

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
Aldersgate United Methodist Church
February 17, 2021
7:00 PM

WELCOME

Matthias Krier

INVITATION TO CENTERING

GREETING (responsively) Chuck Kestle

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures for ever.

OPENING HYMN # 349 UMH

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” (2X)

SCRIPTURE Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, Psalm 51:1-17

HYMN #2138 TFWS

“Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes”

GOSPEL READING

Matthias Krier

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

SPECIAL MUSIC

Choir

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

TIME OF REFLECTION

Three Treasures ...

Three things to let go of ...

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

Almighty God, you have created
us out of the dust of the earth.
Grant that these ashes may be to us a

sign of our mortality and penitence,
so that we may remember that only
by your gracious gift
are we given everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

(Ushers will bring trays of containers holding the ashes. Take one per family.)

SELF-IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

BENEDICTION (responsively)

On this Ash Wednesday,
Of spring and new life,
Of the Lenten journey.

**I am overwhelmed with too much.
Too many tasks, responsibilities, voices,
Too many distractions and demands.**

Take this frozen and tired soul, loving God.
Nurture within me sustaining life.
Coax from me only that which is needed.

**Let me shed the darkness
That I might reach toward your light.
Let me empty cluttered spaces
That there may be a home for you.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me
On this Ash Wednesday. ***

CLOSING HYMN #2164 TFWS hymnal
"Sanctuary"

*You are invited to remain in this prayerful
space for a while if you choose.
Please observe silence and prayerfulness
as you leave the sanctuary.*