

Dust I Am

Text by
LINDY THOMPSON

Music by
MARK MILLER

Refrain:



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Serving tonight

From Vale United Methodist Church - www.ValeChurch.org

Jan Smith, Director of Music; Mr. Norm Dietz. Accompanist

The Rev. Dr. Jeff Haugh, Pastor

From Community of Faith United Methodist Church - www.CoFumc.org

Dr. Mary Ann East, Director of Music

The Rev. Abi Foerster, Pastor

Ash Wednesday



Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.

E C C L E S I A S T E S 3 : 2 0

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.

A Worship Guide

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

A TIME OF PREPARATION

THE PEACE

INVITATION TO LENTEN DISCIPLINE

During this season, converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness and restored to participation in the life of the Church. In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to observe a holy Lent:
by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial;
and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word.

To make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature
Let us now bow before our Creator and Redeemer.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SILENT PREPARATION

You are invited to sit quietly in the silence without any expectation of what you "ought" to be thinking. The silence will be broken by a bell.

*HYMN *Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes* TFWS 2138

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

The prophet calls for the people to undertake serious corporate acts of lamentation and repentance to prepare for "the Day of the Lord . . . a day of darkness and thick gloom."

ANTHEM

Dust I Am

Miller

Combined Community of Faith and Vale Choirs

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

PSALTER LESSON Psalm 51:1-17

TEACHING The Seven Symbols of Ash Pastors Jeff & Abi

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.
Repent, and believe the gospel.*

HYMNS *(during the imposition of the ashes you are invited to sing)*

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian UMH 402

Have Thine Own Way, Lord UMH 382

Just as I Am, Without One Plea UMH 357

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING UMH 18

GIVING OF THE BREAD & CUP

Gluten free bread is available by asking the celebrants.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of compassion, through your son Jesus Christ you reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN *Take Time to Be Holy* UMH 395

*BLESSING & SENDING FORTH

May God, who has forgiven and fed us,
now make us strong for these days ahead.
May Jesus lead us, and we be found faithful to follow.
May the Spirit drive us into the wilderness,
burning away the chaff of our lives,
and purifying our hearts for all to see and be blessed.

*POSTLUDE