

**Prayer for Guidance through Lent**

Pastor Jess

**Generous God, you fill the earth with abundance—oceans and skies are full of water, fields that yield food, flowers and birdsong and beauty of all sorts—May we live with generous hearts, and with open hands.**

Sung Response #2193 “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

**Humble God, you became flesh and entered into our humanity—you touched the untouchable, spoke to the outcasts, washed the disciples’ feet—May we live with humble hearts, looking always to the needs of others.**

Sung Response #2193 “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

**Righteous God, you long for us to be in relationship with you—through sincere prayer, fasting, worship, scripture reading, fellowship—May we love you with all of our hearts, minds, and souls.**

Sung Response #2193 “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

**Walk with us on this Lenten journey, Lord. Give us eyes to see the path you would have us take. Give us ears to hear the truth you would speak to us. Give us the wisdom to store our treasure with you, so that our hearts may abide in your perfect peace.**

Sung Response #2193 “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

**\*BENEDICTION**

Pastor Jess

**\*POSTLUDE**

**\*The People Stand**



**LOVE GOD ~ REACH PEOPLE ~ SERVE ALL**

**First United Methodist Church of Moorestown  
March 2, 2022 7:00 P.M.**

Reverend Dr. Gina Hendrickson, Lead Pastor  
Reverend Jessica Campbell, Associate Pastor

**PRELUDE** My Jesus, I Love Thee Aber

**WELCOME** Pastor Jess

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Pastor Gina

L: In the midst of our daily routines, we pause, asking God to clear out the things that keep us from living life abundantly.

**P: We pause and begin a 40-day journey of looking inward, growing spiritually and allowing God to renew us.**

L: We begin by recognizing the places we have failed to keep our baptismal covenant.

**P: We have not always resisted evil and we have not always put our whole trust in Jesus Christ.**

**All: In this sacred and holy time, let us worship God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.**

**\*HYMN #269 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days**

**OPENING PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Pastor Gina

Eternal and most merciful God, we are children of dust and unworthy of the goodness you shower upon us. We have not loved as you have loved us, nor have we lived as we ought, and our years are soon gone. God have mercy upon us. Lift us above every past regret and present failure, reveal to us our true selves; and give us grace to accept your mercy and courage to live by your promise. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. We have no other hope outside of you. Hear us as we lift up our silent confessions (*silence*). We pray all this trusting in the promises of our Lord and Savior. Amen.

**Words of Assurance** Pastor Gina

Return to the Lord your God, for God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love.

**On this, our Lenten journey, we turn toward God in the confidence that, through Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.**

**HYMN #420 Breathe on Me, Breath of God**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17 NRSV** Pastor Gina

**CELEBRATING OUR GIFTS FOR MISSION & MINISTRY** Pastor Gina

We welcome all who worship with us this evening. We ask you to prayerfully consider giving generously to support the ministries of FUMC and the communities we serve for Christ. You can place your offering and the Attendance Card including any special prayer requests you may have in the offering basket located in the worship space or send them to church@meetwithGod.com.

**PSALTER #785 Psalm 51: 1-17 Sung Response 1** Pastor Gina

**\*GOSPEL READING Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 NRSV** Pastor Jess

**MESSAGE Ashes to Ashes** Pastor Jess

**THANKSGIVING OVER ASHES** Pastor Jess

Almighty God, you created us out of the dust of the earth, breathed into us your breath of life, and when our last breath is spent, to dust these earthly bodies shall return. Bless these ashes, that they may be for us a physical reminder of our mortality and sin. As we are marked by this ashy cross, may we be assured of God's presence and action in our lives; in our creation, our forgiveness, and our salvation. We pray this in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray "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, forever." Amen.

**Imposition of Ashes** Pastors Gina and Jess

*As you feel led, you may come forward to receive the ashes in the sign of the cross on either your forehead or your hand. If you prefer to mark yourself with ashes you are invited to stand at a side table and make the sign of the cross on your own hand.*

*After you have received your ashes, please feel free to use the kneeling rail or return to your seat.*