



February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday

## GREETINGS<sup>1</sup>

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**God's mercy endures forever.**

 HYMN (361)

Rock of Ages

OPENING PRAYER

Psalm 51:1-4 (NIV)

**1 Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.**

**2 Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

**3 For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.**

**4 Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right in your verdict  
and justified when you judge.**

 HYMN (352)

It's Me, It's Me, O Lord

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

SERMON

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<sup>1</sup> Cover art by John Stuart, [www.stushieart.com](http://www.stushieart.com).

## CONFESSION

Psalm 51:5-12

- 5 Surely I was sinful at birth,  
**sinful from the time my mother conceived me.**
- 6 Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;  
**you taught me wisdom in that secret place.**
- 7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;  
**wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.**
- 8 Let me hear joy and gladness;  
**let the bones you have crushed rejoice.**
- 9 Hide your face from my sins  
and blot out all my iniquity.
- 10 Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**
- 11 Do not cast me from your presence  
**or take your Holy Spirit from me.**
- 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.**

 HYMN (354)

I Surrender All

## IMPOSITION OF ASHES

## DISMISSAL

Psalm 51:13-15

- 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
so that sinners will turn back to you.
- 14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,  
you who are God my Savior,  
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
- 15 Open my lips, Lord,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.

## **2 Corinthians 5,6 (NRSV)**

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. 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!

## **Matthew 6 (NRSV)**

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."