



Ash Wednesday
March 5, 2014 • 7:30 p.m.

**ASH WEDNESDAY
EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE**

PRELUDE

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God	<i>Johann Gottfried Walther</i>
Man's Days Are Like the Grass	<i>Daniel Pinkham</i>
All People Are Mortal	<i>Johann Sebastian Bach</i>

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

People: **God's love endures forever.**

Minister: God is our refuge and 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;
though the waters roar and foam,
God's love endures forever.**

Minister: Let us worship God.

PRAYER FOR ASH WEDNESDAY *(unison)*

**Gracious God, out of your love and mercy
you breathed into dust the breath of life,
creating us to serve you and 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,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WELCOME

***HYMN 81**

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

Tune: ST. FLAVIAN

FIRST LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10

(page 170, N.T.)

ANTHEM

“Lay Up for Yourselves”

Ned Rorem

Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt and where thieves do not break through and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 58:1–12

(page 647, O.T.)

REFLECTION

God’s Grace Is Not in Vain

VICTORIA G. CURTISS

***HYMN 83**

“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”

Tune: DEO GRACIAS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

Dan Locklair

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with thy free Spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

PSALTER

Psalm 51:1–17 (*read responsively by verse*)

(page 492, O.T.)

LITANY OF PENITENCE

Minister: Let us pray.

All: **Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another
and to the whole community 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.**

Minister: 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.

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

Minister: 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.

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

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

People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways
and our exploitation of other people,

People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Our anger at our own frustration

and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Our negligence in prayer and worship
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Accept our repentance, O God,
for the wrongs we have done.
For our neglect of human need and suffering
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

People: **accept our repentance, O God.**

Minister: For all false judgments,
for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,
and for our prejudice and contempt toward those
who differ from us,

People: **accept our repentance, O God.**

Minister: For our waste and pollution of your creation
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

People: **accept our repentance, O God.**

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

People: **Favorably hear us, O God,
for your mercy is great.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the Good News.

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION AND GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors;**

**and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom

and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION ANTHEM

“Brother James’ Air”

Gordon Jacob

The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want; he makes me down to lie
in pastures green. He leadeth me the quiet waters by. My soul he
doth restore again and me to walk doth make within the paths of
blessedness, e’en for his own name’s sake. Yea, though I pass through
shadowed vale, yet will I fear no ill; for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still. My table thou hast furnished in presence
of my foes; my head with oil thou dost anoint, and my cup overflows.
Goodness and mercy all my days will surely follow me; and in my
Father’s heart always my dwelling place shall be.

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.**

*HYMN 85

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

Tune: WONDROUS LOVE

BLESSING AND CHARGE

Minister: 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.

People: **Amen.**

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Following the Blessing and Charge (*previous page*), 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 of Genesis 3:19:

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

—Depart in silence—

WORSHIP LEADERS

Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor

Adam H. Fronczek, Associate Pastor

MUSICIANS

The Chancel Choir

John W.W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

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The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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