

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude:

Welcome/Announcements:

Invitation to Repentance: (Unison)

**Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt.
I said to myself, "I will confess my rebellion to the LORD."
And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.**

Gathering in Song "Come. Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" UMH 340

Gathering in Prayer "Changer" (a prayer poem by Adrienne Sparrow Trevathan)

Psalm of Repentance (Psalm 51 responsively)

Have mercy on me, O God,
because of your unfailing love.
Because of your great compassion,
blot out the stain of my sins.
**Wash me clean from my guilt.
Purify me from my sin.**
For I recognize my rebellion;
it haunts me day and night.
**Against you, and you alone, have I sinned;
I have done what is evil in your sight.
You will be proved right in what you say,
and your judgment against me is just.**
For I was born a sinner—
yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.
**But you desire honesty from the womb,
teaching me wisdom even there.**
Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
**Oh, give me back my joy again;
you have broken me—
now let me rejoice.**
Don't keep looking at my sins.
Remove the stain of my guilt.
**Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Renew a loyal spirit within me.**
Do not banish me from your presence,
and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.
**Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and make me willing to obey you.**
Then I will teach your ways to rebels,
and they will return to you.
**You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one.
You do not want a burnt offering.
The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit.
You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.**

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Scripture Reading: Isaiah 58:1-12

Message: "True Repentance"

Hymn of Response: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" UMH 384

Invitation to Reception of Ashes

Confession of Sins: (Unison)

**O, God, when we pause to look back at our lives on this Ash Wednesday, we realize
that we have been weighed in the balance and found wanting.**

We have neglected to do good when it was in our power to do so.

**We, like believers of old, have pulled down your altars
and erected idols crafted in our own image.**

**We have turned our backs on the poor,
choosing instead to criminalize poverty.**

**We have ignored the cries of the motherless, the fatherless,
the widow and the widower**

choosing instead to turn children and the elderly into the new poor.

**We have bankrupted the country with our greed and
consumed more than our share of the world's riches**

**We have not dealt honorably with our enemies or our friends,
and we have feigned a place in the company of the righteous.**

**Forgive us, O God, for turning sackcloth and ashes into a fashion statement
by pursuing form without substance.**

**Forgive us, O God, for the times we have neglected to provide our children
and our world an authentic example of Christianity.**

As we begin the journey of these 40 days

Wash us, O God and we shall be clean

Cleanse us, O Lord, and we shall be made whole. Amen.

(Silence)

Words of assurance: Hear the Good News.

The LORD, our God, is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast
love (Joel 2:13).

God hears the earnest cries of the repentant and forgives our sins.

Thanksgiving Over the Ashes

Imposition of Ashes

"Just As I Am, Without One Plea" #357

"I Surrender All" #354

Dismissal w/ Blessing:

BARNUM COMMUNITY CHURCH

"Our mission is to give of ourselves so others may know Jesus Christ"

WELCOME

March 5, 2025

Ash Wednesday



*Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

E C C L E S I A S T E S 3 : 2 0

Pastor:

Lee Kantonen

Youth Leader:

Bill Schoonover

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