH

+Call to Confession

One: Now is the time. Now is the day of salvation. Now is the beginning of a season of deep breaths, deep reflection, and deep reckoning. We must not accept God's grace in vain. Now is the time for confession.

+Prayer of Confession *Unison*

**Have mercy on us, O God. We know the ways we have sinned against You. We know the ways we have done evil. We know the ways we are guilty. We deserve Your judgment, and yet we plead: do not cast us away from Your presence. Do not take Your Holy Spirit from us. Create in us clean hearts. Hide Your face from our sins and blot out the evil we have done. Let us hear joy and gladness; let the bones that You have crushed rejoice.** (Moment of Silence)

+Assurance of Pardon

One: Even now the Lord says, Return to Me with all your heart. God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love.

**All: Thanks be to God for this unimaginable grace.**

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 a 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. To make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now bow before our Creator and Redeemer. *(A brief silence is kept.)*

INPOSITION OF ASHES

Almighty God, You have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so that we may remember that only by Your gracious gift are we given everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*Supplication* Linda Steen Stevacek

+Sending

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.**

**All depart in silence**

**ELDER OF THE MONTH.** The Elder of the Month for February is Pat Colwick.



## **Starkville Presbyterian Church PC (U.S.A.)**

280 Linden Circle

Starkville, Mississippi 39759

February 22, 2023

[www.starkvillepcusa.org](http://www.starkvillepcusa.org)

[www.facebook.com/StarkvillePresbyterianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/StarkvillePresbyterianChurch)

### **Session**

Rev. Ron McDougald, *Moderator*, [chaplin.mcdougald@gmail.com](mailto:chaplin.mcdougald@gmail.com)

Robert Green, *Clerk*, [robert@robertgreen.org](mailto:robert@robertgreen.org)

### **CLASS of 2023**

Anne McWhorter

### **CLASS of 2024**

Pat Colwick

Susan Kuykendall

### **CLASS of 2025**

Nancy Bryson

Richard Mullenax

Interim Minister: Rev. Ron McDougald, [chaplain.mcdougald@gmail.com](mailto:chaplain.mcdougald@gmail.com)

Communication Coordinator: Nancy Bryson, [nancybryson68@gmail.com](mailto:nancybryson68@gmail.com)

Music Director: Linda Karen Smith

Recording Secretary: Susan Kuykendall, [susankuyk@yahoo.com](mailto:susankuyk@yahoo.com)

Treasurer: Pat Colwick, [pcolwick@yahoo.com](mailto:pcolwick@yahoo.com), 1006 S. Montgomery St., Starkville, MS 39759

Mailing Address: c/o Robert Green, 1000 Yorkshire Road, Starkville, MS 39759