



# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

February 17, 2021  
Ash Wednesday  
Livestream at 7:00pm

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## PEACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

301 Guinness Drive ▪ Winterville, North Carolina 28590-9943 ▪ (252) 355-2273

[www.peacepresbyterian.org](http://www.peacepresbyterian.org)

**Grow in Grace, Live in Peace, Serve the Lord**

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## We Gather as God's People

### RINGING OF THE BELL

#### WELCOME

This is the day the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

#### PRELUDE

The Bell

Howard Hanson

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Tom Lee, liturgist

With Christians around the world, we begin the season of Lent. It is a season to remember the suffering of Jesus Christ.

**It is a season to remember that to follow Christ is to take up our crosses and live for Christ.**

It is a season to remember Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?"

**It is a season to ask ourselves how we, like Simon of Cyrene, might help to bear the cross.**

It is a season to ask ourselves how we, like Peter, are afraid and deny Jesus.

**It is a season to ask ourselves, what we, like the woman with fine ointment, have to offer.**

It is a season to watch and wait with Christ in prayer, that we may have courage in the hour of testing.

**It is a season to proclaim with Mary Magdalene that Christ is not dead but alive!**

#### HYMN

**Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days**

ST. FLAVIAN

**Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,  
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.**

**As you with Satan did contend and did the victory win,  
O give us strength to persevere, in you to conquer sin.**

**Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,  
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.**

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

The prophet Joel cried out: Return to the Lord with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. For God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Let us confess our sins and turn away from behavior and attitudes which separate us from God and each other.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of truth, how difficult it is for us to acknowledge the truth of who we are. We want to hide our anxieties and fears, our resentments and self-centeredness. Cut through our evasions by the truth of your Word, and help us to be honest.

God of mercy, your hopes for us are greater than our own, yet our failures do not surprise you. Forgive us, we pray, even for the sin we cannot see or find too painful to confess.

God of love, accept us as we are, so that we may accept ourselves. Teach us to affirm what is good in our lives, and to put behind us what is unworthy, that by your grace we may live in confidence and joy, in the manner of Jesus our Christ. Hear now our silent individual confessions.

*(Silent Prayer)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Isaiah 58:9)

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom shall be like the noonday. In the name of Jesus Christ, know that you are forgiven and rejoice.

**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE TO GOD'S FORGIVENESS Song of a Flute (No 28 from *For Children*, Vol 2)

Bela Bartok

## We Listen to God's Word

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 6: 1-13

SERMON

"The Gift of Prayer"

Reverend Debbie Osterhoudt

## We Respond to God's Word

SOLO

Sign Us With Ashes  
Peggy Vaughan, soprano

Mary Louise Bringle

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND OUR 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

## We Are Sent in God's Name

HYMN

There Is a Longing in Our Hearts

Refrain: There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.  
There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.

For justice, for freedom, for mercy: hear our prayer. In sorrow, in grief: be near,  
hear our prayer, O God.

For wisdom, for courage, for comfort: hear our prayer. In weakness, in fear: be near;  
hear our prayer, O God.

**CHARGE & BLESSING**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**May the Love of the Lord**

SOON TI

**May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.  
May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.  
May God's countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.**

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**Worship Leadership** Rev. Debbie Osterhoudt, Preacher Tom Lee, liturgist Ron Skinner, audio & video  
Peggy Vaughan, Music Director & Soloist John Holter, piano Joanne Lang, Worship Ministry Team Chair