

Ash Wednesday

Worship Service

February 17, 2010

Prelude Beneath the Cross of Jesus D. Hustad

ADORATION

Call to Worship

*Hymn #78 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

*Unison Prayer of Adoration

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to love you and serve our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of tenderness, and strengthen us to face our mortality, that we may reach with confidence for your mercy, in Jesus Christ our Lord, our Savior and your Son. Amen.

CONFESSION

Call to Confession

The Litany of Confession

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

People: God's love endures forever.

Minister: God is our refuge and our strength, a present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change

People: Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

Minister: Though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

People: God's love endures forever.

Minister: Holy and merciful God, we confess before you and one another and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

People: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Minister: Have mercy on us, O God.

People: We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Minister: Have mercy on us, O God.

People: We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness: The pride, the hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives.

Minister: Have mercy on us, O God. We confess to you, O God:

People: Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves.

Minister: We confess to you, O God:

People: Our neglect in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us. Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life...

Minister: Have mercy on us, O God. In the name of your Son, the Christ, have mercy on us, O God.

People: We confess to you false judgments, uncharitable thoughts towards neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us. For our waste and our pollution, our casual lack of concern for those who might come after us.

Minister: Have mercy on us, O God. Have mercy on us, O God. Have mercy on us, O God. And now through the power of your Holy Spirit we pray that you would accept our repentance.

People: Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done. Restore us, O God, and let your anger be far from us. May we keep the faith, know your grace, and follow your Son.

Minister: In your favor, hear us, Lord. Your mercy is great, and your grace is manna from heaven.

All: Have mercy on us, O God. Have mercy on us, O God. Have mercy on us, O God.

Hymn #599 (sung twice)

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

The Assurance Of Forgiveness

Minister: Hear and believe the Good News!

People: IN JESUS CHRIST WE ARE FORGIVEN!

*Response To Forgiveness #Hymn 417

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation
(verses 1 and 3)

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one.

Holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.

Here bestow on all Your servants, what they ask of You gain;

What they gain from You forever with the blessed to retain,

And hereafter in Your glory evermore with you to reign.

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 51:1-17
(pew Bible page 520)

Musical Offering

Isaiah 53
Stewart Sanderson - Soloist

Ash Wednesday Meditation

Litany For Ash Wednesday

Minister: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation.

People: That we may show forth your glory in the world. By the cross and the passion of our Savior, bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection.

Minister: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May this Ash Wednesday, this service of confession and repentance, serve as a sign and reminder of our mortality and our deep need to repent. Accept this prayer, this litany as our act of penitence – accept it that it would serve for us as a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we forgiven, only through your gracious love and your risen Son are we given everlasting life.

People: Joining our voices with believers in every time and place we acknowledge with one worshipping heart that by Your grace we were made, by Your grace we were born, and through that same grace we shall one day return.

Minister: Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. In the image of God we were made from the dust, and to the dust we shall all return.

People: Have mercy on us, O God. Have mercy on us, O God. Have mercy on us, O God.

Minister: Let us pray:

Prayer of The Day and The Lord's Prayer

*Hymn #101

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

*The Benediction

Postlude _____ O Sacred Head Now Wounded _____ D. Hustad

*Those able to may stand.

**Latecomers seated.