

BENEDICTION

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Those who wish are invited to come to either the front or back of the Sanctuary to receive ashes either on the back of the hand or on the forehead. Ashes serve as a sign of human mortality and penitence and as a reminder that only by God's grace in Jesus Christ are we given eternal life. Ashes are imposed with the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19).

DEPART IN SILENCE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Adam H. Fronczek Associate Pastor
Joyce Shin Associate Pastor
John W. W. Sherer Organist and Director of Music
Carla Janzen Soloist

The season of Lent calls Christians to embrace the faith journey by reflecting upon and deepening their relationship with God and by acting upon their Christian beliefs. Although often considered a time for giving up something as a way of symbolizing Jesus' sacrifice and his struggle in the wilderness, the forty days of Lent also offer an opportunity for taking up. During this season, we are invited to thoughtfully take up the gifts of faith—worship, study, prayer, and service—in preparation for Holy Week and Christ's journey to the cross. Those who would like to join in the pilgrimage through the Bible as part of their Lenten reflections will find daily "Bible in a Year" devotion booklets in the literature racks; devotions are also available via Facebook (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch), Twitter (@FourthChicago), and by email (devotions@fourthchurch.org).

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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ASH WEDNESDAY



PRELUDE Create in Me a Clean Heart *Johann Gottfried Walther*
Man's Days Are Like the Grass *Daniel Pinkham*
All People Are Mortal *Johann Sebastian Bach*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: We come in this service to God,
People: **in our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world.**
Leader: We come to God, who has come to us in Jesus,
People: **and who walks with us the road of our world's suffering.**
Leader: We come with our faith and with our doubts;
People: **we come with our hopes and with our fears.**
Leader: We come as we are, because it is God
who invites us to come,
People: **and God has promised never to turn us away.**

***HYMN 76** "My Song Is Love Unknown" *Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(unison) **O Prince of peace,
from peace that is no peace,
from the grip of all that is evil,
from a violent righteousness, deliver us.
From paralysis of will,
from lies and misnaming,
from terror of truth, deliver us.
From hardness of heart,
from trading in slaughter,
from the worship of death, deliver us.
By the folly of your gospel,
by your choosing our flesh,
by your nakedness and pain, heal us.
By your weeping over the city,
by your refusal of the sword,
by your facing of horror, heal us.
By your bursting from the tomb,
by your coming in judgment,
by your longing for peace, heal us.
Grant us peace. Amen.**

WELCOME

**Stand as you are able.*

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Genesis 41:17b–36 (page 36, O.T.)
Matthew 6:19–21 (page 6, N.T.)

A MEDITATION FOR ASH WEDNESDAY by Adam H. Fronczek

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO

"Draw Near to Me" *J. S. Bach*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Minister: . . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:
People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)* (page 16, The Hymnal)

THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION SOLO

"Brother James's Air" *Phyllis Tate*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(unison) **God of compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ
you reconciled your people to yourself.
Following his example of prayer and fasting,
may we obey you with willing hearts
and serve one another in holy love,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**