

Welcome to Shadyside Presbyterian Church

We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in the worship, study, fellowship, and service of this congregation.

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent with a public act of confession and contrition. Acknowledging that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, we stand in solidarity as fellow creatures before our Creator, acutely aware of our mortality. In the face of our transience, we pledge ourselves anew to live unto God's Word in Jesus Christ, the eternal Word that remains forever.

The Companion to the Book of Common Worship (Geneva Press, 2003) explains: "Ashes on the forehead is a sign of our humanity and a reminder of our mortality. Lent is not a matter of being good, and wearing ashes is not to show off one's faith. The ashes are a reminder to us and our communities of our finite creatureliness. The ashes we wear on our Lenten journey symbolize the dust and broken debris of our lives as well as the reality that eventually each of us will die."

If you are a guest with us this evening, our ushers are available to assist you.

Gluten-free, vegan Communion wafers are available in the Narthex for those who prefer them to the regular Communion bread.

Communion will be served through the practice of intinction. As ushers release your pews, you are invited to come forward to one of the two stations where a pastor and elder will be waiting for you. Take a piece of bread from the pastor, dip the bread into the cup the elder holds, and, after communing, you may return to your seat using the side aisles. If you are unable to come forward, please indicate that to an usher and the elements will be brought to you.

Nursery care is available for infants through three-year-olds during worship. Pagers are available. A cry room with a video broadcast of worship is available in the Craig Room, accessible through the Narthex.

Enlarged bulletins and individual listening devices for improved sound are available in the Narthex at the back of the Sanctuary. Please see an usher for assistance.

Restrooms are located off the Narthex and can be accessed by exiting the back of the Sanctuary and turning right. Additional restrooms are located at the top of the grand staircase accessible through the Sharp Atrium.

! Please silence cellular phones and other mobile devices while in the Sanctuary.

Order of Service

PRELUDE

Three settings of “Jesu, Meine Freude”

Johann Sebastian Bach
Johann Walther

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Dr. Conrad C. Sharps

Pastor: Grant us courage to look within,

People: Where our failure and guilt are hiding.

Pastor: Grant us courage to name our failure and our guilt,

People: Not to hide behind soft phrases that excuse and obscure.

Pastor: And grant us peace – peace within, where we sense your absence.

All: Draw near to us, O Lord, and make us new.

▲ HYMN 81

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

St. Flavian

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(spoken in unison)*

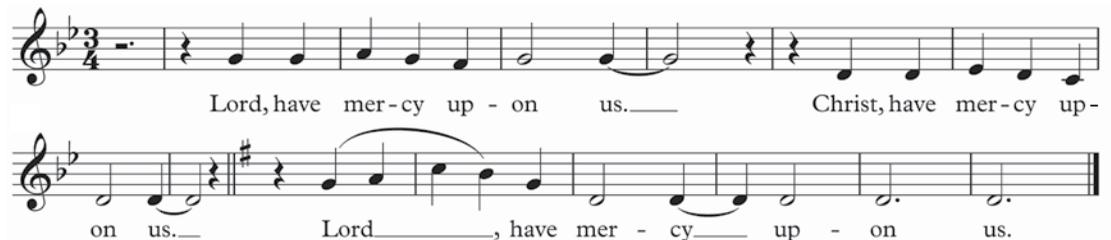
The Reverend Lynn M. Portz

O God who sees all things, who knows our needs before we ask; we admit today that You also know our failures even before we admit them to ourselves. But we admit them now. Instead of loving others as we love ourselves, we have only loved ourselves. Instead of walking in the light as You are in the light, we have shunned the light and reveled in the darkness. Instead of sharing our bread with the hungry, we have spent our meager resources trying to fill hungers that should not be fed and cannot be filled. O God of mercy, forgive us and heal us. Draw us away from our pursuits of self-indulgence and teach us the way of self-giving. Push us out of the dark and into the light. And set our feet on a path of righteousness that leads to life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SILENT CONFESSION

KYRIE ELEISON *(sung in unison)*

Mark A. Anderson



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.____ Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us.____ Lord____, have mer - cy____ up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(sung in unison)*

Nicaea (Hymn no. 138)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth and sky and sea! Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

SCRIPTURE

Joel 2:1-17

pages 846-847 of the Old Testament in the pew Bible

2 Corinthians 5:20b- 6:10

page 181 of the New Testament in the pew Bible

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SOLO

The Divine Image

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Lauren-Rose King, soprano

To Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love all pray in their distress, and to these virtues of delight return their thankfulness. For Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love is God our Father dear; and Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love is man, His child and care. For Mercy has a human heart; Pity, a human face; and Love, the human form divine; and Peace, the human dress. Then every man of every clime that prays in his distress, prays to the human form divine, Love, Mercy, Pity, Peace. And all must love the human form, in heathen, Turk, or Jew. Where Mercy, Love, and Pity dwell, there God is dwelling, too.

