



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Ash Wednesday Service

February 17, 2021 - 7:00 PM

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Prelude: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. Shackley

Introit: "Just As I Am, Without One Plea" Lift Up Your Hearts #627

1. Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2. Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4. Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Welcome & Greeting

Call to Worship:

Merciful God,
we come to you today realizing
that we are not how you want us to
be.

Help us let go of our past,
that we may turn toward you
and live again the life of faith.

Help us call out our fear and hatred,
our anger and self-pity.

Lift the burden they place on our shoulders.
Help us set aside our guilt and enter a season
of healing.

As we pray, help us become simple people,
that we may see you plainly.

As we follow Jesus toward the cross,
make our legs strong and our hearts steady.
Let us draw near to you now. Amen.

*Sing: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (O WALY WALY)

1. When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them through his blood.

3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

1. When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession: based on Psalm 51

Have mercy on us, O God, because of your unfailing love.
Because of your great compassion, forgive us.
Free us from the guilt that weighs us down,
from the sin that controls us.

We have sinned against you,

and done what is wrong in your eyes.

We are well aware of the wrong we do:

the words we speak which wound,

the unloving thoughts and actions

which hurt others and ourselves.

We know that these things distance us from you,

and keep us from recognizing your life in us.

Forgive us.

Sung:

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

You desire complete honesty from us.

We know that nothing can be hidden from you.

And so we lay open our hearts to you now—
we lay before you those things for which we need your forgiveness,
and those things from which we long to be set free.
Gracious God, enter our hearts.
Teach us what it means to have you at the center of our lives.

**God, we need your mercy and forgiveness.
Only you can make us whole again;
only you can fill us with lasting joy,
only you can transform our weakness into strength.
O God, look no longer on our past mistakes,
but on the aspirations and longing of our hearts.**

Sung:

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, O Lord; take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy your salvation, and renew a right spirit within me.*

Create in us clean hearts, O God,
open and receptive to your Spirit.

**Create in us clean hearts, O God,
washed clean from bitter thoughts,
from shame, guilt, envy and anger.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God,
free from anxiety about the past or the future,
confident in the presence of your Holy Spirit,
and in your gift of peace.

**Create in us clean hearts, O God,
cleansed by your mercy, and made strong by your love.**

Sung:

*Cast me not away from your presence, O Lord; take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy your salvation, and renew a right spirit within me.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.*

Loving and merciful God,
we have so little to bring to You.
But what we have, we willingly give:
our humble spirits and contrite hearts.
We long to be your disciples,
to follow your path for our lives,
and to share with others
the good news of your love and mercy.

Scripture Reading: Psalm 103:8-18

Homily: Rev. Noah McLaren

Prayer

***Song of Response: "I Surrender All"** Lift Up Your Hearts #739

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| 1. All to Jesus I surrender,
all to him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust him,
in his presence daily live. | 2. All to Jesus I surrender,
make me, Savior, wholly thine;
let me feel thy Holy Spirit,
truly know that thou art mine. |
|---|--|

Refrain:

I surrender all, I surrender all;
all to thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

2. All to Jesus I surrender,
make me, Savior, wholly thine;
let me feel thy Holy Spirit,
truly know that thou art mine.

Refrain

3. All to Jesus I surrender,
Lord, I give myself to thee;
fill me with thy love and power,
let thy blessing fall on me.

Refrain x2

Sending

Amen.

Postlude: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" Tornquist

Rev. Noah McLaren, preaching
Julie Hordyk, piano
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Postlude: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” by Tornquist

*My faith looks up to thee
Thou Lamb of Calvary
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray
Take all my guilt away
O let me from this day
Be wholly thine!*

*May thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart
My zeal inspire!
As thou hast died for me
O may my love to thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be
A living fire!*

Please tear off

*Guests are invited to exit in silence, bringing their written prayer -
something to give up, or something to take on - to the fire outside.*