



Lent 2001

*The cosmos dreams in me
while I wait in stillness,
ready to lean a little further
into the heart of the Holy.*

*I, a little blip of life,
a wisp of unassuming love,
a quickly passing breeze,
come once more into Lent.*

*No need to sign me
with the black bleeding ash
of palms, fried and baked.
I know my humus* place.*

*This Lent I will sail
on the graced wings of desire,
yearning to go deeper
to the place where
I am one in the One.*

*Oh, may I go there soon,
in the same breath
that takes me to the stars
when the cosmos dreams in me.
Joyce Rupp, 2001*

Lakeside Baptist Church
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804

The Worship of God

Leaning Into the Heart of the Holy

February 10, 2016

ASH WEDNESDAY

Six-Thirty O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ. We encourage you to use this time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

GATHERING

ORGAN PRELUDE: I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ

J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: We begin the season of Lent, a time, not for being miserable, but for taking stock of life and renewing our commitment to Christ.

People: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

Minister: Lent is an opportunity for healthy repentance of our indifference of the permeating evil of the world and for personal sins which we have glossed over as "mere foibles."

People: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Minister: Lent is a time for joy: the exhilaration that comes from defying temptations, from turning our face to the light that shines on the narrow path of Christ Jesus, from walking into adverse winds and enjoying small victories day by day.

People: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

Bruce Prewer, adapted

* HYMN 200: "What Wondrous Love Is This" WONDROUS LOVE
(The congregation rises as the organist begins the hymn.)

* THE GLORIA PATRI 35 GREATOREX

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 58:1-12

REPENTANCE AND ASSURANCE

THE RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Minister: Let us bow before God, our Creator and Redeemer, and confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Minister: Almighty God, you alone are good and holy. Purify our lives and make us brave disciples. We do not ask you to keep us safe, but to keep us loyal, so we may serve Jesus Christ, who, tempted in every way as we are, was faithful to you. Amen. From lack of reverence for truth and beauty; from a calculating or sentimental mind; from going along with mean and ugly things:

People: O God, deliver us.

Minister: From cowardice that dares not face truth; laziness content with half-truth; or arrogance that thinks we know it all:

People: O God, deliver us.

Minister: From artificial life and worship; from all that is hollow or insincere:

People: O God, deliver us.

Minister: From trite ideals and cheap pleasures; from mistaking hard vulgarity for humor:

People: O God, deliver us.

Minister: From being dull, pompous, or rude; from putting down our neighbors:

People: O God, deliver us.

Minister: From cynicism about others; from intolerance or cruel indifference:

People: O God, deliver us.

Minister: From being satisfied with things as they are, in the church or in the world; from failing to share your indignation about injustice:

People: O God, deliver us.

Minister: From selfishness, self-indulgence, or self-pity:

People: O God, deliver us.

Minister: From token concern for the poor, for lonely or loveless people; from confusing faith with good feeling, or love with wanting to be loved:

People: O God, deliver us.

Minister: For everything in us that may hide your light:

People: O God, deliver us.

Minister: Gracious God, you took dirt from the earth and breathed into it the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Remind us that what often appears to be lifeless, like withered reeds by the brooks, is revived by the living water which flows from your eternal love. Strengthen us to face our mortality, that we may reach with confidence for your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ANTHEM: "The Paper Reeds by the Brooks" Randall Thompson
from *The Peaceable Kingdom*

The paper reeds by the brooks, by the mouth of the brooks, and everything sown by the brooks shall wither, be driv'n away, and be no more.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

At the invitation of the minister and as the organist begins playing, you are invited to follow the choir and come forward for the imposition of the ashes. Please use the center aisle as you approach the altar and the side aisles as you return to your seat.

ANTHEM: "Lay Me Low" arr. Kevin Siegfried

Lay me low where the Lord can find me, where the Lord can own me, where the Lord can bless me. Lay me low.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

THE HOMILY: "Leaning into the Heart of the Holy: Faith's Dirty Secret" Dr. Wright

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

DUET: "Do You Know Your Shepherd's Voice" Suzanne Lord

Do you know your Shepherd's voice? Are you list'ning with your heart? Have you stopped to hear him calling, felt the peace his words impart? As the world shouts its orders that are easiest to hear, won't you draw away and listen to your Shepherd standing near? Are you listening? The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside quiet waters and he restores my soul!

Bo Browder and Chase Joyner

At the invitation of the ministers, and as the solo begins, you are invited to come forward for communion. Please use the center aisle as you approach the altar and the side aisles as you return to your seat. We will take the bread and the cup by intinction, dipping the bread into the common cup. You will take a piece of bread from the plate offered by one minister and dip it into the chalice offered by the other minister. You may then place the bread in your mouth. A common response when taking communion is to say, "Thanks be to God." or a simple, "Amen."

* HYMN 180: "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" ST. FLAVIAN

THE RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Minister: May the God of peace who offers us forgiveness and cleanses us with mercy, make us holy in every way.

People: May the God of Grace keep our whole being—spirit, soul, and body—free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

DEPART IN SILENCE

You may leave in silence or, if you choose, remain seated for meditation.

* Congregation stands.

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Jody C. Wright
Senior Minister
Daniel Edwards
Acolyte

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister
Mark Pichowicz
Interim Organist

Amy Shortt
Minister of Music
Will Hedgepeth
Crucifer

The prayer of confession is adapted from *Book of Common Worship*, ©1993 Westminster/ John Knox Press.

* "humus" – black or brown organic substance, consisting of partially or wholly decayed vegetable or animal matter; provides nutrients for plant life. The word "humility" comes from the same Latin root as does "humus."