

# The Church of the Good Shepherd



**ASH**  
**WEDNESDAY**



March 5, 2025  
12 noon & 7:00 pm Service



## We Welcome Our Guests

The Good Shepherd faith community welcomes those who are visitors. Your presence and participation in our worship service is a blessing to us all. All are welcome, whoever you are, just as you are!

**For more information about our Good Shepherd Community please go to our website at [www.goodshepherdwareham.org](http://www.goodshepherdwareham.org) or scan the QR Code here.**



Again, thank you for blessing us with your presence and participation today!



**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**BEGINS THE SEASON OF LENT**



## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*Silence is kept, liturgical ministers are in places as the service begins.*

*(please stand as you are able)*

**Presider:** Blessed be God who forgives all our sins.

**People:** **God's mercy endures forever.**

### **The Opening Prayer**

*Presider: Together, let us pray.*

**Gracious God, out of your love and mercy  
you breathed into dust the breath of life,  
creating us to be of service to you and one another.  
May your Spirit move us to acts of kindness,  
and strengthen us to acknowledge our weaknesses;  
with confidence in the mercy of your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. *Amen.***

*(Please be seated)*

**First Reading**      Isaiah 58:6-11

Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,

and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.

*Response After The Reading:*

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 103**

*Reader:* Let us recite Psalm 103 responsively by half verse

- <sup>1</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul, \*  
**and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.**
- <sup>2</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul, \*  
**and forget not all his benefits.**
- <sup>3</sup> He forgives all your sins \*  
**and heals all your infirmities;**
- <sup>4</sup> He redeems your life from the grave \*  
**and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;**
- <sup>5</sup> He satisfies you with good things, \*  
**and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.**

- <sup>6</sup> The LORD executes righteousness \*  
**and judgment for all who are oppressed.**
- <sup>7</sup> He made his ways known to Moses \*  
**and his works to the children of Israel.**
- <sup>8</sup> The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
**slow to anger and of great kindness.**
- <sup>9</sup> He will not always accuse us, \*  
**nor will he keep his anger for ever.**
- <sup>10</sup> He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
**nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**
- <sup>11</sup> For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
**so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.**
- <sup>12</sup> As far as the east is from the west, \*  
**so far has he removed our sins from us.**
- <sup>13</sup> As a father cares for his children, \*  
**so does the LORD care for those who fear him.**
- <sup>14</sup> For he himself knows whereof we are made; \*  
**he remembers that we are but dust.**
- <sup>15</sup> Our days are like the grass; \*  
**we flourish like a flower of the field;**
- <sup>16</sup> When the wind goes over it, it is gone, \*  
**and its place shall know it no more.**
- <sup>17</sup> But the merciful goodness of the LORD endures for ever on those who fear him, \*  
**and his righteousness on children's children;**
- <sup>18</sup> On those who keep his covenant \*  
**and remember his commandments and do them.**
- <sup>19</sup> The LORD has set his throne in heaven, \*  
**and his kingship has dominion over all.**
- <sup>20</sup> Bless the LORD, you angels of his,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding, \*  
**and hearken to the voice of his word.**
- <sup>21</sup> Bless the LORD, all you his hosts, \*  
**you ministers of his who do his will.**
- <sup>22</sup> Bless the LORD, all you works of his,  
in all places of his dominion; \*  
**bless the LORD, O my soul.**

*(please stand as you are able)*

**Holy Gospel:** Matthew 6:1–6, 16 –21

*Presider:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "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."

*Response After the Reading:*

*Presider:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Message** *(please be seated)*

## Invitation to a Holy Lent

*(please stand as you are able)*

**Presider:** Dear People of God: The first Christian observed with great Devotion the days of our Lord's passion...Let us now bow our heads before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

### ***The Blessing and Imposition of Ashes***

*Those people desiring may then come forward to receive the imposition of the ashes. Please be seated after receiving ashes.*

### **The Song During the Imposition of Ashes:**

*(7pm Service)* "Take These Ashes / To The Desert Follow Me" *(see page 12)*

### ***The Litany of Penitence***

The Presider and People together: *(please stand as you are able)*

**Most holy and merciful Father:**

**we confess to you and to one another,  
that we have sometimes fallen short of loving one another,  
as you have loved us.**

### **The Leader continues**

We have not always loved you with our whole heart, mind and strength;  
loved our neighbors as ourselves; and forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

**Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Too often we have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us; and we have not been true to the mind of Christ.

