

ASH
WEDNESDAY

FEB 17, 2021
7:00PM

ORDER OF SERVICE

MOVEMENT ONE: WELCOME

Invitation - Jeremiah 33:10-11, 2 Corinthians 5:14-20

I Surrender All - The Worship Initiative

Available (Morning & Evening) - Elevation Worship

MOVEMENT TWO: LECTIO DIVINA

Lectio Divina - Psalm 77

Even When It Hurts (Praise Song) - Hillsong UNITED

MOVEMENT THREE: REFLECTION

Reflection - Psalm 40:2-3

Is He Worthy - Shane and Shane

MOVEMENT FOUR: RESPONSE

Call and Response - Isaiah 43

Imposition of Ashes

Heart of God - Hillsong Young & Free

Nothing But the Blood - Robert Lowry

MOVEMENT FIVE: CLOSING

Benediction

Jesus Paid it All - Shane and Shane

MOVEMENT ONE

WELCOME: INVITATION TO SURRENDER

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Bless the Lord who is merciful and gracious.

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

PASTORAL PRAYER

O God, healer, redeemer, creator, savior,
from the dust of the earth you have formed us
and from the dust of death you would raise us up.
We know you are the God who brings new life from the ashes,
That you are still creating in us, through us, and for us.
By the power of your steadfast love,
May we turn from our past,
Repent of our sins,
And say yes to what you have for us in the future.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

JEREMIAH 33:10-11 (VOICE)

Listen to me Jeremiah. You say this place will become a desolate wasteland with no people and no animals, but it will not always be so. The towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem may indeed become lifeless, but I, the Eternal One, promise you, the silence will be broken. Once again, you will hear the sounds of laughter and joy, the sweet words of a bride and bridegroom at a wedding, and voices of those who bring thank offerings to the temple, singing:

Give thanks to the Eternal, commander of heavenly armies.
For the Lord is good and the Lord's faithful love endures forever.
All of this will happen because I will restore the riches of this land
to what they once were.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-20 (VOICE)

You see, the controlling force in our lives is the love of the Anointed One. And our confession is this: One died for all; therefore, all have died. He died for us so that we will all live, not for ourselves, but for Him who died and rose from the dead.

Because of all that God has done, we now have a new perspective. We used to show regard for people based on worldly standards and interests. No longer. We used to think of the Anointed the same way. No longer.

Therefore, if anyone is united with the Anointed One, that person is a new creation. The old life is gone—and see—a new life has begun! All of this is a gift from our Creator God, who has pursued us and brought us into a restored and healthy relationship with Him through the Anointed.

And God has given us the same mission, the ministry of reconciliation, to bring others back to God. It is central to our good news that God was in the Anointed making things right between God and the world. This means God does not hold their sins against them. But it also means God charges us to proclaim the message that heals and restores our broken relationships with God and each other.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

All: Gracious God, today begins a period of reflection and rededication. May we, in these days that stretch out before us, rededicate ourselves to you in preparation for Easter Sunday. May we surrender all that is not of you. May we draw close to you as you show us the way forward. May others come to know you because of the new life they see in us. And above all, may we proclaim your goodness and steadfast love forever and ever.

Amen.

I Surrender All - The Worship Initiative

Available (Morning & Evening) - Elevation Worship

MOVEMENT TWO

LECTIO DIVINA: PERSPECTIVE

2 CORINTHIANS 10:5 (NIV)

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

ROMANS 12:2 (NIV)

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

OPENING PRAYER

All: Holy Spirit, we invite You here into this space. Open our hearts and our minds to Your presence and Your truth. Guide us as we exchange our perspective for Yours. Help us to see our circumstances both in the light of eternal truth and never-ending grace that are freely ours in the name of your Son, Christ Jesus. Amen.

