

***PRAYING THROUGH LENT
with Beads & Desert Sand***

As you enter, you may touch the sand and take a Lenten Kit with Mardi Gras beads and sand, a reminder of God's presence through joyful celebrations and wilderness struggles.

WELCOME (community announcements)

Praying through Lent

A Moment in Carnival, Mardi Gras, Shrovetide, Fat Tuesday...

What God Looks Like/ Acting Up in Church (christian-jokes.org)

HYMN

All Creatures of Our God and King

UMH 62

CALL TO LENTEN JOURNEY

LEADER: The parades are over; all the pancakes and fat have been eaten.

Now we must face the desert:

PEOPLE: We will walk the road that Jesus walked.

Even so, we will celebrate these forty days with songs of praise.

We will fast and pray with Jesus on the way.

With repentant hearts, we will remember our sin.

We will confess what we have and have not done, and turn back to Jesus.

As humble servants, we will face the desert places in our lives.

We will not go there alone; Jesus has gone before us.

In remembrance of the road Jesus walked, we now bury our "Alleluias" for these forty days.

Lord, in your mercy.

BURYING "ALLELUIA":

Alleluia is symbolically buried in the ground or placed in your Lenten kit, a box, a book or a pocket and not sung until Easter morning.

LEADER: In the greatness of God's mercy, we step into the desert to reach the cross of Easter.

PEOPLE: Face the desert we must, but Jesus has gone there before us.

UNISON PRAYER OF APPROACH

Almighty and everlasting God, you love all creation and forgive the sins of all who seek forgiveness.

Re-create and make in us new and humble hearts, that we may confess our sins and acknowledge our brokenness.

God of all mercy, hear our prayers, forgive us; for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 4:1-11

HYMN

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

TFWS 2112

INVITATION TO THE WILDERNESS
Community Prayers
THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, in communion with all the saints, that we have sinned through our own fault, in thought, word, and deed; in what we have done and in what we have failed to do.

We have not loved you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not loved one another as Christ has loved us. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

During the music you are invited to come forward, and make the sign of the cross (on someone next to you) with ashes on the forehead or hand, or remain seated in silent prayer. You might use words like: "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." or "Turn to God, and remember God loves you."

ABSOLUTION *(after receiving the ashes)*

Our God is merciful and the Source of our salvation, One who desires that we do not live in sin or guilt but rather turn from evil and accept forgiveness.

Therefore, may the One who came to restore life bless you and restore you for the living of new life in Christ.

In the name of Jesus Christ, know that you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we know that we are forgiven.

HYMN

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

UMH 269

BLESSING

(service ends with quiet music or silence)

See Book of Worship, p 321 for Ash Wednesday order of service; order prepared ashes online; God of Desert Places: An Ash Wednesday service of taking on and letting go by Rebeka Maples (UK: Wild Goose Pub., 2018).

MY LENTEN COVENANT

Having known that God is a forgiving God, and having been forgiven of all my sins and thereby received Christ as my Savior, I here commit myself to the following "fast" as a discipline during the forty days of Lent, from Ash Wednesday to Saturday of Holy Week (not counting Sundays):

my fast:

Signed _____ *Date* _____

MORNING PRAYERS FOR LENT

WELCOME

CALL TO LENTEN PRAYER

PSALM 51:10-17

UMH Psalter 786

Let us pray,
God of grace and truth, hear the words and prayers we present to you today...
And as we move through the desert of Lent to the light of Easter
help us to carry your light in our hearts,
that in our need your gracious word may be known.

THEN HELP US TO GO INTO OUR MINISTRY

RENEWED IN SPIRIT.

IN THE NAME OF CHRIST WE PRAY,

AMEN.

SONG

Beauty for Ashes

Crystal Lewis

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDhITzbyFRo>

BLESSING

COSSO SPIRITUAL FORMATION

February 15, 2020

SATURDAY EUCHARIST

**“REMEMBERING:
COMMUNION WITH OUR LORD”**



WELCOME

CALL TO REMEMBER

LEADER: Let us tell again the ancient stories of our faith.

PEOPLE: We remember God, and in remembering we offer our praise.

Even here, as we worship, we remember what God has done.

We remember, and in remembering we offer our praise.

We remember what God has given, and in remembering we are made a little more whole.

And in remembering, we offer our praise.

A PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

O storytelling Jesus, life-giver and soul-saver, we praise you with our lives.

Teach us, Lord, to be a people who remembers,

to be a people of open arms and large hearts.

As we remember your mission to save us, call us back to you,

that we may serve you by serving others. Amen.

HYMN *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

UMH 139

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 6:5-8

⁵“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ⁶But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. ⁷And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Matthew 6:16-18

¹⁶“When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

COSSO CHOIR *“Fill My Cup, Lord”*

(from Worship & Song #3093)

REMEMBRANCE AT THE LORD'S TABLE

*(Eucharistic Prayers for the Lenten season, from Lift Up Your Hearts,
by Michael J. O'Donnell, OSL)*

HYMN

O Master Let Me Walk with Thee

UMH 430

BLESSING

MY LENTEN COVENANT

Having known that God is a forgiving God, and having been forgiven of all my sins and thereby received Christ as my Savior, I here commit myself to the following "fast" of letting go or taking on as a discipline for growing closer to God during the forty days of Lent and remembering God's love for me:

my fast:

Signed _____ *Date* _____