

PRAYER AND The Lord's Prayer

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,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN #376 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"**

***BENEDICTION**

PLEASE LEAVE IN SILENT MEDITATION

Cover Art:
Google Images



Office Hours: Mon.-Thur. 8:30-10:30 a.m.

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The WiFi Identity is FPCS-Guest and the password to connect is Grace4all.



Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Simpsonville Presbyterian Church

Simpsonville, SC

"Growing Together in Faith – Loving and Serving in the World"

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday

Please note that the wearing of masks during service and singing hymns is optional. NOTE: This service may be video recorded. Please stand if you are able where asterisk.

PRELUDE "No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus" Arr. Smith

***OUR CALL TO WORSHIP** Jackie Koch, Liturgist

Leader: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

People: and put a new and right spirit within me.

Leader: Do not cast me away from your presence,

People: and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.

Leader: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

People: and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Leader: O Lord, open my lips,

All: and my mouth will declare your praise.

OPENING HYMN: #298 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

***RESPONSIVE READING (Psalm 46:1-3)**

Leader: God is our refuge and strength,

All: a present help in trouble.

Leader: Therefore we will not fear

All: though the earth should change,

Leader: though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

All: though the waters roar and foam,

Leader: though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

All: God's love endures forever.

A LITANY OF PENITENCE

Liturgist: God desires truth in the inward being and receives a broken spirit, the contrite heart. Seeking abundant mercy, let us confess our sins before God by reading responsively the Litany of Penitence.

Leader: Holy God, we confess to you and to one another that we have sinned, by our own fault, in our thoughts, our words, and our actions.

All: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: We have not loved you or our neighbors with our whole hearts.

All: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: We have failed to do justice and to love mercy and to live humbly.

All: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: We have left many things undone that would bring justice and equality to the human community.

All: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: We have despoiled the natural world that you created in beauty and rich diversity.

All: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: We continually store up possessions as earthly treasure and neglect the true treasure that you offer.

All: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: With honesty, we confess our pride, our envy of others, our anger, our self-indulgence, our contempt for those who differ from us.

All: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: So we begin a journey through the wilderness of Lent with the marks of our human brokenness upon us. Accompany us on the way; forgive us as we stumble; encourage us as we learn the way of discipleship; bring us safely to the cross and the empty tomb. Restore us to wholeness, and embrace us in your steadfast love.

All: Turn to us in your mercy, O God, and redeem us. Amen.

HYMN #316 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

SILENT PRAYER: A few moments of silent communication with God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17/Matthew 6:6-8

HOMILY: "Whenever You Pray" Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT

IMPOSITION OF ASHES