Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack

concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

**+ Imposition of ashes +**

*Take your thumb, dip it lightly in the ashes, then either make the sign of the cross on yourself or on one another’s foreheads and say the following:*

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

**Conclude by praying this benediction:**

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

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**A rite for imposition of ashes at home + March 5, 2025**



**Pastor Nancy M. Raabe**

*Instructions: Shake ashes into small dish and nix ashes with a few drops of oil
(olive oil is preferable). Do not use water.*

**Pray Together**

Almighty and ever-living God, you love everything you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent.

Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Psalm 51:1-17**

1Have mercy on me, O God, according to your **|**steadfast love;

in your great compassion blot out **|** my offenses.

2Wash me through and through **|** from my wickedness,

and cleanse me **|** from my sin.

3For I know **|** my offenses,

and my sin is ev- **|** er before me.

4Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil **|** in your sight;

so you are justified when you speak and right **|** in your judgment.

5Indeed, I was born **|** steeped in wickedness,

a sinner from my **|** mother’s womb.

6Indeed, you delight in truth **|** deep within me,

and would have me know wisdom **|** deep within.

7Remove my sins with hyssop, and I **|** shall be clean;

wash me, and I shall be pur- **|** er than snow.

8Let me hear **|** joy and gladness;

that the body you have broken **|** may rejoice.

9Hide your face **|** from my sins,

and blot out **|** all my wickedness.

10Create in me a clean **|** heart, O God,

and renew a right spir- **|** it within me.

11Cast me not away **|** from your presence,

and take not your Holy Spir- **|** it from me.

12Restore to me the joy of **|** your salvation

and sustain me with your boun- **|** tiful Spirit.

13Let me teach your ways **|** to offenders,

and sinners shall be re- **|** stored to you.

14Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of **|** my salvation,

and my tongue shall sing **|** of your righteousness.

15O Lord, o- **|** pen my lips,

and my mouth shall pro- **|** claim your praise.

16For you take no delight in sacrifice, or **|** I would give it.

You are not pleased **|** with burnt offering.

17The sacrifice of God is a **|** troubled spirit;

a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will **|** not despise.

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**Sing Together**

*If you feel comfortable doing so, sing this hymn together.*



**Confession and Forgiveness**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Pause briefly to gather prayers in silence*

Most holy and merciful God,
**we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed,**

**by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
**Have mercy on us, O God.**