**Have mercy on us, Lord.**

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives.

**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our anger and our envy of those who have more than ourselves,

**We confess to you, Lord.**



Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,  
**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us.  
**We confess to you, Lord.**

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done:  
for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,  
**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,  
**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,  
**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

Restore us, good Lord, and have mercy on us;  
**Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.**

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,  
**That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By your Son our Lord, Jesus Christ,  
**Bring us with all your saints to the joy of new life in you.**

*Presider:*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

*People: Amen.*

## **The Peace**

*Presider:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Let us take a moment to turn and share the sign of peace verbally with those around us.  
We will then pray together the Prayer of St. Francis.*

## **The Prayer of St. Francis**

*Presider and People:*

**Lord, make us instruments of your peace.**

**Where there is hatred, let us sow love;**

**where there is injury, pardon;**

**where there is discord, union;**

**where there is doubt, faith;**

**where there is despair, hope;**

**where there is darkness, light;**

**where there is sadness, joy.**

**Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;**

**to be understood as to understand;**

**to be loved as to love.**

**For it is in giving that we receive;**

**it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**

**and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

*(please be seated)*



# THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

**The Offertory Song:**  
*(7pm Service only)*

"Sign Us With Ashes"

*(see page 13)*

**The Great Thanksgiving**      *(please stand as you are able)*

*Presider:*      The Lord be with you.

*People:*      **And also with you.**

*Presider:*      Lift up your hearts.

*People:*      **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider:*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:*      **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Presider continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.*

**The Words of Praise**

*Presider and People:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Presider continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.*

**The Memorial Acclamation**

*People:*      **Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

*The Presider continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*Presider and People:*

**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, and the power, and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*Presider: We who break this bread, share in the Body of Christ.*

*People: **We who are many are one body in Christ.***

## **Communion**

*All are invited to receive communion, no exceptions. Please come to the front of the church as directed by the hospitality minister. To receive the communion bread, please extend your hands, one on top of the other, with your palms up. To receive from the communion cup you may dip the communion wafer into the wine in the cup or take the cup into your hands and drink from it. The response to receiving communion is "Amen". If you need to have communion brought to you, please inform the hospitality minister. Gluten free wafers are available. If you would like a gluten free wafer, please inform the priest when you come up for communion.*

**Communion Music:**  
*(7pm Service only)*

"Remember Me"

*(page 14)*

**The Prayer after Communion** (*please stand as you are able*)

*Presider:* Together let us pray.

*Presider and People:*

**God of abundance,  
you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us  
with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one  
with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth  
in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever  
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

**Dismissal**

*People's Response:* **Thanks be to God.**

**The Concluding Song:**

**"Lead Me To The Desert"**

*(see page 11)*

# “Lead Me To The Desert”

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Lead me to the des-ert if it is your will; lead me in - to



hun-ger on-ly you can fill. In the bar-ren plac-es, be the riv-er that re-



stores; lead me to the des-ert where I thirst no more.



1. I do not know the way, nor do I know  
 2. The well with - in is dry; my voice is all  
 3. And in the dust is life; the drought will be



1. my - self. But I will nev - er face my per -  
 2. but gone. But I will lift my eyes, for you  
 3. re - deemed. My hope shall bloom and rise, for you



1. - ils a - lone, or the shad - ows with-out you.  
 2. are my song when the world has gone si - lent.  
 3. are the spring that will be my sal - va-tion.

to Refrain

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# “Take These Ashes / To The Desert Follow Me”

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Ash Wed: Take these ash - es as a sign that from the dust you  
Lent: To the de - sert fol - low me, for I am God, who



have been raised and to dust you shall re - turn.  
is your hope. To the de - sert fol - low me.