PSALM 77 (NIV)

- 1 I cried out to God for help;
I cried out to God to hear me.
- 2 When I was in distress, I sought the Lord;
at night I stretched out untiring hands,
and I would not be comforted.
- 3 I remembered you, God, and I groaned;
I meditated, and my spirit grew faint.
- 4 You kept my eyes from closing;
I was too troubled to speak.
- 5 I thought about the former days,
the years of long ago;
- 6 I remembered my songs in the night.
My heart meditated and my spirit asked:
- 7 “Will the Lord reject forever?
Will he never show his favor again?
- 8 Has his unfailing love vanished forever?
Has his promise failed for all time?
- 9 Has God forgotten to be merciful?
Has he in anger withheld his compassion?”

- 10 Then I thought, "To this I will appeal:
the years when the Most High stretched out his right hand.
- 11 I will remember the deeds of the Lord;
yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.
- 12 I will consider all your works
and meditate on all your mighty deeds."
- 13 Your ways, God, are holy.
What god is as great as our God?
- 14 You are the God who performs miracles;
you display your power among the peoples.
- 15 With your mighty arm you redeemed your people,
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.
- 16 The waters saw you, God,
the waters saw you and writhed;
the very depths were convulsed.
- 17 The clouds poured down water,
the heavens resounded with thunder;
your arrows flashed back and forth.
- 18 Your thunder was heard in the whirlwind,
your lightning lit up the world;
the earth trembled and quaked.
- 19 Your path led through the sea,
your way through the mighty waters,
though your footprints were not seen.
- 20 You led your people like a flock
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

1. Lectio (Read) *Open yourself to the presence of God, and listen to the flow of the passage.*

2. Meditatio (Reflect) *Listen now for a particular word or phrase through which God is speaking to you. Receive this word or note it below. Ask God, “Why this word today?”*

3. Oratio (Respond) *Listen now for God’s invitation and respond in your heart, remembering that God is always calling us into deeper relationship with Him. I invite you to choose a circumstance from this past year and apply it to this passage. Consider this in your heart or note it below. Ask God, “How can I see you more clearly in my life today?”*

4. Contemplatio (Rest) *Listen and rest in the knowledge of who God is, what He's done, and what He promises to do in your life. Linger in this place of connection and reflection as you allow your mind to be refreshed and renewed in the presence of God.*

CLOSING PRAYER

All: Father, we thank You for speaking truth to our hearts. We receive it now. We trust You to always be the same yesterday, today, and forever; never swayed or changed by our circumstances. Thank you for offering us your perspective in exchange for our brokenness. Thank you for being a limitless God beyond our wildest imaginations. Thank you for setting us free to hope in You. Amen.

Even When It Hurts (Praise Song) - Hillsong UNITED

MOVEMENT THREE

REFLECTION: IS HE WORTHY OF THIS?

We have a decision to make.

PSALM 40:2-3 (NIV)

He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.

Is He worthy?

PRAYER JOURNAL

Is He Worthy - Shane and Shane

MOVEMENT FOUR

RESPONSE: NEW THINGS

Pastor: And so we remember the words of Isaiah:

**All: “Forget the former things do not dwell on the past.
You are doing a new thing! You are making a way in the
wilderness and bringing water to dry places.”**

Pastor: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will return.

All: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will return.

Heart of God - Hillsong Young & Free
Nothing But the Blood - Robert Lowry

MOVEMENT FIVE

CLOSING: ASSURANCE OF MERCY

Pastor: May the almighty and merciful God,
who desires for you not death but life,
not darkness but light,
not despair but hope,
not the grave but the resurrection,
hear your repentant heart, forgive your sins,
and restore you by the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen and Amen.

BENEDICTION

And now, may the ashes you have received, the scripture you have meditated over, the prayers you have written, and the declarations we have made take root in your heart, that you might let go of the old things, and choose to say a resounding “yes” to the new thing God is doing in and through us.

And may you go with the hope that from death comes new life. From the dust you were made. To the dust you will return. But the days in between hold the promise of redemption, the joy of salvation, and the steadfast love of our faithful God.

Amen.

Jesus Paid it All - Shane and Shane

NOTES

