

Wednesday February 14, 2024  
Ash Wednesday

## Welcome.

Thanks for joining us today for worship! We hope you find Resurrection Philadelphia to be a warm, welcoming community--regardless of your background, beliefs, or life situation. To that end, we recognize that certain parts of the service may feel unfamiliar, so we've provided brief explanations throughout the bulletin.

Our worship is "liturgical." The Greek word "leitourgia" means a public work, the work of the people. Liturgical worship begins with God's call upon us, his meeting with us, speaking among us, and ministering to us. The flow of our liturgy aims at drawing us further into the life of the Trinity and then moving us outward into our world.

Please visit our website [resurrectionphl.org](http://resurrectionphl.org) for more information about worship and ways to connect further to this church community. We are glad you are joining us and look forward to meeting you.

— The Pastoral Staff  
Chris Currie, Scott Jennings

## Church Calendar

ADVENT

CHRISTMAS

EPIPHANY

**LENT**

EASTER

PENTECOST

ORDINARY TIME

From the church's earliest days, Lent was a time of preparation for Easter. The Resurrection of Christ was celebrated not only each week on Sunday, the Lord's Day, but also in a special festival of the Resurrection. As we look forward to the Resurrection, Lent is traditionally focused on repentance. Speaking biblically, to repent means to make a change in our attitudes, words, and lifestyles. The Christian life in its totality is a life of repentance. Beginning when we first commit our lives to Christ, and continuing throughout our lives, we are more and more turning away from sin and self-centeredness and more and more turning to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to experience true freedom and rest.

## Preparation

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;

**All a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

*from Psalm 51*

*A brief silence is kept.*

Grace, mercy, and peace

from God our Father

and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All And also with you.**


We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

**All because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

# Opening Song

*Come, Holy Spirit, Come*

Benjamin Beddome, E.J. King



1. Come, Ho - ly\_ Spi - rit, come with e - ner - gy di - vine,  
2. Melt, melt this fro - zen heart; this stub - born will sub - due;  
3. Mine will the pro - fit\_ be, but thine shall be the praise;

and on this poor, be - night - ed soul with beams of mer - cy shine.  
each e - vil pas - sion o - ver - come, and form me all a - new.  
and un - to\_ thee will I de - vote the rem - nant of my days.

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## Opening Response

**All** Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.

*the Trisagion*

Let us pray for grace this Lent, turning to Christ in faith.

*Silence is kept*

## Prayer

Holy God,  
our lives are laid open before you:  
rescue us from the chaos of sin  
and through the death of your Son  
bring us healing and make us whole  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** Amen.

# Song

## Psalm 46

Mike Crawford, Isaac Wardell



1. God is our re - fuge, our strength and our shield, an ev - ver  
2. Nat-ions in up - roar, men's king - doms, they fall, he speaks, and the  
3. Come, let us see what the Lord has done, the ru - ins he



pre - sent help. We will not fear, though the earth  
earth melts a - way. The worst we im - a - gine the strong  
brings to the earth. He makes wars to cease to the ends



— gives way and the moun-tains crash in - to the sea.  
est of storms, our for - tress, it will still re main.  
of the earth, he shat - ters the bow and the spear.



There is a riv - er whose streams will make glad the ci - ty of our most high king.



(1) God is with-in her, and she will not fail, he helps her at break of the day.  
(2&3) God is with-in her, and she will not fail, lis - ten and hear the Lord say:



"Be still, and know that I am God."

# The Word of God

*Old Testament reading:* Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

<sup>1</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near—<sup>2</sup>a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. . .<sup>12</sup>Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; <sup>13</sup>rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. <sup>14</sup>Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God? <sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; <sup>16</sup>gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. <sup>17</sup>Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

Silence is kept.

## Response

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
The Lord is a great God,  
O that today you would listen to his voice.  
Harden not your hearts.

**All Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

*from Psalm 95*

GOD SPEAKS TO US  
IN HIS WORD

*In the public reading of the word of God and its exposition in the sermon, God shares the story of his saving mission in Jesus, encouraging us to join in that mission and orienting us again to his priorities.*

*Gospel reading:* Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**All** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup>So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

<sup>5</sup>“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

<sup>16</sup>“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

<sup>19</sup>“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Reflection

*“Ash Wednesday”* – Rev. Chris Currie



# Song of Praise and Thanksgiving

## Lord, I Need You

Carson, Stanfill, Nockels, Maher, Reeves

Lord, I come, I con-fess, bow-ing here, I find my rest;  
deep, your grace is more, where grace is found is where you are,  
with-out you I fall a-part; you're the one that guides my heart.  
and where you are, Lord I am free; hol - i - ness is Christ in me.  
Lord, I need you, O I need you, ev' - ry hour I need you, my one de-fense, my  
right-eous-ness, O God, how I need you. Where sin runs you. So  
teach my song to rise to you when temp-ta-tion comes my way, and when I  
can-not stand, I'll fall on you; Je - sus, you're my hope and stay.

CCLI #5925687 ©worshipitogether.com songs

## Self-Examination and Confession

Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

God the Father,  
**All** have mercy upon us.

God the Son,  
**All** have mercy upon us.

God the Holy Spirit,  
**All** have mercy upon us.

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity,  
**All** have mercy upon us.

