

**First United Methodist Church of Montclair**

March 2, 2022 +++ Ash Wednesday +++ 7:30 PM

\* - If able, please stand where indicated.

UMH - *United Methodist Hymnal*

**Bolded text** - said in unison by all.

**Prelude**

*Alexa Majana*

**Gathering**

**\*Greeting**

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

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Why have we gathered in this place?

**All: We come in praise of the God of all life and in affirmation of Jesus Christ as the truth and center of our lives. We celebrate places where love is found in life, and we give thanks for the gift of new life that comes to us this Lenten season. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**      *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days(v 1,3,4)*      UMH 269

**Opening Prayer**

**All: O God, maker of everything and judge of all that you have made, from the dust of the earth you have formed us and from the dust of death you would raise us up. By the redemptive power of the cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit, that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of your calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Hebrew Bible Lesson**      Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

**Epistle Lesson**      2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

**\*Hymn of Illumination**      *Jesus, remember me (x2)*      UMH 488

**\*Gospel Lesson**      Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**Message**      “Who We Are”      Pastor ChangYong Shin

**Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline**

**Thanksgiving over the Ashes**

**\*Imposition of Ashes**

*“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”*

**Confession and Pardon**

Pastor: Rend your hearts and not your garments; return to your God.

**All: For God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Pastor: I know well my misdeeds, and my sin is ever before me.

**All: Wash away my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.**

Pastor: Let us ask God to break forth light into the dark places of our hearts and confront us with hidden and secret sin, all that we keep in the dark.

**All: O God, open our hearts.**

Pastor: Our preoccupation with ourselves,

**All: O God, open our hearts.**

Pastor: Our lustful imaginations, our secret ambitions,

**All: O God, open our hearts.**

Pastor: The buried grudge, the half-acknowledged enmity,

**All: O God, open our hearts.**

Pastor: The bitterness of some past loss not yet offered to you,

**All: O God, open our hearts.**

Pastor: The private comforts to which we cling,

**All: O God, open our hearts.**

Pastor: The fear of failure which saps our initiative,

**All: O God, open our hearts.**

Pastor: The pessimism that is an insult to your will and power,

**All: O God, open our hearts. Here and now, O Holy One, we bring our secret sins to you, we lie open in your sight. Let your piercing light be also our healing, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who both taught us and brought us your forgiveness. Amen.**

(All offer prayers of confession in silence...)

Pastor: The Lord is patient with us, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. God so loved this world and this people that God sent Christ to reconcile the world to God's self. The good news for you this day is that God pardons those who truly repent and transforms those who trust in God

for salvation with sincere hearts. In the name of Jesus, who is the Christ, I proclaim the forgiveness of sins to all who have drawn near to God in sincere confession.

Know that you are reconciled, accepted, and loved. Let us pray:

**All: O God, we implore you to so fill us with your Holy Spirit that those things we do on this day may please you and that the rest of our lives may be pure and holy, lived in the service of others, and that at the last, we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*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.*

**\*Hymn**

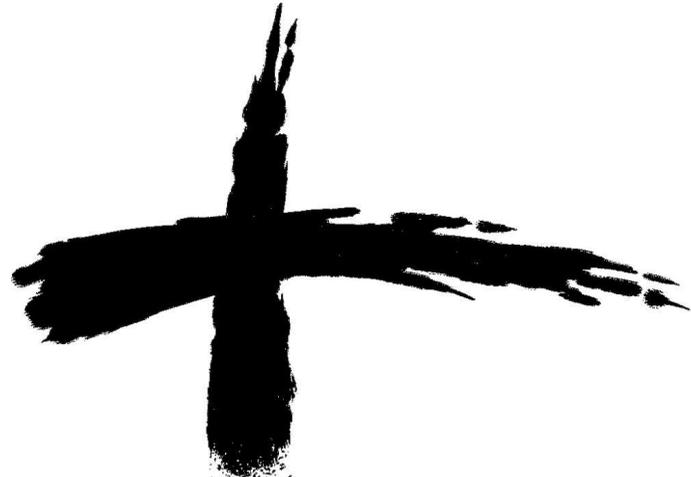
*Take Time to Be Holy(v 1,2,3)*

*UMH 395*

**\*Dismissal with Blessing**

**Postlude**

*Alexa Majana*



**ASH  
WEDNESDAY**