

# Ash Wednesday

February 17,

2021

6:30pm



*First Mennonite  
Church and  
Community Church  
of the Brethren*

## BRING TO YOUR WORSHIP SPACE:

- a candle and matches
- a substance for anointing
  - **OIL.** Small amount of olive oil, canola oil... whatever you have. Put in a small bowl next to your candle.
  - **WATER.** A bit of water in a small bowl.
  - **ASHES.** You may want to write down on paper things you would like to let go of: fear, anger, etc., and then burn the paper. Put the ashes in a little bowl and have them ready. (*Safety note: If your ashes need a bit of moisture in them, only use oil to moisten rather than water. Ashes + water = a caustic substance called lye.*)
  - **DIRT.** The Ash Wednesday service reminds us that we were made of dust and to dust we will return. A small bowl of dirt, perhaps moistened with water, will be great.

## GATHERING

Music for Meditation Pauline Buller  
Welcome & Opening to God Tonya Ramer Wenger  
Hymn *Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this place*  
Prayer Matt Christian

## HEARING AND CONTEMPLATING GOD'S WORD

Psalm 78:1-7 ... *Silence* Micah Christian  
Meditation Matt Christian  
Luke 9:51-62 ... *Silence* Calvin Buller  
Prayer Anita Christian

Hymn *Lord Jesus, you shall be my song (STJ 14) v.1,3,4*

## ANOINTING: BEING MARKED WITH THE CROSS

Anita Christian

One: Remember: we are earth.

**ALL: AND TO EARTH WE SHALL RETURN;**

One: we are ashes

**ALL: AND TO ASHES WE SHALL RETURN;**

One: we are dust

**ALL: AND TO DUST WE SHALL RETURN;**

One: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

*You are invited to dip your finger in the bowl of oil/ water/ dirt/ ashes,  
and then make the sign of the cross on your forehead or hand.*

*Or, if multiple people share a household,  
you may wish to anoint each other.*

One: Remember:

the One who breathed life into dust  
recreates us;

the One whose feet walked the earth  
journeys with us;

the One whose embers glow in ashes  
becomes in us a living flame.

(Voices Together Worship Leader Edition #187  
Sarah Kathleen Johnson - Canada - 2019)

## SENDING

Hymn: *Take, O take me as I am (3x) (STJ 81)*  
Benediction (STS 167) Tonya Ramer Wenger