

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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Ash Wednesday

March 1, 2017

Rev. Dr. Robert McKie presiding

Please remember to turn off your cell phones during the Worship Service. Thank you.

Preparation Music

Introit

All: Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.

Open the eyes of my heart, I want to see you.

I want to see you.

(repeat 1st three lines)

To see you high and lifted up, Shining in the light of your glory.

Pour out your power and love as we sing, "Holy, Holy, Holy".

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy I want to see you.

I want to see you.

I want to see you.

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*Gathering Prayer

*Hymn #185 "Savior, When in Tears and Dust"

Call to Confession (Please be seated)

Pastor: As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbor.

Repentance, fasting, prayer, study and works of love help us return to

that love. I invite you, therefore, to commit yourself to love God and neighbor by confessing your sin and by asking God for strength to persevere in your Lenten discipline.

Confession of Sin

Pastor: Let us pray.

All: Most holy and merciful God:

We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

Pastor: We have not loved you with all our heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

All: We are sorry, O God. (Silence)

Pastor: We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

All: We are sorry, O God. (Silence)

Pastor: We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

All: We are sorry, O God. (Silence)

Pastor: The ways that we have taken advantage of others.,

All: We are sorry, O God. (Silence)

Pastor: Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

All: We are sorry, O God. (Silence)

Pastor: Our negligence in prayer and worship and our failure to grow the faith that is in us,

All: We are sorry, O God. (Silence)

Pastor: For our neglect of human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

All: We are sorry, O God. (Silence)

Pastor: *For all false judgments, for unkind thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,*

All: We are sorry, O God. (Silence)

Pastor: *For our waste and pollution of your creation and our lack of concern for those who come after us,*

All: We are sorry, O God. (Silence)

Pastor: *Restore us, O God, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.*

All: Hear us O God and grant us your peace, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen

THE ASHES OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: *Ashes are a symbol of purification. As a fire burns, it can separate what is valuable from what is valueless. Ashes represent the purity of Jesus and the value that he can bring to our lives through our spiritual practices and good works throughout the forty days of this Lenten season.*

As you receive your ashes, remember these words; “Turn away from your sins and believe the good news.”

(Receiving the ashes is optional. Those who wish may come forward at this time to receive the ashes of forgiveness. For those who cannot come forward, please raise your hand and we will bring the ashes to your seat.)

Prayer

All: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your amazing grace. By that grace may we shine your light in the dark places of this world. Through the cross and suffering of our Savior, bring us to the joy of Christ’s resurrection. Amen

Pastor: *Almighty God does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that we may turn from our wickedness and live. Therefore we*

beg God to grant us true repentance and pray that by the movement of the Holy Spirit the things which we do this night may be pleasing to God, that the rest of our lives may be lived faithfully and that at the last we may come to God’s eternal joy; through Jesus the Christ.

***Hymn #188 “Give Me a Clean Heart” (Sing Twice)**

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Meditation

Anthem: “Without His Cross”

Our Time of Sharing

Invitation to the Offering,

Offering Music

The Sharing of Gifts

*Offertory Response “We Are Giving in the Light of God” (526)

We are giving in the light of God,

We are giving in the light of God. (Repeat previous 2 lines)

We are giving, giving, we are giving, Oo,

We are giving in the light of God. (Repeat previous 2 lines)

Prayer of Dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Children are welcome to receive Communion at the discretion of their parents. Gluten free wafers are found in the center of the plates of bread.)

The Invitation

Communion Prayer

Pastor: *God be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: *Lift up your hearts.*

Pastor: **We lift them to God.**

Pastor: *Let us give thanks to God Most High.*

Pastor: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Pastor: *We give you thanks, God of majesty and mercy, for calling forth the creation and raising us from dust by the breath of your being. We bless you for the beauty and bounty of the earth and for the vision of the day when sharing by all will mean scarcity for none.*

We remember the covenant you made with your people Israel, and we give you thanks for all our ancestors in faith. We rejoice that you call us to reconciliation with you and all people everywhere and that you remain faithful to your covenant even when we are faithless.

We rejoice that you call the entire human family to this table of sacrifice and victory.

We come in remembrance and celebration of the gift of Jesus Christ, whom you sent, in the fullness of time, to be the good news. Born of Mary, our sister in faith, Christ lived among us to reveal the mystery of your Word, to suffer and die on the cross for us, to be raised from death on the third day, and then to live in glory.

For in the night of betrayal Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat: This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also after supper, Jesus took the cup, and after giving you thanks, gave it to them and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you and many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Holy One, show forth among us the presence of your life-giving Word and Holy Spirit, to sanctify us and your entire church through these holy mysteries. Grant that all who share the communion of the body and blood of our risen Savior may be one in Jesus Christ. May we remain faithful in love and hope, until the perfect feast with our exalted Savior in the eternal joy of your heavenly realm. Amen

Prayer of Our Savior (spoken)

**All: 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,
and the power and the glory forever. Amen**

Pastor: *Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ gives.*

Come, for all things are ready.

The Distribution of the Elements

Pastor: *Eat this, for it is the body of Christ, broken for you.*

Pastor: *Drink this, for it is the blood of Christ, shed for you.*

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Hymn: #99 "Abide With Me" Verses 1, 2, 3, 4 (omit verse 5)**

*The Benediction

*Benediction Response

Organ Postlude

Denmark Manor seeks the inspiration of the Holy Spirit as we work together through.....

The Congregation.....Disciples of Christ
Rev. Meredith Ann Hutchison.....Pastor
Irina Thomas.....Organist and Keyboard
Rheba Salac.....Administrative Assistant
Wade Anderson.....Sexton