Text: William Blake, 1789

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

pages 5-6 of the New Testament in the pew Bible

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

The Ashes Are a Sign of Mercy

The Reverend Dr. Conrad C. Sharps

▲ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(spoken in unison)*

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father by whom all things were made; who for us, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And we believe one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

▲ **HYMN 505**

St. Flavian

Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart; O God, abide with us, and spread Thy table in our heart. There sup with us in love divine, Thy body and Thy blood; that living bread, that heav'nly wine, be our immortal food.

Text: James Montgomery, 1825; alt.

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVATION OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

The Reverend John F. Magnuson

PRAYER FOR THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES *(spoken in unison)*

Gracious God, who formed us from the dust of the earth and breathes into us the breath of life, it is by Your gift alone that we know life and life eternal. Grant that these ashes, the dust of once-joyful palms, may remind us of our mortality and call us again to You, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For those who desire, the imposition of ashes will be placed either on the forehead or the back of the hand as you come forward for Communion.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

The Reverend Todd E. Leach

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Evening Hymn

Henry Purcell

Lauren-Rose King, soprano

Now that the sun hath veil'd his light and bid the world good night; to the soft bed, my body I dispose, but where shall my soul repose? Dear God, even in Thy arms, and can there be any so sweet security! Then to thy rest, O my soul! And singing, praise the mercy that prolongs thy days. Hallelujah!

Text: William Fuller

PRAYER OF RESPONSE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal page 16

▲ HYMN 85

What Wondrous Love Is This

Wondrous Love

▲ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Jesu, Meine Freude

Johann Walther

News and Notes

Lenten Vespers Bible Study with the Pastors - As Lent is a season for self-reflection, it is also a good time to reflect upon Scripture and its importance in our lives. During the Wednesdays in Lent, join our pastors after vespers from 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. in the Craig Room for a Bible study and casual conversation about the Scripture preached on that night. Booklets with the Scripture passages, accompanied by thoughts to ponder, are available in the Sharp Atrium and Narthex. You may also download the booklet from the church website.

Young Adult Bible Study - Young adults and friends of Shadyside Presbyterian Church are invited to join us as we continue to build community through study. During the season of Lent, we will meet on Wednesdays following vespers; please see the announcement above.

East End Cooperative Ministry Food Pantry Collection - Bags will be distributed after worship on Sundays, March 5 and 12. A list of suggested donation items is attached to each bag. Please return the filled bags on Sunday, March 19, or to the church office during the week before March 19.

Grief Support Group - Shadyside Presbyterian Church offers a Grief Support Group designed to provide encouragement and a faith-centered perspective for those who have lost a loved one. The group meets periodically to discuss a variety of subjects that are important in the grief recovery process, including the variety of emotions which grief brings, and resources for moving forward. Our next gathering occurs Monday, March 6, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Craig Room. New participants are always welcome to join; there is no cost to attend the group. For more information, please contact Rev. Lynn Portz.

Mission Dinner - The Mission and Urban Ministry Team invites you to attend our Mission Dinner Series to hear the inspirational stories of our mission partners. On one Wednesday of each month, dinner occurs from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Join us on Wednesday, March 8, when we welcome Bob Myers, Executive Director of Off the Floor Pittsburgh. Although there is no charge for the dinner, a freewill offering will be received to offset the costs of the meal. Please RSVP by signing up in the Sharp Atrium or by contacting the church office. (Nursery care is available. Families are encouraged to eat together; then, children may move to the Nursery during the presentation.)

God and Family First (GAFF) on Second Sundays at SPC - On the second Sunday of the month, join other families at 9:30 a.m. for a child-friendly family fellowship in the Parish Hall. A light breakfast will be provided to help you start the morning. This opportunity is a great way to meet other families; while children form and explore new friendships, adults may discover other exciting things happening at Shadyside. Our next gathering occurs on Sunday, March 12.

