



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

Starkville, Mississippi

March 2, 2022

Ash Wednesday

Order of Worship

Prelude *God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us* O QUANTA QUALIA

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!

+Hymn #649 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* AMAZING GRACE

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 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.

Sign Us with Ashes PHOENIX

PRAYER

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 AND GOING FORTH

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



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Starkville, Mississippi 39759

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Session

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CLASS of 2022

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Sara Green
Robert Green

CLASS of 2023

CLASS of 2024

Pat Colwick
Susan Kuykendall

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