



Service will begin at 7:00 PM

**If you did not receive a container of sand from Church,
please gather a candle, a small bowl with sand or dirt, and a bit of water.**

**Participate in the Ash Wednesday Service by going to SunCoast MCC
Website, Facebook, or YouTube.**

“Shattered”

PRELUDE

“Change My Heart O God”

Change my heart oh God
 Make it ever true
Change my heart oh God
 May I be like You

You are the potter
 I am the clay
Mold me and make me
 This is what I pray.

THRESHOLD

“Vessels, Holy And Whole”

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
 Open, body and soul
 Healer, come.

PRAAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray:

Merciful God,
we have lived a year of Lent.
In the midst of it all we have seen love shine through at times
but as we look back in this moment,
it feels like a year of shattered dreams and shattered peace.
We are discouraged. Even though so much feels out of our control,
we also see the ways our own faults and failures,
to love each other fully, to care for the least, to honor your creation,
to stand for what is right and good, have contributed to the shattering.

And, so, we come to you in pieces.
Fragments, broken shells of our past selves.
As we walk along the shores of Uncertainty and Pain,
we ask that you meet us here.

Help us, Healer.
Show us our strength.
Forgive our inertia.
Move us to move,
one step at a time toward greater care.

In silence, we sense and acknowledge our yearning for wholeness.

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

OPENING HYMN

“Jesus Lover Of My Soul”

Jesus lover of my soul
Jesus I will never let You go
You've taken me from the miry clay
You've set my feet upon the rock
And now I know.

I love You I need You
Though my world may fall
I'll never let You go
My Savior my closest Friend
I will worship You until the very end.

PEACE

**In this moment, we begin to “let the healing streams abound.”
The peace of Christ is with you.**



A CONTEMPORARY WORD

Musical Proclamation

God Weeps At Love Withheld

Verse 1

God weeps at love withheld
At strength misused
At children's innocence abused
And till we change the way we love
God weeps.

Verse 2

God bleeds at anger's fist
At trust betrayed
At women battered and afraid
And till we change the way we win
God bleeds.

Verse 3

God cries at hungry mouths
At running sores
At creatures dying without cause
And till we change the way we care
God cries.

Verse 4

God waits for stones to melt
For peace to seed
For hearts to hold each other's need
And till we understand the Christ
God waits.



An Ancient Word

Matthew 11: 28-30

“Come to Me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens.

I will give you rest.

Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me,

for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.

For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.”



“Bridge Over Troubled Water”

When you're weary

Feeling small

When tears are in your eyes

I'll dry them all

I'm on your side

Oh, when times get rough

And friends just can't be found

Like a bridge over troubled water

I will lay me down

Like a bridge over troubled water

I will lay me down

When you're down and out

When you're on the street

When evening falls so hard

I will comfort you

I'll take your part

Oh, when darkness comes

And pain is all around

Like a bridge over troubled water

I will lay me down

Like a bridge over troubled water

I will lay me down

Sail on silver girl

Sail on by

Your time has come to shine

All your dreams are on their way

See how they shine

Oh, if you need a friend

I'm sailing right behind

Like a bridge over troubled water

I will ease your mind

Like a bridge over troubled water

I will ease your mind

SONG OF PREPARATION

“Make Us Holy Make Us Whole”

**In your love, make us whole.
May we rest in your compassion.
Calm the lost, weary soul
in the warmth of your love.
May your peace fill our hearts.
May we know the love of Jesus.
By your grace, you console.
Make us holy, make us whole.**

PRAYER OF JESUS

Our Creator, who art in heaven hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come; Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory.
Forever and ever.
Amen!

“Make Us Holy Make Us Whole”

**In your love, make us whole.
May we rest in your compassion.
Calm the lost, weary soul
in the warmth of your love.
May your peace fill our hearts.
May we know the love of Jesus.
By your grace, you console.
Make us holy, make us whole.**

RITUAL ACTION

EARTH

Holy Creator God... as we feel this elemental part of who we are, we remember that we ourselves were made from the dust of the earth.

To experience brokenness is the way of creation, it is not something to be ashamed of... it is the order of things.

FIRE

Holy One, we remember that You invite us to fuel the flames of passionate love, for You and for each other.

Offer us Your light and life.

Do not allow the flame of our spirits to lie dormant.

Help us recover the beauty of who we are, and see the goodness in transformation.

AIR

Holy Giver of Breath and Life... as we feel this elemental part of who we are, we remember that breathing,

can be an act of gratitude for our very origins.

Just as our breath offers us opportunity, to let go of that which we do not need, in order to take in the fresh air we need, transform us, O God.

Help us recover the beauty of who we are, and see the goodness in transformation.

BLESSING OF SAND

WATER

Healing Presence... as we feel this elemental part of who we are, we remember You created us, shaped us from dust in the palm of Your hand.

Some day we will return to dust, return to the palm of Your hand once again, held and loved forever.

We lament in this moment the grittiness of life, the need for healing, the difficult and necessary process of transformation.

Mark us as Your own, remold us again and again as Your people.

Let the recognition of our own need break us open yet again, for the sake of others, for the sake of the world.

And, all the people say, “Amen.”

THRESHOLD INTO THE WORLD

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

BLESSING



CLOSING SONG

“We Rise Again From Ashes”

We rise again from ashes,
from the good we've failed to do.
We rise again from ashes,
to create ourselves anew.
If all our world is ashes,
then must our lives be true,
An offering of ashes,
An offering to You.

Then rise again from ashes,
let healing come to pain;
Though spring has turned to winter,
and sunshine turned to rain.
The rain we'll use for growing,
and create the world anew,
From an offering of ashes,
An offering to You.

We offer You our failures,
we offer You attempts;
The gifts not fully given,
the dreams not fully dreamt.
Give our stumblings direction,
give our visions wider view,
An offering of ashes,
An offering to You.



POSTLUDE



**Go now, to pick up your cross and follow Christ
on the Lenten journey. In the name of the One
who made us, the One who saves us, and the
One who goes with us now, go in peace.**

“A Better World”

Let’s find a way to change the future today.
If we reach out, we can make this place a better world.
Come take my hand and we will start a new plan.
If we reach out, we can make this place a better world.

Let’s build a bridge to friendship’s shore.
Let’s knock down walls that block tomorrow.

Help someone new. They may be counting on you.
If you reach out, you can make this place a better world.
Play a new part by sharing straight from the heart.
If you reach out, you can make this place a better world.

Let’s build a bridge to friendship’s shore.
Let’s knock down walls that block tomorrow.
This is our dream. We will create a new team.
When we reach out, we can make this place a better world.