



United Methodist Church of Vista
490 South Melrose Drive
(760) 726-0442



Sunday, February 17, 2021

Ash Wednesday

"Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline"

Rev. Dr. Leigh Ann Shaw, Senior Pastor

Scriptures: [Joel 2:1-2, 12](#) and [Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21](#) (NRSV)



*Rev. Dr. Leigh Ann Shaw,
Senior Pastor*

Joel 2:1-2

¹ Blow the trumpet in Zion;

 sound the alarm on my holy hill.

Let all who live in the land tremble,

 for the day of the LORD is coming.

It is close at hand—

² a day of darkness and gloom,

 a day of clouds and blackness.

Like dawn spreading across the mountains

 a large and mighty army comes,

such as never was in ancient times

 nor ever will be in ages to come.

Joel 2:12

¹² "Even now," declares the LORD,

 "return to me with all your heart,

 with fasting and weeping and mourning." ([top](#))



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Matthew 6:1-6

¹ “Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

² “So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

³ But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

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.

⁶ But 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.

Matthew 6:16-21

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.

¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,

¹⁸ so 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.



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¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.

²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ([top](#))