



Heidi M. Kendall, Artist

United Methodist Church of Vista

490 South Melrose Drive—Vista, CA 92081—Phone: (760) 726-0442

Bulletin

Ash Wednesday Worship February 17, 2021

Welcome with Rev. Dr. Leigh Ann Shaw

Opening Song

“Take Time to Be Holy”

UMH 395

Words: William D. Longstaff

Music: George C. Stebbins

Virtual Choir

Opening Prayer

O God, maker of everything and judge of all that you have made. From the dust of the earth you have formed us and from the dust of death you would raise us up. By the redeeming power of the cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit, that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of your calling, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture

Joel 2:1-2, 12

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 (NRSV)

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

Dear family of Christ, early Christians observed with great devotion the days of Jesus’ passion and resurrection, and this became a custom of the Church for a forty-day season of spiritual preparation. In the early church, new faithful were taught about Christianity and prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time for those who sinned and separated from church and God to be restored to the life of the faith through penitence and forgiveness. In this way, the whole congregation is reminded of the mercy of God and forgiveness proclaimed in the Good News.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to observe Holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance, prayer, fasting and self-denial; by reading and meditating on God’s Word; and by giving alms to the work of the church. In this way, let us make a new beginning, remembering our mortal nature and spiritually kneeling before our Creator.



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Thanksgiving Over the Ashes

Please pray: *Gracious God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be a sign of our finitude and how we fall short of your grace. Help us remember that it is only by grace that we are brought into eternal life with the communion of Saints, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.*

Imposition of Ashes

If you feel called, use your finger to touch the ashes on the heart, touch your forehead or back of hand with ashes and say out loud, *"The cross of Christ, offers renewed life."*

You may instead say the more traditional, *"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

Song

"Lord's Prayer"

Music: Alfred Hay Malotte

Rev. Frank Hallock, Soloist

Adam Ferrara, Piano

Benediction

Here I am, Lord, I commit myself to this Lenten journey. Send me beyond these moments of reflection and ritual for whatever awaits me. I am yours and I trust you are with me, wherever I will go. Amen.



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Music Acknowledgements

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Ash Wednesday Worship - February 17
(available at your convenience)

<https://youtu.be/>

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Associate Pastor of Music and Visitation	Rev. Frank Hallock
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Music Accompanist (Organist/Pianist)	Adam Ferrara
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Lay Leaders	Rollin Grider, Dakota Koenig, Rob and Katie Pierce, Pastor Emeriti, Rev. Lanny Arrowsmith
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