



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP
FEBRUARY 17, 2021

WELCOME

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We are invited—

**All: Into the story,
Into this place,
Into this hour of worship.**

One: We are invited—

**All: Into reflection,
Into community,
Into our own spiritual journeys.**

One: We are invited—

**All: The broken and bruised,
The hopeful, the new,
The faithful, the doubting,
The wondering, the waiting.**

One: We are invited—

All: Because God so loved;

One: So listen, trust the invitation, and bring your whole self.

All: All are invited here.

RITUAL RESPONSE: FROM DUST

One: Remember, human, that you are humus.

Hymn #269

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

Scripture Reading

Genesis 2:4-9

Reflection

Call to Confession

Ash Wednesday is a special day because it marks the start of something new. We are standing at the door of a journey into deeper faith, and God is inviting us in. However, we know that we cannot grow deeper and be transformed without God’s help. So as we begin this season, we confess together, asking for God’s participation in this new beginning. We are asking God to hold open the door. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession:

One: Holy God—

We know that you are near,

For you are always here, gathered among us, just a breath away.

And despite knowing your nearness, we still stumble over ourselves, unsure of how to pray.

All: Bring our hearts into the room.

One: So often we talk to you like a stranger,

Praying prayers of small talk about the weather and surface level concerns.

We keep genuine fear and doubt tucked into corners, out of sight, out of mind.

All: Bring our hearts into the room.

One: And so often we try to think our way to you,

As if we could use logic or our minds alone to explain your great unknown.

We forget what we knew as children; we forget how to feel our way to you.

All: Bring our hearts into the room.

One: And too regularly, we limit our experience of you to one hour a Sunday,

Missing your constant invitation into the holiness all around us.

Forgive us. Guide us.

All: Bring our hearts into the room.

One: We are here, God. We want to begin again.

All: Bring our hearts into the room. Amen.

A Time of Silent Prayer

Words of Forgiveness:

One: Friends, whether you are standing at the door of a deeper faith journey,

Unsure of what comes next,

Or running your way through that threshold,

You are claimed, forgiven, and loved by God.

All: Again and again, we are forgiven.

Again and again, we are loved.

Again and again, we are invited in.

One: Thanks be to God for a love like that.

All: Amen.

RITUAL RESPONSE: AND DEATH

One: Remember, human, that you are humus.

Special Music

“Even Here”

By Mark Miller

Offered by La Jolla United Methodist Church
Jayson Coleman, Lisa Corpron and Bob Wuertz

RITUAL RESPONSE: TO DUST

One: Remember, human, that you are humus.

“Blessing the Dust”

Prayer by Jan Richardson, *Painted Prayer Book*

Hymn #2138

“Sunday’s Palms are Wednesday’s Ashes”

Affirmation of Faith

**All: We believe in an inviting God
Who invites the poor and the sick,
The outcast and the lonely,
The immigrant and the refugee,
The awkward and the abrasive,
The young and the innocent.
We believe God invites the best and the worst—
In all of us.
We believe God invites us to:
A life of faith,
A crowded table,
A messy church,
A deeper truth,
A resilient joy,
A place to belong,
A family among strangers,
A world that is just,
And a love that knows no bounds.
We believe this invitation exists for all people.
We believe this invitation exists for us.
And when we miss the call or ignore the invite,
We believe that God invites us again.
Thanks be to God for that invitational Spirit. Amen.**

Special Music

“I Believe”

By Mark Miller

Offered by Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

Ron Jessee, Louis Perez, Laura Williams, Stephanie Johnson, Cambria Metzinger,
Diego Leon, Erin Vanderhyde, Chris Gross

RITUAL RESPONSE: AND LIFE

One: Remember, human, that you are humus, and to humus you will return.

Benediction

Postlude

“Living Spirit, Holy Fire”

Offered by Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

Clergy: Lea Booth, Lori Leopold, and Bob Rhodes