

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Ash WednesdayMarch 5, 2025

Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor

Mavis Stephens, Choir DirectorDr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

Gather in Silence and Reflection

Prelude

“Cleanse Me”

Dr. Gilbreath

Gathering Words

Call to Worship:

One: God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

All: God’s love endures forever.

One: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

All: God’s love endures forever.

One: God abides with us and teaches us to die to self and to live repentant lives.

All: God’s love endures forever. We return, we remember, and we will listen well. Let us worship God.

Prayer

*Hymn

“Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days”

#166

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Rev. Brogdon

Ash Wednesday Reflection

Instrumental Music

“Seekers of Your Heart”

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath

Invitation to Observe a Holy Lent

Litany of Penitence

One: Holy God, you are one who guards and guides our way.

All: Have mercy upon us.

One: To follow you is to trust you in paradox;

One: that from a broken, aching heart,

All: rises a healing and hopeful heart.

One: that out of weakness and vulnerability,

All: grows the quickening of Christ’s Love.

One: that in darkness and despair,

All: the radiance of Christ’s Light shines.

One: Holy God, we fail to follow you; we turn away.

All: Forgive us, we pray.

One: As certain as the morning sun that rises, you are here, Lord.

All: Forgive us, we pray, and accept our repentance.

Litany of Silent Reflection

Imposition of Ashes

The congregation is invited forward to receive the sign of the cross as a sign of our humanity and mortality, and a sign of God’s work through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Prayer

*Hymn

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

#215

*Benediction

Rev. Brogdon

*Postlude

“Blessed Assurance”

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath

Following the benediction, please depart in silence.

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Bold and italic type indicates our shared response.

To Our Guests:

Welcome! It is a blessing to have you in worship with us today. We warmly invite your participation in the worship, fellowship, and ministry of our congregation. The pastor is available to answer any questions you might have after worship, by email or phone. There is a place for you here.

Children's activity bags are available from an usher for the sermon time. Please leave the bag in the pew as you leave.

A nursery is provided for children 3 years of age and under.

Please join us for:
Sunday School at 8:45 am
Worship 10:00 am

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Live Streams and recordings of each week's worship service are available on our YouTube channel. For more information, visit us at www.standrewdecatur.org

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 5, 2025



Ash
WEDNESDAY

Scripture Reading, Rev. Brogdon: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. “So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”