



ASH WEDNESDAY NOON SERVICE
POLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
February 22, 2023

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Annie Parker

God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

God's love endures forever.

God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

God's love endures forever.

* HYMN 166

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

ST. FLAVIAN

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

Rev. Parker

SECOND READING

Psalms 51:1-17

Rev. Parker

MESSAGE

“The True Fasting”

Rev. Parker

TIME OF CONFESSION (Liturgist)

Dr. Paul W Anderson

Friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration. We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes. This ancient sign speaks of the frailty and uncertainty of human life and marks the penitence of this community. In Scripture, ashes serve both as a symbol of mortality and as a sign of mourning and repentance. But neither sin nor death are the final word for we believe that Christ has conquered death, and nothing can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. I invite you, therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by reading and meditating on the Word of God.

PRAYER – (Responsive)

Dr. Anderson

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. We have not loved You with our whole heart, and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We have not listened 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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people,
we confess to You, O God.

Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
we confess to You, O God.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
we confess to You, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
we confess to You, O God.

Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done. For our neglect of human need and suffering
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
accept our repentance, O God.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt
toward those who differ from us,
accept our repentance, O God.

For our waste and pollution of Your creation and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
accept our repentance, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let Your anger depart from us.

Favorably hear us, O God, for Your mercy is great, Amen.

GREAT THANKGIVING

Dr. Anderson

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise... Lord's Prayer

COMMUNION

Dr. Anderson

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Worshippers are invited to come forward to receive the elements of the Lord's Supper, and the ashes of penitence.

HYMN 498

"Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken"

QUEBEC

BENEDICTION

Rev. Parker

BENEDICTION RESPONSE



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