

A graphic featuring the text "ASH WEDNESDAY" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with "Worship" written below it in a red, cursive script. The text is set against a grey, textured brushstroke background.

ASH WEDNESDAY *Worship*

GREETING

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures forever.

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVE A HOLY LENT

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES (Pray Together)

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so that we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

IMPOSE THE ASHES

In a group, as a family, or alone, take your places with gestures of welcome. Choose a leader. Prepare the ashes beforehand by adding a bit of olive oil, but not water. The leader, or self, dips a thumb in the ashes and makes a sign of the cross on the forehead or forehead of each person, or self, saying these words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Repent, and believe the gospel."

PRAYER AFTER ASHES (Pray Together)

God almighty and merciful, you do not desire the death of even one sinner. Help us turn away from sin, injustice, and evil, and toward you, repentance, forgiveness, and your love, restoring us by the Holy Spirit's power to new life. Amen.



GATHER AT TABLE

Jesus is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are we who are called to his supper.
Though we are worthy to receive only by God's grace,
let us be bold to handle the food of life, and be healed.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Lord, you are holy, and indeed the source of all holiness; grant it by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us the body and blood of Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER AND RECEPTION OF ELEMENTS

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

OUR RESPONSE

This is love, not that we loved God, but that God first loved us and sent the Son. Jesus 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.