

+Closing Hymn — No. 269

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days  
(vs. 1,3,5)

+Dismissal with Blessing —

Leader: We were all created from dust, but we are held together by God's extravagant love

**All: May we repent, turn away from sin, and leave today embracing God's love. Amen.**

from "An Ash Wednesday Liturgy" written by Tim Graves and posted on LiturgyBits.

+Postlude —

**Lenten Services—**

Feb. 14 Ash Wed. Service 6:30

Lenten Services will be on Wednesdays at 6:15p.m.

-February 21                      -March 13

-February 28                      -March 20

-March 6

A light supper will be available beginning at 5:30p.m. prior to the service.

Mission offerings will be received at each supper and service towards a specific ministry of the church.



Pastor: Reverend Duane Coates

Ministers: All God's People

**ASH Wednesday**



**Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2024**

# *Ash Wednesday Service*

February 14, 2024—6:30 pm

\*Indicates those who are able, please stand.

To prepare for worship, please turn off your cell phones.

This service is livestreamed at [epworthvalleycity.com](http://epworthvalleycity.com)

## **The Church Gathers to Worship**

### **Welcome and Announcements —**

#### **+ Call to Worship —**

Leader: Return to the Lord with all of your soul. Take a good look at what is going on in your heart.

**All: We will return to our God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, loves us without wavering and relents from punishing.**

Leader: Let us repent and strive to live as an offering to God and a blessing to others.

**All: Let us come together as people of all ages and stages of life. Let us return to the Lord and be present to all that God has done for us.**

*Based on a call to worship by United Methodists of Greater New Jersey, inspired by Joel 2:12-17.*

**+ Opening Song —** No. 2138      *Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes*

## **The Church Lifts Prayers to God**

### **Unison Prayer of Confession —**

Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching for your hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you, for the honor of your name. Amen.

*Daily Morning Prayer: Rite Two from The Common Book of Prayer*

### **Words of Affirmation —**

**Call to Prayer —** No. 2193      *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* (Sing twice)

### **A Time of Silent Prayer**

### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### **The Lord's Prayer in Unison**

**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 who 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 Church Hears God's Word**

**+ Responsive Psalm Reading —** Psalm 51:1-17 No. 785-6

**+ Hymn of Preparation —** No. 2164      *Sanctuary (sing 3 times)*

**Sermon Scripture —** Psalm 103:1-17 (embedded in video)

**Message —**      *Our Purpose*      by Rev. Dan Bader

## **The Church Responds to God's Word**

**Thanksgiving Over the Ashes —**

**Imposition of Ashes —**