

**+ Our Lenten Journey from Ashes to Easter +**  
**Beginning Wednesday February 6, 2008**

Lent is a time to focus on holy baptism. Traditionally the season when candidates for baptism prepare for their new membership in the Christian community, Lent is also a time for all Christians, not just those new to the faith, to step deeper into the baptismal waters. Lent is also a season often imagined as a journey, echoing the forty-day journey of Noah and his family in the flood, the forty-year journey of the Israelites in the wilderness, and the forty-day journey of Jesus in the desert.

The three traditional disciplines of Lent are fasting, prayer, and works of love. Our perspective should be global and humanitarian. We pray for the whole world, we fast for the whole world, and we rediscover social service.

Our journey begins on Ash Wednesday, when Christians around the world gather to have the sign of the cross marked on their forehead with ashes. It is a reminder that we need to be forgiven, and we need to forgive others. Although Ash Wednesday seems like a serious day, it is also hopeful, because the cross reminds us that God loves and forgives us. Each day is a chance to start over. Please join us:

**Ash Wednesday, February 6, 2008 + Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion**  
**7:15 pm Meditation; 7:30 pm Worship**  
*Call to Repentance - Sanctuary Choir and Organ*

Lenten fellowship and worship continues the following week. A Soup Supper for all ages begins at 6:00 pm. It is a wonderful time of fellowship, caring conversation and prayer over a simple meal we share together. Young and old are all encouraged to attend. Please bring a pot of soup or some bread to share if you wish. But there is always enough, so please attend even if you do not have anything to share that week. While we start at 6 pm, you do not need to be there by 6:00. Our table blessing is at 6:30.

Meditation starts at 7:00 with worship following at 7:15. This year we will again use the much loved *Holden Evening Prayer*. Musical leadership will be provided by a cantor, vocal quartet and organ. We will escape from our noisy and chaotic world with ample time for silent meditation and prayer. A highlight will be the reading and musical response presented by a different vocal soloist each week. Please join us for this time of reflection and contemplation.

**Midweek Wednesday Lenten Services**

**February 13**

Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
*God commands Adam and Eve  
not to eat of the forbidden fruit*  
Featured Soloist: Joel Miller

**February 20**

Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
*God promises an inheritance to  
those who share Abraham's faith*  
Featured Soloist: Cara Clove

**February 27**

Reading: John 4:5-42  
*God pours out living water  
through Jesus*  
Featured Soloist: Kirsten Calabrese

**March 5**

Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14  
*God brings people into the light*  
Featured Soloist: Brent Keast

**March 12**

Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14  
*God breathes life to dry bones*  
Featured Soloist: Emily Koslowski