



ASH WEDNESDAY – MARCH 6, 2019

Anthon United Methodist Church
Rev. Sheryl Ashley, Pastor
Accompanist, Eileen Van Meeteren

[For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Romans 3.23]

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HOLY GREETING

***OPENING CHORUS “Lord, Listen to your Children Praying” #2193 TFWS x2**

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Rend your hearts and not your clothing.
Return to the Lord, your God,

**P: For God is gracious and merciful
Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,**

L: And he relents from punishing,

All: Come let us draw near to God!

***OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)**

**O Lord, that we dare confess anything at all to You before our brothers and sisters here in this church today is proof that we believe that You already know us as we are; that we believe that You are able to do something about it; and that we are willing to step from our worlds of pretense, fantasy and illusion into a kind of “facing-up-to-things-as-they-are” where you can touch us, and forgive us, and love us, and accept us and make us new. This is hard, Lord, but here we are.
Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC – “Have Thine Own Way, Lord” – Roger Hladik

Words of Exhortation

We beseech you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For your sake God made to be sin, the One who knew no sin, so that in this very One we might become the righteousness of God. For God says, “At the acceptable time I have listened to you and helped you on the day of salvation. “Now is the acceptable time.
Now is the day of salvation.”

**THE FIRST READING 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
THE SONG OF PREPARATION “We Are Called” #2172 TFWS**

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Message "Beauty from Ashes" Pastor Sheryl

Psalm of Repentance Psalm 51 Readers: Lloyd and Jody Parker

Reader 1: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
You, who have great mercy, forgive what I have done.

Reader 2: *Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!*

Reader 1: For I know what I have done wrong; my sins are ever before me and heavy
on my heart.

Reader 2: *Against you, God, you only, have I sinned; you who know all things, know
what I have done. You have every right to judge me for my actions
and every right to punish me for them.*

**People: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Restore unto me, the joy of your salvation and uphold me with a
willing spirit."**

Reader 1: In the time since I was born, I have committed many sins, and done many
things which I wish I had not done.

Reader 2: *God, you want me to be trustful to my very core; therefore, teach me wisdom
in the depths of my heart.*

Reader 1: If you will do it O God, I shall be clean, wash me, and I shall be pure.

Reader 2: *Fill me with joy and gladness!*

**People: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation and up hold me with a willing
spirit."**

[SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION BY ALL]
PASTOR GIVES ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hymn: "I Surrender All" #354 (1,2,3)

BLESSING OF THE ASHES

IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES
("Repent and believe in the Gospel")

CLOSING SONG

"Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes" #2138 TFWS
THE BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

LOVE OFFERING FOR WARMING SHELTER RECEIVED AT DOOR

Upcoming Lenten/Holy Week Events:

Lenten Studies for all at Anthon UMC:

Six Sundays running: March 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7, 14, from 5-6:00 pm,
\$1 suppers by church teams to follow.

Joe-d Dowling Soka, Alaska missionary, coming March 24 to share their mission

April 14: Palm Sunday with gently used coats given to Comm. Action Agency

April 18: Thursday, Shared Communion at Rock Branch 7 p.m.

April 19: Good Friday at Anthon 7 p.m.

April 21: Easter Early Service at 7:00 a.m. by Youth and others

Breakfast served following. Traditional Worship Celebration at 10 a.m.