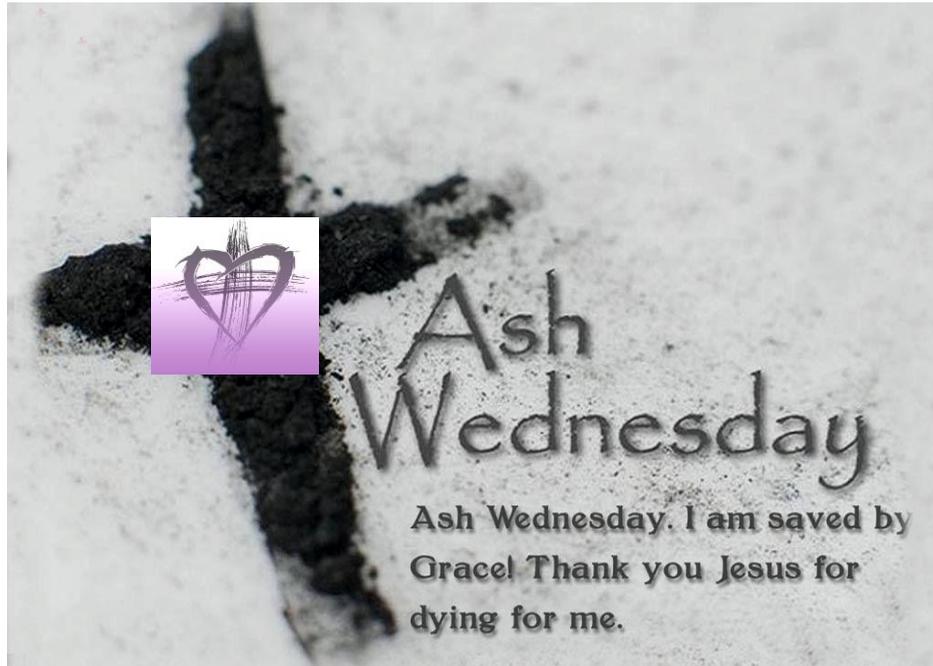


Romans 5:8

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*



***Worship Beginning the Lenten Season of Repentance and Renewal***

First Presbyterian Church  
Starkville



***Ash Wednesday Service:  
From Confession to Communion***

March 6, 2019  
6:00 p.m.

***Worship Beginning the Lenten Season of Repentance and Renewal***

**Ash Wednesday Service:**  
*From Our Repentant Confession to  
Christ's Redeeming Communion*

March 6, 2019

**PRELUDE**

Jennifer Blackbourn

**A CALL TO WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE TRUTH OF WHO WE ARE AND WHO HE IS**

**LITANY** *from Isaiah 53, selected verses*

Leader: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;

**ALL: Yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.**

Leader: But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities.

**ALL: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, each to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

Leader: By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living – stricken for the transgression of my people?

**ALL: And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.**

**INVOCATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Genesis 3:17-19; Romans 5:12; Hebrews 9:27  
(ESV Pew Bible pp. 2, 942, 1006)

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *From the Westminster Larger Catechism (Q. 84)*

Leader: Is everyone going to die?

**ALL: Since we have been warned that the wages of sin is death, everyone is destined to die once, because everyone has sinned.**

**THE CALL TO A SEASON OF REPENTANCE & RENEWAL**

**\*INVITATION TO RECEIVE THE OUTWARD MARK OF ASHES**

**PRAYER CONFESSING SIN AND SEEKING GOD'S MERCY** *from Palm 51*

**ALL: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion, blot out my transgressions.**

Leader: Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

**ALL: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.**

**Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,**

Leader: So that You are proved right when You speak and justified when You judge.

**ALL: Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

**O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.**

Leader: You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

**ALL: A broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PETITION**

*\*Congregation Standing*

**GOD'S GOSPEL OF GRACE IN JESUS CHRIST**

**GOOD NEWS MESSAGE**

*from God's Word*

Martin Lifer

Isaiah 53:11-12; Romans 5:15-21; Hebrews 9:28  
(ESV Pew Bible pp., 614, 942, 1006)

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *From the Westminster Larger Catechism (Q. 85)*

Pastor: Given that death is the wages of sin, why are the righteous not delivered from death, since all their sins are forgiven in Christ?

**ALL: At the last day, the righteous will be delivered from death itself. In the meantime, even when they die, they are delivered from the sting and curse of death, and God's love completely frees them from sin and misery, enabling them to have a deeper communion with Christ when they enter into his glory after death.**

**\*HYMN # 463**

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

TOPLADY

**CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**INVITATION AND THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION**

**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.

**SHARING THE BREAD AND SHARING THE CUP**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**ENTERING THIS LENTEN SEASON IN CHRIST'S SURE BLESSINGS**

**\*HYMN # 506**

*In Christ Alone (My Hope Is Found)*

IN CHRIST ALONE

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Jennifer Blackbourn

*\*Congregation Standing*

There will be no formal offering taken during tonight's service. *However, if you would like to give tonight either God's Tithe or your further or special offerings, we invite you to place your gift before or after the service in one of the Offering Plates that are on the front steps of the Chancel,*

**Serve God in Real Help Needed for a Church Member on our Prayer List.**

A church member who has been on our Prayer List for several months needs someone to drive her and accompany her to Tupelo for a medical procedure on **Monday, April 1**. The procedure will take at least 3 hours, and you will need to leave Starkville at 10:00 am for the appointment. Please call Rita Usher at the church office to volunteer. May God bless you, as you consider being a Good Samaritan and minister of God's grace to a sister who needs our help.