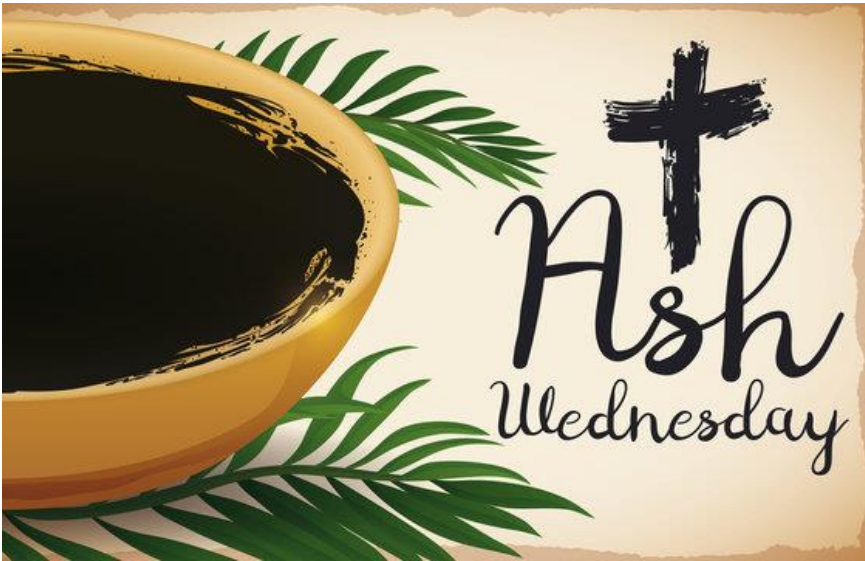


Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church



Worship for February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday
Worship for Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Prelude

Meditation (in preparation for worship)

"Have you wept at anything during the past year? Has your heart beat faster at the sight of young beauty? Have you thought seriously about the fact that someday you are going to die? More often than not do you really listen when people are speaking to you instead of just waiting for your turn to speak? Is there anybody you know in whose place, if one of you had to suffer great pain, you would volunteer yourself? If your answer to all or most of these questions is NO, the chances are that you're dead."

Frederick Buechner

"Lord, teach us to count how few days we have and so gain wisdom of heart."

Psalm 90: 12

"...I realize that life is a lot about loss. That doesn't have to be associated with age necessarily. It's just part of being alive. There is nothing abnormal or punishing about it. To live is to lose."

Barbara Brown Taylor

Welcome!

We are so glad you are here! If you are new or visiting, please sign the guest pad in the pews so that we may get to know you better and send you our e-newsletter. Please join us for refreshments during our Fellowship Hour after the service.

Please stand if you are able. **Congregation reads responses in bold print.*

Sentence

Psalm 46: 1-3

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

*Hymn #436

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, guardian of our lives: we confess that we are children of dust, unworthy of your gracious care. We have not loved as we ought to love, nor have we lived as you command, and our years are soon gone. Lord God, have mercy on us. Forgive our sin and raise us to new life, so that as long as we live we may serve you, until, dying, we enter the joy of your presence...

Silent Prayer

A Time of Silence

[Please take this time in silence to offer your own prayers of confession—confessing your need for God and naming those barriers that keep you from knowing life as God’s beloved child.]

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven

Scripture:

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

Rev. Stuart Hayes

“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“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.

Anthem

God Be In My Head

Davies

A Few Words about Scripture

Rev. Stuart Hayes

*Hymn #792

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Spiritual

Imposition of Ashes

Words of Institution

*Hymn #525

Let Us Break Bread Together

Spiritual

Prayers of the People and 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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 and ever. Amen.

*Hymn #803

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Watts

Benediction

Postlude

REV. STUART HAYES – BRIDGE PASTOR

BETTE KAHLER – DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

THANKS TO THOSE WHO ARE LIVE STREAMING THIS MORNING'S SERVICE.

