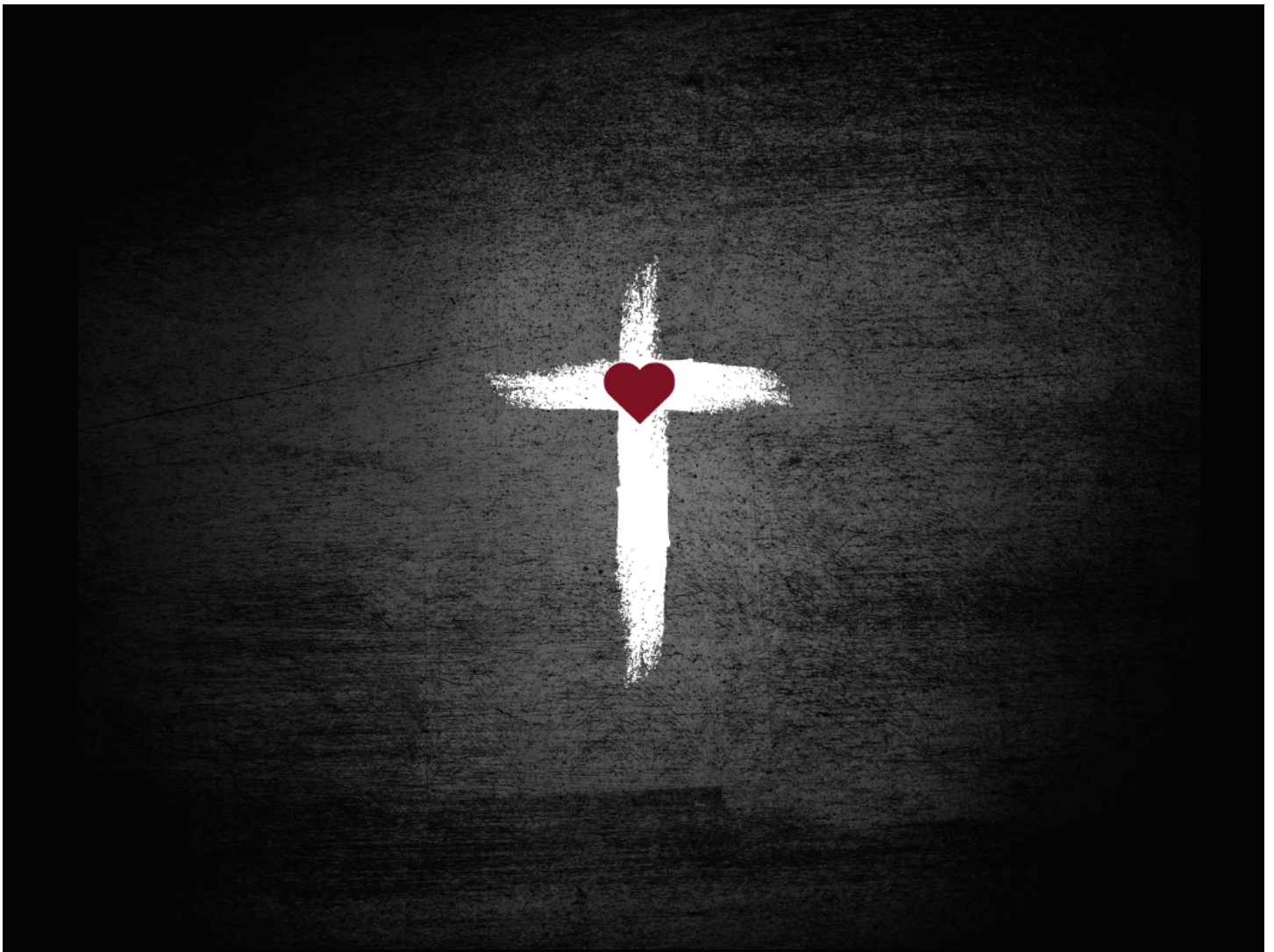


Ash Wednesday Worship

at Clarendon United Methodist Church

February 14, 2024



CUMC | 606 N. Irving Street | Arlington, VA 22201 | www.ClarendonUMC.org

Order of Worship

Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024, 7:00 PM

Welcome to this time of worship, as we gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

Please fill out the red attendance pad located at the end of each pew.

