\* Indicates to please rise in body and spirit, if able

**BOLD** INDICATES TO SPEAK ALOUD IN ONE VOICE, IF ABLE

## LEADING US IN WORSHIP - MARCH 6, 2019 - 7:30 PM

Pastor Carol Hill, Senior Minister Liz Swanson, Director of Pastoral Services Sasha Gerritson, Music Minister Rick Hagedorn, Organist Angie & Andrew Weber, Musicians

## **2019 LENTEN OPPURTUNITIES**

#### SIMPLE SUPPERS

This Lenten Season, we will once again join together for a simple meal beginning March 6<sup>th</sup> through April 17<sup>th</sup>. Join us Wednesday evening during Lent at 6:30 pm in Jordan Hall. If you are interested in hosting one of these Simple Suppers, please contact Liz Swanson.

#### LENTEN PRAYER TIME

During the Lenten season, the Stephen Ministers will be praying for the needs of the church as well as requests from Sunday morning during the Tuesday evening Supervision times. We will be reading the prayers out-loud so all are included. If you would like to have prayers added in this faithful time, please let one of the Stephen Leaders know, Ginny Feurer, Peggy Fergus, Anita Rifkind, Kate Reboletti or Liz Swanson.

#### LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

We will also be distributing a Lenten devotional – both in written format and electronically via Facebook. Each day, we are invited to pray together as a congregation the prayers that have been meaningful to some of our fellow PRCC members. Some of us are very comfortable praying and opening our hearts to God through words, and others of us don't know where to start. During Lent, we will have the opportunity to learn from one another different ways of connecting to God through prayer.

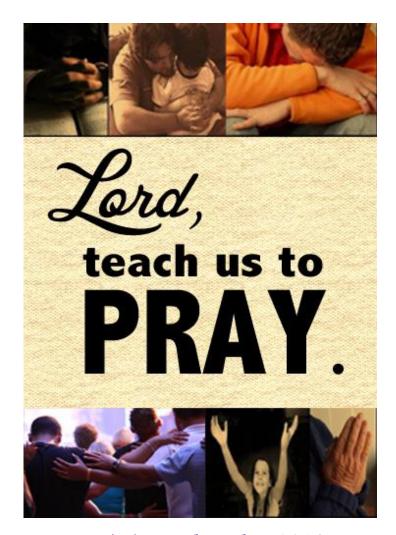
#### PRAYER STATIONS

We will have prayer stations set up in the Ellinger Transcept (the front right side of the sanctuary) so people can stop and pray during the week and on Sundays in between services. Sunday worship services will dive into the Lord's Prayer or the "Our Father." We pray this prayer week after week, and yet it's easy for the words to become rote. Our time during Lent will help us to understand what we are praying, and why Jesus asked his disciples to pray in this way.

## WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

#### All Are Welcome!

You're invited to join Pastor Carol on Wednesday evenings during Lent from 7:30-9:00 pm in the Sanctuary for a study on the Lord's Prayer. We will begin this study in the Crego Chapel, on March 13<sup>th</sup>. "Becoming Jesus' Prayer", the book we will use is available for purchase for \$10.



Ash Wednesday 2019 7:30 pm

# PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH ASH WEDNESDAY

MARCH 6, 2019 7:30 PM

## **PRELUDE**

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Friends and neighbors, in the middle of our busy week, we pause to observe Ash Wednesday together as a faith community.

We remember that God made us from fragile, blessed dust

And breathes through us the breath of life and love.

From dust we are created in God's image and to God's good dust we shall return.

With dust and oil we claim the mark of God's beloved.

Today we begin our 40-day Lenten journey to discover who we are created to be.

In daily practices of prayer and service we will embark upon this Lenten journey.

We follow Jesus, God's Beloved Child, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh in whom we see God's image most clearly.

So come, let us pray for strength and imagination to follow Jesus wherever he will lead us this Lent.

\*OPENING HYMN

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

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# STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess to you, Holy God, what we are. We are not the people we like others to think we are. We are afraid to admit, even to ourselves, what lies in the depths of our souls. We are not the people you created us to be. We are afraid to recognize and live into the gifts you have given us. But we cannot hide our true selves from you. You know us as we are, and you love us. Help us not to shrink from self-knowledge. Teach us to respect ourselves for your sake. Give us the courage to put our trust in your guiding power. Raise us out of the paralysis of guilt into the freedom and energy of forgiven people. And for those who through long habit find forgiveness hard to accept, we ask you to break their bondage and set them free, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Silent Prayers are offered

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Through God's grace we are forgiven, by the mercy of our Creator, through the love of Christ, and in the power of the Spirit. **Thanks be to God. Amen.** 

#### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

FIRST LESSON Romans 8:26-27

\*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 6:1-14

This is the word of God, for the people of God,

Thanks be to God

MESSAGE Lord, teach us to pray Pastor Carol Hill

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

**IMPOSITION OF ASHES** 

**OFFERTORY** 

\*DOXOLOGY 592

Praise God throughout these forty days. Praise Christ, Our Lord, whom God did raise. And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.

## \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, through our offerings of worship, of time, of money, we seek to make space for you in our lives. During this season of Lent, may we loosen our grasp on the treasures of this world and store up for ourselves treasure in heaven. May these gifts we have given be used for your good work of peace, justice, and service in the world. Amen.

\*HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

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## \*BENEDICTION

As we wear the mark of the cross, may we be mindful of the ways in which the cross has already marked our lives.

May we find, through this Lenten season, the ways in which God is calling us. As we go to wash this mark of grit and ash from our own bodies, may we remember this symbol of God's love.

May we share with the world the love and peace made visible to us through God's grace.

May peace be in our hearts, in our actions, and in our lives. Amen.

# **POSTLUDE**