

*From Darkness to Light:  
An Ash Wednesday Service Around Five Hymns  
(March 5, 2025)*

Welcome, Opening Words, and Prayer

Scripture: Joel 2: 1-2, 12-14

HYMN: *"Search Me, O God"* (verse 1, twice)

Prayer of Confession (from Psalm 51)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.  
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.  
For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned,  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you are justified in your sentence  
and blameless when you pass judgment.

You desire truth in the inward being;  
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.  
Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right spirit within me.  
Do not cast me from your presence,  
and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Scripture: Luke 9:23–26; Heb 12:1–3; 1 John 2:5–6

HYMN #372: *"I Want to Be a Christian"*

Scripture: Ephesians 4:1, 17-24; 5:1-2

HYMN: *"How Deep the Father's Love for Us"*

COMMUNION and IMPOSITION OF ASHES (*optional*)

HYMN #391: *"Take My Life and Let It Be"*

Scripture: 1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, 4:6–7

HYMN #339: *"Be Thou My Vision"*

Benediction