** At this sign you are invited to rise in body or spirit.*

Prelude

Welcome

Greeting

Leader: People of God, set aside busyness of mind and body.

People: Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Leader: Let us gather in worship with heads unbowed with shame.

People: God, put a new and right spirit within me.

Leader: Children of God, receive grace from above.

**People: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and my mouth will declare your praise!**

Hymn

Just As I Am, Without One Plea

Verses 1, 3, 5-6

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Merciful God, we confess that too often we make choices about what we should and should not do based on what others will think of us. We seek the validation of family, friends, and even strangers instead of resting in our sacred worth and identity in you. And so, we travel the path of least resistance when we know that path does not align with yours.

People: Forgive us, God, when we perform for one another instead of living with integrity in you.

Leader: Merciful God, we confess that we place too much value on money, prestige, and influence. We live in a society that tells us we need more and more and more in order to live secure and satisfied lives, and we choose to live according to this lie to the detriment of ourselves and our neighbors.

People: **Forgive us, God, when we treasure wealth, status, possessions, and power over and above contrition, humility, generosity, and mutuality.**

Leader: Merciful God, we confess that we do not love you rightly. While we may love you with part of our lives, we do not love you as God with our whole lives. We resist your call to surrender our lives into your hands and to trust that you will care for us as individuals and as a community better than we could ever do on our own.

People: **Forgive us, God, when we point our hearts toward selfish gain instead of the lasting worth of life with you.**

Words of Forgiveness

Leader: Receive this good news:
We love because God first loved us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.**

Leader: Repent and believe, for God's grace empowers us live in the humility of the beautiful and freeing truth that God is God, and we are not.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Scripture **Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon **The Smudge We Share** **Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines**

Response to the Word

Leader: Even now, return to me with all your heart, says the Lord.

People: **In this season of Lent, make God's will our own.**

Leader: Return to me with fasting, weeping, and mourning, says our God.

People: **We bring our unanswered questions, laments, and confessions to the Holy One.**

Leader: Return to the Lord, your God,
for God is gracious and merciful.

People: **Return to God who is slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

Leader: We dedicate our thoughts, our time, and our work,

People: **that this world may become whole, beginning with us.**

All: **Amen.**

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

Thanksgiving Over the Ashes

Imposition of the Ashes

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

Repent, and believe the gospel.

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread

and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil,

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory forever. Amen.

Benediction

Leader: What are your hands doing?

People: For there your heart will be.

Leader: Where do your feet take you?

People: For there your heart will be.

Leader: Where does your attention direct you?

People: For there your heart will be.

Leader: Go, now, to follow God with your hands, your feet, and your attention,
that you may be blessed to find your heart—and your treasure—
where God is.

People: Amen.

Greeting and Response to the Word written by James Dollins, senior pastor, Anaheim UMC

2024 Abingdon Worship Annual

Prayer of Confession and Benediction written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2023

Closing prayer Written by John van de Laar and posted on Sacredise.com

Please join us for the church-wide Lenten Study that begins this Sunday

This Lent we will be studying *Courage* by United Methodist Bishop Tom Berlin. We hope you will join us in one of the following groups. We'll begin the week of Sunday, February 18.

Sundays 11:15 AM - Young Professionals (Youth Room)
11:30 AM - Good News Class (206)
5:00 PM - Chef's Table Lenten Study Group
w/Maurice Gilliam (Library)

Mondays 10 AM - Morning Glories (Youth Room)
7:30PM - Monday Night Ladies (Zoom) Contact the
office (office@clarendonumc.org) for the zoom link

Saturdays 8 AM - Murky Men (Kaldi's Social House)

