

Grove Presbyterian Church

Service of Worship

In the style of the ecumenical

Taizé Community

Ash Wednesday, 17 February 2021

7:00 PM



*This evening you will be using the ashes
container from your Lenten bag.
Blessings.*

*****Meditative songs are sung
three times.***

Prelude

Gathering Bell

Welcome

We gather on Ash Wednesday to start the season of Lent.

*While many people are familiar with the tradition of
“giving something up for Lent”, those of the Reformed faiths
place more emphasis on spiritual reflection and growth.*

*So for us, this is a time when we focus on our ever-growing relationship with God
through our Lenten theme of “Journey with our Steadfast God”.*

*Using the Taizé practice of silence and listening,
we ready our hearts to receive the baptism of Easter.*

Meditative Singing

Bless the Lord

Hymnal 544

from Psalm 103:1 and Psalm 16:11



Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.



Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

Call to Worship

Psalm 95:1,2,6,7

Leader: Come, let us praise the Lord!

People: Let us sing for joy to God who protects us!

Leader: Come, let us bow down and worship him,

People: Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

Leader: He is our God;

People: We are the people he cares for, the flock for which he provides.

Scripture

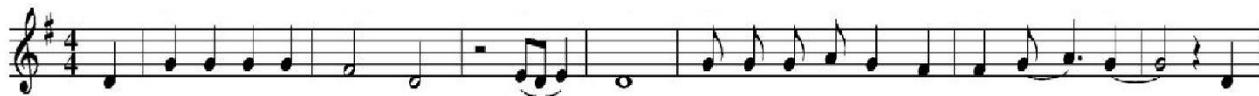
James 4:8

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

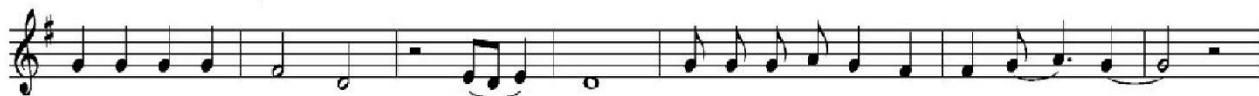
Meditative Singing

Create in Me a Clean Heart

from Psalm 51



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, Oh God, and re-new a right spi - rit with-in me Cre -



ate in me a clean heart, Oh God, and re-new a right spi - rit with-in me.

Scripture

Ephesians 2:10

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Hymn

Lead Me, Guide Me Hymnal 740

Refrain: **Lead me, guide me, along the way,
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

**I am weak and I need your strength and power
to help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness your face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain***

Sharing of the Peace of the Lord

Confession and Repentance

Psalm 51:1-7

**Be merciful to me, O God, because of your constant love.
Because of your great mercy, wipe away my sins!
Wash away all my evil and make me clean from my sin!
I recognize my faults; I am always conscious of my sins.
I have sinned against you – only against you –
and done what you considered evil.**

So, you are right in judging me; you are justified in condemning me.

**I have been evil from the day I was born;
from the time I was conceived, I have been sinful.**

**Sincerity and truth are what you require;
fill my mind with your wisdom.**

**Remove my sin, and I will be clean; wash me,
and I will be whiter than snow.**

Silence

During this time of silence, reflect on how our sinfulness separates us from God.



Meditation and Scripture

Genesis 3:19

Imposition of Ashes



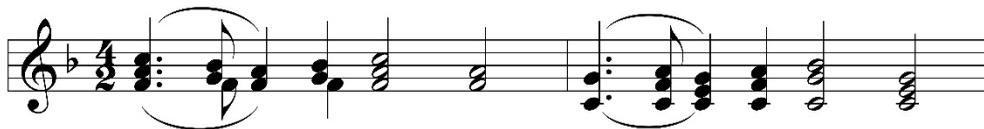
We mark a cross on our foreheads as a humbling reminder that we cannot attain salvation on our own, and because of our sin, we shall return to dust.

But we do not have to experience death twice, thanks to Christ's sacrifice.

"By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

Meditative Singing

Lord, Have Mercy



1 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy.

Silence

During this time of silence, accept forgiveness and new life. Prepare to accept and explore God's steadfast love and guidance for daily life.



Hymn

Will You Come and Follow Me Hymnal 726

The Summons

**“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”**

**Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

Benediction

Leader: In all his wisdom and insight God did what he had purposed,
**People: and made known to us the secret plan he had already decided
to complete by means of Christ.**

Leader: This plan, which God will complete when the time is right,
**People: is to bring all creation together, everything in heaven and on
earth, with Christ as head.**

Leader: May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by
means of your faith in him
**People: so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the
Holy Spirit.**

All: Amen.

Scriptures are from:

- *New International Version*
- *Good News Bible/Today's English Version.*

Music is reprinted as follows:

Hymnal.net

- Create in Me a Clean Heart: Anonymous, based on Psalm 51:10-12. Public domain.

PC(USA) *Glory to God* Hymnal online:

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What is Taizé?

Taizé (pronounced "Teh-ZAY") is an ecumenical community of monks in Taizé, France. Brother Roger, Taizé's founder, arrived in the village of Taizé, France in 1940. During World War II, he dreamed of creating a community where reconciliation was a daily reality. He began by giving shelter to refugees of the war, especially Jews.

Today, as an ecumenical monastic community, Taizé is a sign of reconciliation. People from around the world, especially young people, come to Taizé looking for meaning in their lives as they prepare for responsibilities in their own communities.