

We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes. This ancient sign speaks of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marks the penitence of Christ's church.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by disciplined worship, by works of love, and by reading and meditating on the Word of God. Let us bow before God, our Creator and Redeemer, and confess our sin.

*PSALM 51 (Hymn 195)

Ptomey

LITANY OF PENITENCE

Dr. Springsted

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

Pastor: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

People: Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Pastor: We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

People: Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Pastor: We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives.

People: Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people.

People: Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves.

People: Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work.

People: Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Our negligence in prayer and Lord's Day worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us to others.

People: Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done; for our neglect of human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty.

People: Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Pastor: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us.

People: Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Pastor: For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us.

People: Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

People: Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence, and a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

People: Amen.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

(Those wishing to receive ashes are invited to come forward using the center aisle. Upon receiving the ashes, please return to your pew by one of the two side aisles and continue in a time of reflection and prayer.)

RESPONSE

Pastor: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

People: That we may show forth your glory in the world.

Pastor: By the cross and passion of our Savior,

People: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection.

*HYMN 87

The Glory of These Forty Days

Erhalt uns, Herr

*THE NICENE CREED

Ms. Cosby

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Ms. Bartlett

... Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Dr. Springsted

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

*The offering received today will support MAPC's
Charles Amstein Pastoral Care Fund.*

*DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures
here be - low; Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(The table of our Lord Jesus Christ is open to all who are baptized. Those who do not wish to take Communion are invited to remain seated in prayer. You are asked to join in the responses as indicated.)

INVITATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

"...who forever sing to the glory of your name:"

SANCTUS (*Deutsche Messe*)

Franz Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - na in the
high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

(Communion Prayer continues) "... the mystery of faith:"

Welcome!

We're glad you've joined us for worship today. We pray that you experience Christ in our midst, and that his presence will sustain you in the week ahead. We invite you to place your name and contact information on one of the pew pads. If our pastors can assist you in some special way, indicate this in the space provided and they will be in touch with you. If you are considering becoming Christian or looking for a church home, our pastors would be delighted to talk with you and discuss whatever questions you might have. We urge you to consider becoming a member of this congregation and hope you will make MAPC your church home in this city.

Children are especially welcome in our worship services. Special bulletins are available for them in the Narthex.

MAPC Mission Statement

The mission of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church is to bring people into the transforming presence of Jesus Christ through worship, teaching the Word, Christian nurture, and ministry in and to the world. As Christ's ministers, our members are striving to build a community of God's love, justice and mercy, trusting God to lead us into faithfulness.

Pastoral Staff

The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted, *Interim Pastor*

The Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett, *Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Paula V. Cooper, *Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellow (2017-2019)*

Dr. Andrew E. Henderson, *Director of Music & Organist*

Mary W. Huff, *Associate Director of Music*

Christina A. Cosby, *Director of Christian Formation*

Laura Graham, *Director of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church Day School*

The Rev. Dr. Richard W. Shoup, *Pastoral Counselor (212-628-1812)*

The Rev. Dr. Fred R. Anderson, *Pastor Emeritus*

Dr. John B. Weaver, *Director of Music & Organist Emeritus*