

Dear Friends and Colleagues-

It has been our distinct privilege to collaborate with Superintendents Joanne Coleman Campbell and Gregg Sealey in the creation of an Ash Wednesday service for the Inland and Seven Rivers Districts as well as those churches through the Annual Conference who will join us. We have endeavored to create this service with adaptability and flexibility in mind, acknowledging that our churches are worshipping in a variety of ways and on a variety of digital platforms. To that end, we have created a resource bundle which has been included with this message so you can choose what is best for your ministry setting and the needs of your congregation. Some items are attached, and others are links embedded in the following descriptions of the resources offered:

1. Link to the full worship service on Cheney UMC's YouTube channel. This option is best for those churches that don't already have a YouTube channel and prefer a simple way to share the service. The service has already been uploaded and is now available for viewing at any time. It will remain up indefinitely. You may copy and paste this link into email correspondence, as a Facebook post, in a text message, or however it is best to share it with those who prefer to access the service virtually: <https://youtu.be/ddG9hI0blJc>

2. Complete service file for download. This option is best for churches that have their own YouTube channel and want to be able to directly upload the full service to their own channel. Click this link to download the file (the links will work only until February 17): <https://www.dropbox.com/t/4ZnUgF3ep5UljEPQ>

3. Individual files of hymns, Gregg's meditation, Rev. Katy Shedlock's poem and Cheney UMC choir. This option is best for churches that worship via Zoom or Facebook Live who want to be able to screen share portions of the service but will otherwise worship as a group using the printed liturgy. This option requires the use of the "Ash Wednesdays Leader's Guide" which is attached below. To access the files for individual download, click the link for the files you desire, below (the links are only valid until February 17):

- Psalter in Song - "Salmo #51" by Rev. Joel Rodríguez, Sunnyside UMC Church Planter <https://www.dropbox.com/t/gGx930ksZDJfknIP>
- Song of Response - "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" by Rev. Joel Rodríguez <https://www.dropbox.com/t/jlDDn3wAYt0snFnv>
- Song of Preparation - "Out of the Depths" by JoAnna Cockrum, Cheney UMC <https://www.dropbox.com/t/FncVWS5wacbZgbOX>
- Poem – "On the Imposition of Ashes During a Pandemic" by Rev. Katy Shedlock <https://www.dropbox.com/t/r4t0JHYCLZQs1XVa>
- Special Music - "We Are Not Alone" (Pepper Choplin) - Cheney UMC Virtual Choir <https://www.dropbox.com/t/pwF1sCooqqaFf7wc>
- Meditation – "Unforced Rhythms of Grace" by Rev. Gregg Sealey <https://www.dropbox.com/t/1cbAojikK8Qh2XyE>

4. Ash Wednesday Leader's Guide. This document provides the order of worship and names of those providing leadership during the service. It is designed as a companion bulletin to the full virtual service but can be adapted for use via Zoom or other live streaming platforms. You have permission to adapt this document for formatting and distribution purposes. This document (Word and pdf) is attached.

5. Ash Wednesday At Home. This document provides the order of worship for those who will *not* be worshipping using a virtual platform and will instead worship on their own or who would appreciate having the full script of the service available to them. It is designed to be provided via the mail or via email. This guide provides written instructions for preparing for the act of penitence as well as images of the hymns, Gregg's full meditation manuscript, the text of Katy's poem and other directive language to assist in worshipping at home. You have permission to adapt this document for formatting and distribution purposes. This document (Word and pdf) is attached.

If you have any questions regarding these resources or need further assistance to ensure accessibility for your congregations, please contact us:

- Rev. Alissa Bertsch: alissabertsch@gmail.com or 509-879-2278 (call or text) best for questions regarding the bulletins
- Rev. Dale Cockrum: revdalec@comcast.net or 509-499-6725 (call or text) best for questions regarding downloading and uploading

Again, it has been our pleasure to serve as the production team for this collaborative Ash Wednesday Service. It is our hope that it not only provides a benefit to our colleagues in ministry but also serves to prepare our congregations for Lent in this ongoing season of pandemic. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

In peace-
Alissa and Dale

Files: [ashwednesdayathome.pdf](#) [ashwednesdayathome.docx](#) [ashwednesdayleadersguide.docx](#) [ashwednesdayleadersguide.pdf](#)