



SOTC Worship
February 14, 2024
Ash Wednesday

————— GATHERING —————

PRELUDE

WELCOME

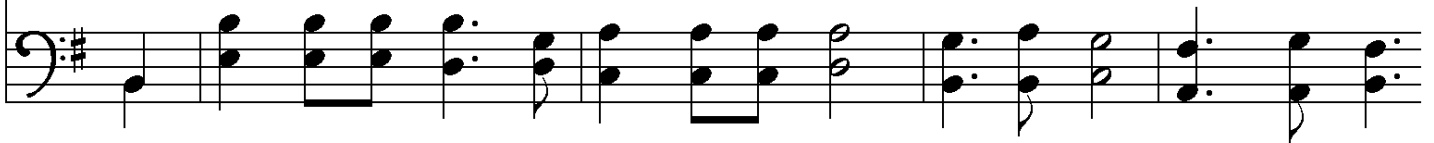
CALL TO WORSHIP

*Refrain is played once by the piano, then sung once by the song leader.
The congregation joins the third time through the refrain.
The refrain is repeated after each spoken response as printed below.*

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.
OR *The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.*



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.



L: In the softness of evening,
in the solace of silence we come to you, O Lord.

C: We come for acceptance; we come for community; we come for forgiveness and love.

Repeat "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

L: In the serenity of day's end,
in the restfulness of worship, we come to you O Lord.

C: We come to you for respite; we come to you for completion; we come to you for forgiveness and love.

Repeat "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

L: In the quiet of the night,
in the comfort of darkness we come to you, O Lord.

C: We come for peace; we come for comfort; we come for forgiveness and love.

Silence

L: We come, O Lord of Light,

C: seeking the illumination of your Word.

L: We come

C: for the path we can't find;

L: we come

C: for the life we don't have.

L: We come to you

C: for our lives are death and you alone have breath and being.

GATHERING HYMN

O LORD, THROUGHOUT THESE FORTY DAYS

ELW 319

GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

————— **WORD** —————

STORYTELLING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

In preparation to receive God's Word, we light the Christ candle and pray for God's Word to be illuminated in our midst. Take a moment for silent reflection.

READINGS: JOEL 2:1-2, 12-17, PSALM 51:1-17, 2 CORINTHIANS 5:20b-6:10

In response to the readings:

Word of God. Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 151

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21

The Gospel is announced:

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

OUR FATHER, WE HAVE WANDERED

ELW 606

INVITATION TO LENT

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another:

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most holy and merciful God,

we confess to you and to one another,

and before the whole company of heaven,

that we have sinned by our fault,

by our own fault,

by our own most grievous fault,

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We have shut our ears 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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Pastor Aleese offers a prayer as we prepare to receive ashes. After prayer, the congregation is invited to come forward to receive the imposition of ashes. Following the imposition of ashes, the congregation joins in the following response:

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response to "Lord in your mercy" is "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always!

And also with you!

Congregation is invited to share a sign of peace with others. Pull out your cell phones and send a text and/or a picture to someone, sharing the peace of Christ with them as well!

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 152

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW pg. 153

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Together we receive God's gift of love given to us in the sacrament of communion. All are welcome at the table, where Christ is our host.

Following the directions of the ushers, the congregation will be invited forward in groups. Each group will stand before the altar to receive the bread and wine/juice. After receiving both bread and wine, remain with your group until Pastor Aleese offers a short blessing, dismissing each group to return to their seats. Those not desiring to receive communion may come forward for a blessing.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW pg. 154

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

————— SENDING —————

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

BLESS NOW, O GOD, THE JOURNEY

ELW 326

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Copyright acknowledgements:

Music covered under CCLI License #1141706, One License #738128-A. Scripture from New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. ELW Setting 4, © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Prelude: Christ, Revive Us Again. Text and Music: Mark Hayes. Text and Music: © 2011 The Lorenz Publishing Corporation. Covered under One License subscription.

Opening Litany: O Lord, Hear My Prayer. Text: Psalm 102:1-2; Taizé Community, adapt. Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994. Text and Music: © 1982, 1991 Le Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Covered under One License subscription.

Gathering Song: O Lord Throughout These Forty Days. Text: based on Claudie F. Hernaman, 1838-1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930. Music: A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003. Text: © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Covered under One License subscription.

Hymn of the Day: Our Father, We Have Wandered. Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929-2006. Music: Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750. Text: © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. Covered under One License subscription.

Imposition of Ashes: Just As I Am. Text and music: Mark Hayes. Text and Music: © 2022 The Lorenz Publishing Corporation. Covered under One License subscription.

Offering: Be Thou My Vision. Text and music: Carlton R. Young. Text and Music: © 1964 United Methodist Publishing House/Abingdon Press. Covered under One License subscription.

Communion Songs: Return to God. Text and Music: Marty Haugen. Text and Music © 1990, 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. Covered under One License subscription.

Sending Song: Bless Now, O God, the Journey. Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993. Music: Welsh tune, 19th cent. Text: © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. Music: Public Domain. Covered under One License subscription.