



# Wesley United Methodist Church **ASH WEDNESDAY**

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[www.wesleysj.net](http://www.wesleysj.net)

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## **ASH WEDNESDAY**

### **JOINT WORSHIP**

**February 14, 2024 • 7:00 pm**

### **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*(Please be sure to silence your cell phones. Thank you!)*

**GATHERING MUSIC** – Shane Cantanho, piano

### **WORDS OF WELCOME AND GRACE:**

— Mark Teagle, Director of Spiritual Formation,  
Community Engagement, and Music

**\*SONG: “Come and Find the Quiet Center”** TFWS #2011

— Wesley Praise Band

*Words by Shirley Erena Murray and Music Attr. to B.F. White .*

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Come and find the quiet center  
in the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter,  
find the frame where we are freed:  
Clear the chaos and the clutter,

clear our eyes that we can see  
all the things that really matter,  
be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us,  
cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us,  
knows our being, touches base,  
making space within our thinking,  
lifting shades to show the sun,  
raising courage when we're shrinking,  
finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel,  
open to each other's pain,  
let our loves and fears unravel,  
celebrate the space we gain:  
There's a place for deepest dreaming,  
there's a time for heart to care,  
in the Spirit's lively scheming  
there is always room to spare.

**CENTERING PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

— Rev. Bobbie Corson

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed by 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, and the power  
and the glory, forever. Amen.

**WE RESPOND IN SONG: “We Sing of Your Glory”**

TFWS #2011 – Wesley Praise Band

*Words and music Trad. Latin American;*

*English Trans. by ST Kimbrough, Jr.*

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We sing of your glory, we praise you again,  
for you are eternal. Amen. Amen.

We sing of your power and honor again,  
for you are eternal. Amen. Amen.

We sing of surrender to you, God, again.  
Your power is eternal. Amen. Amen.

“Glory in the highest, on earth,” sing again.  
Glory, alleluia. Amen. Amen.

**INVITING WORDS:** — Rev. Dick Corson

## **HEALING WORDS: A TIME OF PRAYER**

*(There will be a brief time of silence between each section of the prayer, during which you are encouraged to put names and faces to those you pray for.)*

One: Loving God, physician of our souls, we come together this evening to open before you some of the dark and broken places of our lives and to seek the healing of your touch, so that we might walk with you and others with greater lightness, confidence, hope and joy. To that end we bring before you memories of our bungling, betrayal, foolish and faithless acts, and those we have hurt because of them.

*A time of silence*

One: O God, by your mercy.

**All: Let the healing begin.**

One: We bring before you our defensiveness and the fear of intimacy and those we have kept at a distance because of them.

*A time of silence*

One: O God, by your mercy

**All: Let the healing begin.**

One: We bring before you our competitive pride and jealousy, and those we have put down so that we might have our own way, get things done, or get ahead at any cost.

*A time of silence*

One: O God, by your mercy.

**All: Let the healing begin.**

One: We bring before you the suspicions and prejudices that lead us to judge others we know only by the color of their skin, or by the clothes they wear, or the food they eat or the way they walk and talk, worship and pray.

*A time of silence*

One: O God, by your mercy.

**All: Let the healing begin.**

One: We bring before you our temper and our anger and those we have hurt, possibly even today with a harsh word, a thoughtless gesture, a fierce glance or a scathing scowl.

*A time of silence*

One: O God, by your mercy.

**All: Let the healing begin.**

One: We bring you our wounds, some self-inflicted, some other-inflicted, some too private to name, all of which cry out for your healing touch, so that we might be restored to our truest selves, and be reconciled with others, and with you, God of us all.

*A time of silence*

One: O God by your mercy

**All: Let the healing begin, until the lost are found, the blind can see, the lame can walk, the broken are made whole, and we are one again, through Christ and Your grace. Amen**

**SONG: “Sunday’s Palms Are Wednesday’s Ashes”**

– Wesley Praise Band

*Words by Rae E. Whitney and music attr. to B.F. White.*

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Sunday’s palms are Wednesday’s ashes  
as another Lent begins;  
thus we kneel before our Maker  
in contrition for our sins.  
We have marred baptismal pledges,  
in rebellion gone astray;  
now, returning seek forgiveness;  
grant us pardon, God, this day!

We have failed to love our neighbors,  
their offenses to forgive,  
have not listened to their troubles,  
nor have cared just how they live,  
we are jealous, proud, impatient,  
loving overmuch our things;  
may the yielding of our failings  
be our lenten offerings.

We are hasty to judge others,  
blind to proof of human need;  
and our lack of understanding  
demonstrates our inner greed;  
we have wasted earth's resources;  
want and suffering we've ignored;  
come and cleanse us, then restore us;  
make new hearts within us, Lord!

### **A SERVICE OF ANOINTING AND HEALING:**

### **A PRAYER FOR THE HEALING OF THE WORLD:**

— Rev. John Oda, Senior Pastor

One: God of our noblest dreams and deepest hopes,  
having been offered this evening healing for our selves,  
we pray now for a glad resolve to help in the healing of  
the world.

**All: Grant us such boldness of faith that we might join with you in healing the broken heart and broken circle of the human family.**

One: Hear now our prayers for . . . .

*(Here you may speak aloud the names of people, leaders or nations as you are so moved)*

One: God of us all,

**All: May we be part of an outbreak of peace and powerful as the threat of war, so that once again our lives might be stretched to joyful proportions by the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

**\*SONG OF PEACE – Mark Teagle**

*(singing together)*

In this circle no fear.

In this circle deep peace.

In this circle great happiness.

In this circle safety.

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**\*Please stand if you are able.**