*Members of the congregation lead us in the following prayers of self-examination:*

From all evil and mischief;  
from pride, vanity, and hypocrisy;  
from envy, hatred, and malice;  
and from all evil intent,

**All good Lord, deliver us.**

From sloth, worldliness, and love of money;  
from hardness of heart  
and contempt for your word and your laws,

**All good Lord, deliver us.**

From sins of body and mind;  
from the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

**All good Lord, deliver us.**

In all times of sorrow;  
in all times of joy;  
in the hour of death,  
and at the day of judgment,

**All good Lord, deliver us.**

By the mystery of your holy incarnation;  
by your birth, childhood, and obedience;  
by your baptism, fasting, and temptation,

**All good Lord, deliver us.**

By your ministry in word and work;  
by your mighty acts of power;  
and by your preaching of the kingdom,

**All good Lord, deliver us.**

By your agony and trial;  
by your cross and passion;  
and by your precious death and burial,

**All good Lord, deliver us.**

By your mighty resurrection;  
by your glorious ascension;  
and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,

**All good Lord, deliver us.**

*The minister concludes:*

Give us true repentance;  
forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance  
and our deliberate sins;  
and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit  
to examine our lives according to your holy word.

**All Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.**

*the Trisagion*

*Silence is kept.*

Make our hearts clean, O God;

**All and renew a right spirit within us.**

*from Psalm 51*

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,  
we have sinned against you and against our neighbor  
in what we have thought,  
in what we have said and done,  
through ignorance, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We have wounded your love  
and marred your image in us.**

**We are sorry and ashamed  
and repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past,  
and lead us out from darkness  
to walk as children of light.**

**Amen.**

# The Imposition of Ashes

Dear friends in Christ,  
I invite you to receive these ashes  
as a sign of a spirit of penitence during this season of Lent.

God our Father,  
you create us from the dust of the earth:  
may these ashes may be for us  
a sign of our penitence  
and a symbol of our mortality;  
for it is by your grace alone  
that we receive eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Savior.

**All Amen.**

*Members of the congregations may come forward for the imposition of ashes.*

Dust you are and to dust you shall return.

## Musical Reflection

*From the Dust* - Paul Zach & Kate Bluett

From dust we came,  
to the dust we shall return. (repeat)  
God everlasting, age unto age the same.  
We are a moment, then like a breath we fade.

From dust we came,  
to the dust we shall return. (repeat)  
God everlasting, we are cut down like grass.  
Seeds in the morning, then by night we pass.

O Lord, have mercy.

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## Response

This is love, not that we loved God,

**All but that he loved us and sent his Son.**

He is the sacrifice for our sins,

**that we might live through him.**

If God loves us so much

**we ought to love one another.**

If we love one another

**God lives in us.**

*from 1 John 4:12*

# Closing Song

## *There Is a Fountain*

William Cowper, Lowell Mason



1. There is a foun - tain filled with blood drawn from Em - man - uel's veins;
2. E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream your flo - wing wounds sup - ply,
3. Dear dy - ing Lamb, your pre - cious blood shall ne - ver lose its pow'r
4. When this poor lisp - ing, stamm'-ring tongue lies si - lent in the grave,



and sin - ners plunged be - neath that flood lose all their guil - ty stains.  
re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.  
till all the ran - somed church of God be saved, to sin no more.  
then in a no - bler, sweet - er song, I'll sing your pow'r to save.



Lose all their guil - ty stains, lose all their guil - ty stains;  
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;  
Be saved, to sin no more, be saved, to sin no more;  
I'll sing your pow'r to save, I'll sing your pow'r to save;



and sin - ners plunged be - neath that flood lose all their guil - ty stains.  
re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.  
till all the ran - somed church of God be saved, to sin no more.  
then in a no - bler, sweet - er song, I'll sing your pow'r to save.

# Blessing and Sending

## Benediction

May Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

*Please depart quietly.*

*If you'd like to contribute to the work of our church, you can do so  
at the address below or text any amount to the number 84321.  
[resurrectionphl.org/give](http://resurrectionphl.org/give)*

*Resurrection Philadelphia office & mailing location:  
123 S 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103*





## Announcements

### **Do You Get Resurrection News?**

If not, sign up using the form at the bottom of [resurrectionphl.org](http://resurrectionphl.org) or by filling out the welcome form at the end of this bulletin.

**Musicians**

Christopher McDonald: piano, voice

Sarah Long: voice

Joshua Stamper: guitar

Koof Ibi: trumpet

**Scripture Reader**

Arlene Navarro

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# Help us welcome you.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Children & their ages: \_\_\_\_\_

If undergrad or grad student, school & year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

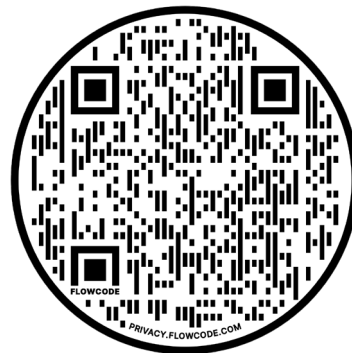
Phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me:  Weekly Newsletter  Morning & Evening Prayer

## Please contact me about:

- Community Groups
- Neighborhood Service Opportunities
- Volunteering on Sundays
- Children's & Youth Ministries
- Meeting with a Pastor
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_



## Prayer Requests

*Our staff prays weekly on Tuesdays, and our deacons pray monthly on 4th Sundays.*

*Fill out your name above if you'd like to be prayed for by name.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Please tear off this back page and place in the box by the welcome table.*



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