



# Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**February 17, 2021**

**Ash Wednesday**

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

**The Prelude**

*O Immaculate Lamb of God*

Johann Sebastian Bach

**The Greeting**

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**People: God's mercy endures forever.**

**The Opening Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you,

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: O God, who by your Word**

**has worked out the reconciliation of all humankind:**

**Grant, we pray, that by this holy time of fasting and self-denial**

**we may both subject ourselves to you with all our hearts,**

**and be united with one another in our prayers;**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord,**

**who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Hymn No. 2138**

*Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes*

BEACH SPRING

1. Sunday's palms are Wednesday's ashes  
as another Lent begins;  
thus we kneel before our Maker  
in contrition for our sins.  
We have marred baptismal pledges,  
in rebellion gone astray;  
now, returning, seek forgiveness;  
grant us pardon, God, this day!

2. We have failed to love our neighbors,  
their offences to forgive,  
have not listened to their troubles,  
nor have cared just how they live,  
we are jealous, proud, impatient,  
loving over much our things;  
may the yielding of our failings  
be our Lenten offerings.
  
3. We are hasty to judge others,  
blind to proof of human need;  
and our lack of understanding  
demonstrates our inner greed;  
we have wasted earth's resources;  
want and suffering we've ignored;  
come and cleanse us, then restore us;  
make new hearts within us, Lord!

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### **The Old Testament Lesson**

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **The Epistle Lesson**

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.

**People:**  SMB  
Glo-ry to you, Lord Christ.

### **The Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:**  SMB  
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### **The Homily**

Dr. Matthew Bates

### **The Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline**

### **The Thanksgiving Over the Ashes**

### **The Imposition of Ashes**

**The Music During the Imposition**     *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*     Dietrich Buxtehude

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**The Confession (in unison)**

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all people:  
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,  
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine majesty.  
We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us.  
Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father.  
For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter serve  
and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of thy name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Prayer for Pardon**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
who of thy great mercy  
hast promised forgiveness of sins  
to all them that with hearty repentance  
and true faith turn to thee:  
Have mercy upon us;  
pardon and deliver us from all our sins;  
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness;  
and bring us to everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Solo**

*Treasures in Heaven*

Joseph Clokey

Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth,  
Where moth and rust doth corrupt,  
and where thieves break through and steal,  
But lay up for yourselves treasures in heav'n,  
For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.  
  
Ask, and it shall be given you; Seek, and ye shall find;  
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you,  
For ev'ry one that asketh receiveth, And he that seeketh findeth,  
And to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Matthew 6:19-21; 7: 7-8

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**The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

## The Lord's Prayer No. 895

**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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.**

## The Hymn No. 296

*Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle*

PICARDY

1. Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle,  
sing the ending of the fray;  
now above the cross, the trophy,  
sound the loud triumphant lay:  
tell how Christ, the world's Redeemer,  
as a victim won the day.
2. Tell how, when at length the fullness  
of th' appointed time was come,  
Christ, the Word, was born of woman,  
left for us his heavenly home;  
showed us human life made perfect,  
shone as light amid the gloom.
3. Thus, with thirty years accomplished,  
went he forth from Nazareth,  
destined, dedicated, willing,  
wrought his work, and met his death.  
Like a lamb he humbly yielded  
on the cross his dying breath.
4. Faithful cross, thou sign of triumph,  
now for us the noblest tree,  
none in foliage, none in blossom,  
none in fruit thy peer may be;  
symbol of the world's redemption,  
for the weight that hung on thee!
5. Unto God be praise and glory:  
to the Father and the Son,  
to th' eternal Spirit honor  
now and evermore be done;  
praise and glory in the highest,  
while unending ages run.

## The Dismissal with Blessing

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*We thank these persons who helped us in worship this evening.*

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Matthew D. Bates
Director of Music:	Stanley M. Baker
Singer:	Todd Minnich
A/V Team:	Dan Corcoran, Jane Covington, Bob Hundley

## **Joel 2:1-2**

2 Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
    sound the alarm on my holy mountain!  
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,  
    for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—

<sup>2</sup> a day of darkness and gloom,  
    a day of clouds and thick darkness!  
Like blackness spread upon the mountains  
    a great and powerful army comes;  
their like has never been from of old,  
    nor will be again after them  
    in ages to come.

<sup>12</sup> Yet even now, says the LORD,  
    return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
<sup>13</sup>    rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the LORD, your God,  
    for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,  
    and relents from punishing.

<sup>14</sup> Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,  
    and leave a blessing behind him,  
a grain offering and a drink offering  
    for the LORD, your God?

<sup>15</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
    sanctify a fast;

call a solemn assembly;

<sup>16</sup>    gather the people.

Sanctify the congregation;  
    assemble the aged;

gather the children,  
    even infants at the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,  
    and the bride her canopy.

<sup>17</sup> Between the vestibule and the altar  
    let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.  
Let them say, “Spare your people, O LORD,  
    and do not make your heritage a mockery,  
    a byword among the nations.

Why should it be said among the peoples,  
    “Where is their God?””

## **2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10**

<sup>20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>6</sup> As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup> For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
    and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup> We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup> but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup> beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup> by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup> truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup> in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup> as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup> as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

## **Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

### **Concerning Almsgiving**

<sup>6</sup> “Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

<sup>2</sup> “So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup> But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup> so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

### **Concerning Prayer**

<sup>5</sup> “And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup> But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.