

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ash Wednesday

Wait for the Lord
Psalm 130

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Please note that all text in bold is spoken in unison.

† Worshipers are asked to stand in body or spirit.

February 22, 2023

6:30PM

PRAYER OF PREPARATION *(You are invited to pray this prayer in silence.)*

Heavenly Father, as we devote these forty days to You, shape us by Your Holy Spirit into the image of Jesus our Lord, so that we may be ready by Your grace, to confront the power of death with the promise of eternal life. Amen.

PRELUDE

LIFE AT ST. ANDREW'S

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lenten journey is a process, a commitment, a labor of love.

Many: We must be prepared for resurrection.

One: With ashes we are marked to remind us of our mortality,

Many: To remind us of our desperate need of God's eternal life.

One: With dust we are sealed into the ground from which we came.

Many: But from that same ground, that empty tomb, comes new life.

All: But not yet.

One: We must wait in prayer,

Many: We must wait in penitence.

All: We must wait in patience.

One: Resurrection is coming, but not yet.

Many: First comes the journey to which Christ calls us.

All: Come, let us begin this Lenten journey with repentant hearts.

† HYMN STF 2136

Out of the Depths

FENNVILLE

Out of the depths, O God, we call to You. Wounds of the past remain, affecting all we do.
Facing our lives, we need Your love so much. Here in this community, heal us by Your touch.

Out of the depths of fear, O God, we speak. Breaking the silences, the searing truth we seek.
Safe among friends, our grief and rage we share. Here in this community, hold us in Your care.

God of the loving heart, we praise Your name. Dance through our lives and loves; anoint with Spirit flame.
Your light illumines each familiar face. Here in this community, meet us with Your grace.

† INVITATION TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, this is a hard time. The focus of Lent is on the pain and suffering of Jesus and our own need for penitence. It is a time of gathering darkness. But we would rather skip this part and go straight to Easter. We would rather ignore the suffering—in You and in the world—and avoid the hard work of true self-examination. Forgive us for wanting this to be bright and painless and easy, when we know that Jesus did not take the easy way, but chose the path of the Cross. Teach us the true meaning of penitence, so that we use this Lenten season to humbly seek a clean heart and a renewed spirit.

† ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

† HYMN 579

Glory Be to the Father
Glory be to the Father,
And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 130

Pew Bible p. 533-534

SERMON

Wait for the Lord

† HYMN 543

Abide with Me

EVENTIDE

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide; The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see. O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour; What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless: Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, Thy victory? I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies:
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

† A LITANY FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

One: Our ancestors in the faith used ashes as a sign of our repentance,

Many: A symbol of the uncertainty and fragility of human life.

All: Like them, we have tasted the ashes of hopelessness;

One: We have walked through the ashes of our loss and pain;

Many: We have stood knee-deep in the ashes of our brokenness.

All: God of our lives, out of the dust of creation, You have formed us and given us life.

One: May these ashes not only be a sign of our repentance and death,

Many: But reminders that by Your gift of grace in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,

All: We are granted life forever with You.

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
 Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
 Leave to thy God to order and provide;
 In every change, He faithful will remain.
 Be still my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend,
 Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
 To guide the future as He has the past.
 Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
 All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
 Be still my soul: the waves and winds still know,
 His voice who ruled them while He was below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on,
 When we shall be forever with the Lord.
 When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
 Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored!
 Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
 All safe and blest we shall meet at last.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Please come forward by the center aisle, beginning with those nearest the front.

*Those who desire to receive ashes can proceed to the pastor,
 who will be standing in the aisle in front of the chancel steps.*

The Receiving of the Elements

The elements will be distributed by elders on either side of the chancel steps.

After receiving the bread and cup, return to your seat by the side aisles.

The communion bread tonight is free of gluten, nut, dairy, and soy.

† HYMN INSERT

The Lord's Prayer

MALOTTE

Our Father, which 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. Amen.

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Please use the **CONNECT** cards in the pews to let us know about prayer requests or areas of interest. If you are a visitor, please also include your contact information and help us get to know you better! You can place completed cards in the offering baskets.

Large print bulletins, Bibles, and hymnals are available on the sanctuary tables.

LENTEN CALENDARS AND DEVOTIONALS for children, youth, and adults are available on the sanctuary tables.

GIVE BLOOD AND SAVE A LIFE! St. Andrew's is hosting a blood drive in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, March 8, from 4:00PM-7:00PM.

Come help the St. Andrew's Build Team at **SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE**, a ministry that builds and delivers beds to children and families in need! The build day is on March 11 from 12:30PM-4:00PM. Register online at <http://bit.ly/shpevent>.

Join us for a **TEXAS INDEPENDENCE-THEMED FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON** on Sunday, March 5, immediately following the worship service! The menu is hamburgers, chips, baked beans, and banana pudding.

St. Andrew's Prayer List

MEMBERS: George Fulton, Shelley Plunkett, Barbara Abel, Dalton Abel, Peg Towers, Bob Fisher, Eleanor Alexander, Kay Long, Bill McIlrath, Joyce Head, Dave Darchuk

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Dana Blakelock, Jack Dillard, Erin Lenhart, Mary and Tom Hayden, Thomas Fisher, Karen Thompson Butler, Jerry Linn, Janie Niederstadt Verderame, Mary Kennedy, Rachel Lawrence, Jill Botkin, Nick Bynum, Esmee Foster

St. Andrew's Calendar

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023

9:30AM Dayschool Chapel
6:30PM Ash Wednesday Service

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023

8:30AM MOW Cooks
10:00AM MOW Delivers
10:00AM Prayer Team
6:00PM GTHE Rehearsal
6:30PM Cub Scouts

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023

9:15AM Sunday School
10:30AM Worship
11:30AM Meet and Greet
11:45AM Choir Rehearsal
3:00PM Boy Scouts
5:00PM Youth Group

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023

10:00AM Monday Group
5:30PM Strings After School
6:30PM La Hacienda

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023

10:00AM PW Bible Study
5:15PM Strings After School
6:30PM Tuesday Group

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2023

8:15AM Soup Kitchen
9:30AM Dayschool Chapel
5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal
6:30PM Mission/Evangelism

CHURCH STAFF

Tara Thompson, Pastor
Melissa Hoyt, Office Administrator
Deanna Weitzel, Day School Director
Thomas Furlow, Music Director
Rachel Clark, Admin Assistant/Pianist

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30AM - 4:30PM
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