

That citizens everywhere may realize that care for their neighbor consists of more than mere giving of money, let us pray to the God of mercy.

Hear our prayer, O God.

For all of us here that we may be honest enough to admit what we are selfish about, and what we can do to remedy our lack of love, let us pray to the God of mercy.

Hear our prayer, O God.

For those who share Christ's charity toward sinners, let us pray to the God of mercy.

Hear our prayer, O God.

Merciful God, the ashes are our pledge to surrender as we take up the cross of life. We came from the earth and we will go back to it. In the meantime, beginning these forty days, help us to let go, so that we grow closer to you. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Declaration of God's Mercy

* Closing Hymn

Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes

TFWS #2138

* Benediction and Sharing the Peace of Christ

* Postlude



Following the service, you are invited to gather at the Cross on New Hope Rd. side of the church as we adorn it with Lenten colors.

Ash Wednesday

March 6, 2019

Myers Memorial United Methodist Church
Rev. Sally W. Queen, Pastor
301 South New Hope Road Gastonia, North Carolina 28054
www.MyersMemorialUMC.org 704-864-3222

March 6, 2018

6pm

Scripture Lesson

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

OT, page 846

Order of Worship

Leader: The Word of God for us, the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Prelude

Meditation on "St. Agnes"

J. Jones

* Call to Worship

responsively

Anthem

I Will Arise

Arr. Susan Byler

Chancel Choir

I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in his arms, In the arms of my dear Savior, Oh there are ten thousand charms. Come ye sinners poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore; Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity love and power. Come ye thirsty come and welcome God's free bounty glorify! True believe and true repentance every gift that brings you nigh. I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in his arms, In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: God's mercy endures forever.

* Opening Prayer

in unison

Scripture Lesson

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

NT, page 181

O God,

maker of every thing and judge of all that you have made,

from the dust of the earth you have formed us

and from the dust of death you would raise us up.

By the redemptive power of the cross,

create in us clean hearts

and put within us a new spirit,

that we may repent of our sins

and lead lives worthy of your calling;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: The Word of God for us, the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

* Opening Hymn

What Wondrous Love is This

UMH #292

Message

Lent: A Season of Reset

Rev. Sally Queen

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 51

OT, page 520

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

Thanksgiving over the Ashes

Imposition of Ashes

All are invited to come forward and have ashes placed on your forehead in the sign of the cross. This will remind you of your sinfulness and morality. After receiving the ashes you are invited to spend time in prayer at the communion rail or in your pew.

Leader: The Word of God for us, the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Act of Penitence and Reconciliation

In fear, but also in hope, we come together with ashes on our heads. The planet is dying in our hands; people turn to each other for food and strength only to be shoved away. Each day we deal in death, yet pretend that we are good. Let us take forty days to look hard at our so-called goodness and see what it covers up, so that we might learn to let go.

Giving of our Gifts

Offertory

Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

J. Jones

* Doxology

UMH #95

Let us pray:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

That as disciples of Christ we might start using our hands, feet, money, time and energy for the good of the poor, let us pray to the God of mercy.

Hear our prayer, O God.