Verses

1. Re - turn to me with all your heart; let go the
2. 7 Slow to an - ger is my way; my cup is
3. Gath - er my peo - ple, says the Lord. Oh, let them
4. A bless - ing I will give to you, all you who
5. I will em - brace your ev - ery wound, for I am
6. My good - ness flows out of my heart o - ver the
7. I will re - new your wea - ry heart and keep you
8. I will bring beau - ty from the ruin, a feast of
9. The light you bear shall be as dawn; your bonds of



1. world and come to me. 7 Rend your heart and not your
2. filled with love for you. I will not send you to the
3. come to heal - ing peace, el - ders and chil - dren, lost and
4. wan - der and who thirst. The de - sert soon will bear a
5. balm to heal your pain. You shall not weep for - ev - er -
6. ones I came to save. 7 I will cleanse you of your
7. al - ways in my sight; give you a spir - it that is
8. hope from ash and dust. This land will bloom just as be -
9. sin my love will break. In - jus - tice shall be o - ver -



to Refrain

1. clothes, for I am kind, my name is mer - cy.
2. foe, nor scorn the ones I come to res - cue.
3. found, in - to this place of love's re - veal - ing.
4. spring; for - giv - ing wa - ter shall re - store you.
5. more; I have re - mem - bered you, my chil - dren.
6. sin, re - place your guilt with my com - pas - sion.
7. new; re - store the joy of your sal - va - tion.
8. fore. My sav - ing Word, it is for - ev - er.
9. come, and you will rise with me, be - lov - ed.

# “Sign Us With Ashes”

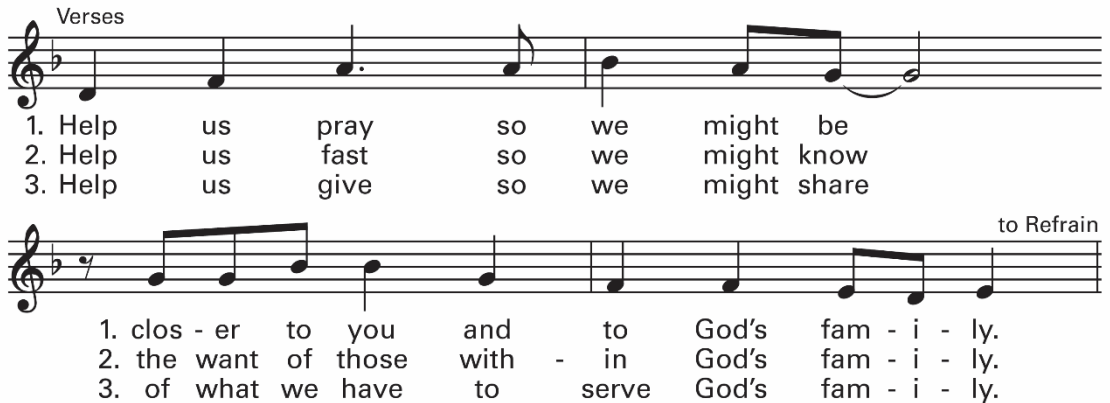
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Refrain



Sign us with ash-es, the sign of your cross. Give us the  
grace to know your mer-cy, Lord. Re-new our spir-its and  
o-pen our hearts. Help us re-mem-ber the love you gave us. 1st time: Repeat

Verses



1. Help us pray so we might be  
2. Help us fast so we might know  
3. Help us give so we might share

to Refrain

1. clos - er to you and to God's fam - i - ly.  
2. the want of those with - in God's fam - i - ly.  
3. of what we have to serve God's fam - i - ly.

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# “Remember Me”


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Refrain



When you eat this bread, when you drink this cup, re -  
mem - ber me. Will you go and share with the  
world I love? Re - mem - ber me.

Verses




1. Look for me wher - ev - er hope is bleak,  
2. Seek me wher - ev - er the dark takes hold,  
3. Find me in fac - es that are un - seen,  
4. Where there is hun - ger, where bread is scarce



1. where the wound - ed ones wait for a friend.  
2. where mer - cy has no light to grow.  
3. in the emp - ty and bro - ken of heart.  
4. for the thirst - y in spir - it and hope,



1. Do not for - get I am with the low - ly;  
2. Of - fer the fruit of my heart's com - pas - sion;  
3. Share from your stores all of my a - bun - dance;  
4. pour out the life you've re - ceived with kind - ness;



1. re - mem - ber me to them.  
2. re - mem - ber I am hope.  
3. re - mem - ber you are called.  
4. re - mem - ber love o - ver - flows.

to Refrain







# CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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**Ministers:** Every member of the Congregation

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**Office Manager Hours:**  
**Wed. 9AM – 1PM Thurs. 9AM – 1PM**



Church of the Good Shepherd Wareham