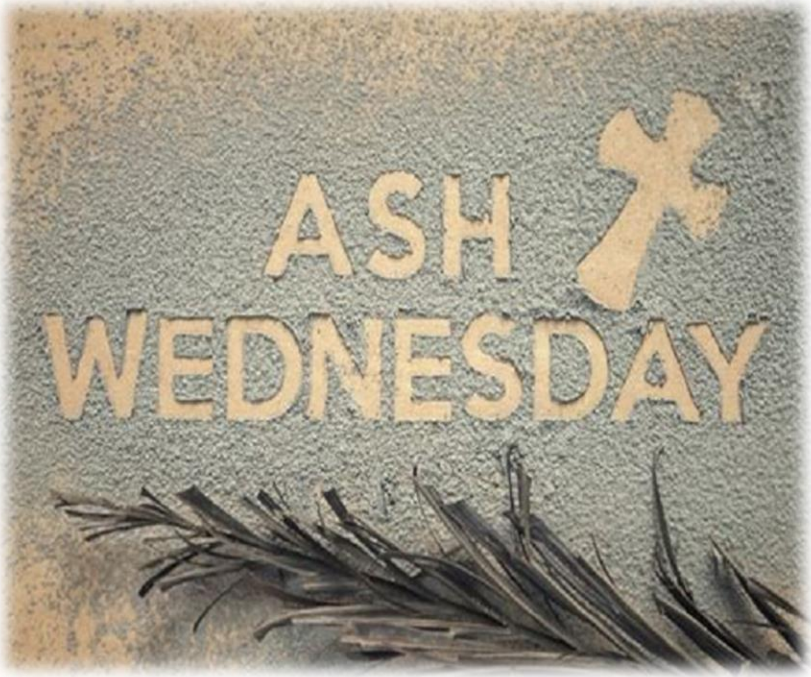


Ash Wednesday Service

February 17, 2021
6:30 p.m.

Trinity Grace Church
4020 Bailey Circle
Loganville, GA 30052

www.trinitygracechurch.us
info@trinitygracechurch.us
(770) 865-4378

* Those able to do so, please stand.

Words of Introduction

*** Call To Worship** *(inspired by Joel 12:12-14)*

Leader: "Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.

People: Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord Your God,

Leader: for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity."

People: Come, Let us Worship the Lord.

*** Hymn** *Nothing But the Blood*

The Word of the Lord 2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10

Meditation on the Word *Just An Old Song*

Silent Prayer and Reflection

(silent prayer and unison prayer of confession)

Lord, Holy One, have mercy on us. We confess our sins to you. We have fallen short of your glory and without your mercy and grace, we would be dust. We repent now. Lord, as we enter into this Lenten season, be near to us. Help us, by your Holy Spirit, to feel right conviction and repentance for our sin. Help us, by your Spirit, to have the strength to overcome the enemy.

Thank you, Lord, that Easter is coming! Death has no sting, no victory, because of Jesus! Glory and honor and praise to His name! Thank you for rescuing us and help us bear the good fruit of your Spirit.

Thank you that the ashes on our forehead do not symbolize our ultimate reality. From dust we have been formed, but our bodies, our spirits, ourselves, await beautiful redemption and the

restoration of all things in Jesus Christ. Help us long and look forward to that day, and let it come quickly, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Disposition of the Ashes

Come forward to receive the ashes in the form of a cross on your forehead as a sign of God's forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

*** Hymn** *Blessed Be the Tie That Binds*

*** Benediction**



Just a little ashes that's all it is. And what are ashes? They are the product of burning something away. They are what is left over after fire passes over or through something. They are the waste after the heat and light are gone.

So why, tonight, do we put this stuff on our foreheads? Where did this strange tradition come from and what does it mean?

These ashes are a reminder of who we are: from the dust and to the dust we shall return. The first human was formed out of the dust of the earth by God and then God breathed life into that dust. That is a powerful image. One that is meant to remind us that without the breath or Spirit of God moving in us, we are just like these ashes: lifeless.

These ashes are a sign of repentance. Lent is a time of mourning our sins. We are called to repent and change our ways. In the Bible it was common for people who were mourning to dress in sackcloth and put ashes on their heads to show their repentance and to seek God's forgiveness. These ashes tonight are meant to be for us symbols of our repentance and signs that we truly seek to follow in God's path.

The people in Biblical stories put ashes on top of their heads. Why do we, instead of putting these ashes on top of our heads, put them in the sign of the cross on our foreheads?

We do so because it is a reminder of how we are sealed for Christ. These ashes tonight remind us that we are Christ's. He died so that we might live as forgiven people.

These may be just a few ashes but they mean a lot. They are a symbol of our need for God.

They are also a symbol of our repentance and mourning. They are a way of showing on the outside what is happening on the inside.

Yet, in the midst of our repentance we are forgiven and marked as Christ's own. Because of the cross, our sins are burned away!

As you come today to have the sign of the cross placed on your foreheads, open your heart. Repent of your self-reliance and self-seeking. Accept the grace and forgiveness that marks you as a redeemed child of God.

- author unknown

Join the Trinity Grace family during the Lenten Season, all the way through Easter, and rejoice in all that God has for us through Jesus!



9:30 a.m., every Sunday, Bible Study for all ages
10:30 a.m., every Sunday, worship

Visit Trinity Grace on YouTube: Trinity Grace Loganville, Facebook @tgcloganville, Instagram @trinitygraceepc, on Twitter @trinitygraceepc, and online at www.trinitygracechurch.us and stay informed about all things Trinity Grace.