

## LIVE STREAMING

CCPC live streams worship services every Sunday morning. Please join us in spirit by going to [www.covenantcommunitypc.org/live-stream](http://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/live-stream). You can give, fill out a Connection Card, and also view archives of past services and sermons all from the comfort of your home.

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# COVENANT COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embracing all. Feeding spirits. Reflecting Christ...  
**Changing lives forever!**



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2023 - 6 P.M.

# ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

# GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

**Prelude:** "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" Les Fraaza

## **Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:**

As we begin this season of Lent, we recognize and confess all our sins, mindful that Jesus' death came because of our selfishness. With penitent hearts, we join Jesus on his path to Calvary. Please prepare your heart and spirit for this journey.

## **Announcements**

## **Lighting of the Candles:**

**Call To Worship:** Psalm 31:1-2, 5

In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame;  
**In your righteousness deliver me.**

Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily.  
**Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.**

Into your hand I commit my spirit;  
**You have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.**

**\*Hymn:** "How Long, O God, Will My Prayers be in Vain" (vs. 1,2) #779

**Psalm of Lament:** Psalm 13

How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?  
**How long will you hide your face from me?**

How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all day long?  
**How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?**

Consider and answer me, O LORD my God!  
**Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death.**

And my enemy will say, "I have prevailed";  
**My foes will rejoice because I am shaken.**

But I trusted in your steadfast love;  
**My heart shall rejoice in your salvation.**

I will sing to the LORD,  
**Because he has dealt bountifully with me.**

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection.)

**\*Hymn:** "How Long, O God, Will My Prayers be in Vain" (vs. 2,3) #779

**\*Hope in Lament:** Psalm 31:21, 23-24

"Blessed be the LORD, for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me when I was beset as a city under siege. ... Love the LORD, all you his saints. The LORD preserves the faithful, but abundantly repays the one who acts haughtily. Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD." He upon whom we wait is faithful and good; thanks be to God!  
**Amen.**

## **\*Period of Fellowship**

Welcome one another, therefore,  
just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

**Special Music:** "How Beautiful" CCPC Choir

**New Testament Reading:** Matthew 26:36-46 Page 30

**Sermon:** "The Christian Practice of Lament" Jim Gates

## **IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND SACRAMENT OF THE BODY AND BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST**

## **Words of Institution**

## **Prayer of Consecration**

## **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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## **Prayer Over the Ashes:**

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. Amen.

## **Sharing of the Elements**

[People come forward to receive ashes and the Communion elements].  
"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

**Music During Communion:** "Stay with Me" (x2) #204

"Live in Charity" (x2) #205

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**\*Closing Hymn:** "My Song is Love Unknown" (vs. 1,2,5) #209

## **\*Benediction**