Ninth Annual Pie Sunday - The Parish Life Ministry Team will host Pie Sunday in the Parish Hall during the Time of Fellowship on Sunday, March 12. We are looking for some terrific pie bakers to provide a variety of pies, ranging from sweet apple to savory shepherd's pie. Sign up in the Sharp Atrium to bring a pie, or call the church office. Not a baker? Come and enjoy; there will be plenty to share!

Connections Dinner - On Wednesday, March 15, supper is served from 6:00 until 6:45 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The menu will include roasted chicken with pan sauce, roasted root vegetables, and sliced baguettes. Assorted cookies will be served for dessert. For reservations, please sign up in the Sharp Atrium or contact the church office by Monday, March 13. A freewill offering will be received to offset the costs of the meal. If you are able, we hope you will stay for vespers in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Gatherings occur on Tuesdays from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., and on Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. You are invited to join us for a time of silent and spoken prayers, as we bring our concerns before God. If you cannot be with us in person, we encourage you to remember the congregation in your prayers at these same times. This is one of the many ways we can express our care for one another.

PrayerNet is a complement to our ongoing prayer groups which lifts up urgent prayer requests. If you or a loved one are in need of urgent prayer, or if you would like to become a PrayerNet prayer partner to help lift up these requests, email member Krissy Moehling at prayernet@shadysidepres.org. Confidentiality, if requested for names and/or situations, will be maintained.

The Mini-Mouse - Sign up to receive our weekly e-newsletter by sending your subscription request in an email message to info@shadysidepres.org.

The Shadyside Presbyterian Church website, www.shadysidepres.org, provides additional information about the church's many programs, activities, and events, as well as access to audio recordings of worship.

Lenten Vespers

..... *Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary*

Lenten vespers continue on Wednesdays through April 5. These 45-minute candlelight Communion services include a homily, the Lord's Supper, and music offered by the Shadyside Strings, Chatham Baroque, Trio Nova Mundi, and the Choirs of the Pittsburgh School for the Choral Arts. Childcare is provided.

Join us via the live webcast at www.shadysidepres.org/live.

Adult Christian Education

..... Sundays at 9:45 a.m.

On Sunday mornings, the Adult Christian Education Team invites you to gather in the Sharp Atrium at 9:30 a.m. for a time of fellowship and light refreshments before attending the study of your choice.

Topical Book Study

From March 5 through April 9, you are invited to deepen your Lenten journey by reading John Indermark's *Parables and Passion:*

Jesus' Stories for the Days of Lent

with Mark A. Krofchik and Deacon Sherri P. Krofchik.

Adult Bible Study

Explore Scripture in-depth in this study led by Elder Richard L. McGough III.

Join us as we continue to study the writings of St. John, including the Gospel, Epistles, and the Book of Revelation.

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Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Church Staff

Conrad C. Sharps, *Senior Pastor*

Todd E. Leach, *Associate Pastor for Missions*

John F. Magnuson, *Associate Pastor for Discipleship*

Lynn M. Portz, *Associate Pastor for Parish Life*

Ellen L. Allston, *Director of Christian Education for Children's Ministry*

Mark A. Anderson, *Director of Music Ministry*

Robert K. Anderson, *Head Sexton*

Peter F. Bodnar, *Director of Communications*

Jane M. Boyle, *Director of Children's Handbell Choir*

Steven M. Bright, *Hospitality Coordinator*

Judy A. Brust, *Accountant*

Brytani H. Clifton, *Campus Ministry - Chatham University*

Stephen M. Donnelly, *Associate for Children's Music Education*

Michelle M. Dzikowski, *Assistant to the Associate Pastors*

Della L. Ellard, *Administrative Assistant*

Ruth E. Garrett, *Assistant to the Senior Pastor*

Karen S. Jueng, *Associate for Children's Ministry*

Mary E. Lang, *Director of the Nursery School*

Sonja Lipski, *Infant Ministry*

Dennis H. Martin, *Sexton*

Bobby C. Pack Jr., *Sexton*

Rebecca D. Reeder, *Campus Ministry - Carnegie Mellon University*

Nancy M. Shaytar, *Director of Finance*

Justin M. Wallace, *Assistant Organist*



A Member of the Pittsburgh Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

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www.shadysidepres.org ■ www.facebook.com/ShadysidePresbyterian



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