

Participants

Reverend Catherine Merrill
Reverend Veronica Walsh Don
Charlene LeDoux

Minister
Pastor
Cello

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the 40-day preparation for Easter. In the Bible, ashes expressed grief. Christians place (or “impose”) ashes on our foreheads as an external sign of repentance we feel for how far we have strayed from whom God is calling us to be. When the ashes are imposed, we will repeat Genesis 3:19, which God said to Adam and Eve when they were turned out of the Garden of Eden. You may respond with silence or by saying “I am dust” or “I will remember” or “Amen.”

The ashes are made from palms used during the celebration of Palm Sunday in earlier years. They will fall off naturally, although they can also be washed off at the end of the day.

The Mason and Brookline churches will worship together again on Maundy Thursday, April 18, at 7:00pm for a Tenebrae Service at the Mason church.

Household Prayer for Ash Wednesday Evening (based on Psalm 51:10):

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And put a new and right spirit within me. Amen.



March 6, 2019

Brookline Community Church

2 Main Street, PO Box 507

Brookline, NH 03033

Reverend Catherine Merrill

603-673-7511

March 6, 2019

7:00 pm

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 51):

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

All: according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Leader: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

All: and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Leader: Let me hear joy and gladness;

All: O God of my salvation, my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance..

* **HYMN: #365 “Abide with Me, Fast Falls the Eventide”**

SCRIPTURE READING: Joel 2:12-17, p. 741

ASH WEDNESDAY REFLECTION

* **PRAYER OF CONFESSION & PREPARATION**

Leader: Trusting in divine mercy, and with humble hearts, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

All: Merciful God, whose ways are good and true, we confess that we have not lived as Christ has called us to live. We have shut our eyes to evils our world allows. We have sealed our ears from the cries of the suffering whose pain we abide. We have clung to the hostility we harbor against one another and hardened our hearts to the creative power of love. Therefore we pray:

Leader: Open our ears to hear the cry of the needy.

All: Teach us generosity for sharing the abundance of your creation.

Leader: Open our minds to imagine an end to all strife.

All: Grant us wisdom to pursue the ways of peace.

Leader: Open our hearts to love our neighbors and our enemies near and far.

All: Give us desire to embody the compassion of Christ. For the sake of the world, in the name of Christ we pray.

Leader: According to the Lord’s abundant mercy, there is forgiveness for all who seek repentance, and grace for all who turn to the way of Jesus.

All: Thanks be to God.

* **HYMN: #642 “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”**

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

All: Almighty God, through love you have made us, and for love you call us to repentance. Grant that we who seek to mend our sinful ways may find strength in your compassion and forgiveness.

Leader: The God of reconciliation bless you, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you, and the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen you this day and forevermore.

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.

*** Please stand in body or Spirit**