

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
February 17, 2021

***With the help of the Spirit, look within. See what
burdens may be lifted, what obstacles may be removed,
what new life and promise await us.***

WELCOME AND MEANING OF THE SERVICE

Rev. Aho

CALL TO WORSHIP

K. Medema

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”
Sanctuary Choir

*Lord, listen to your children, praying.
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children, praying.
Send us love, send us power, send us grace*

OPENING PRAYER

(to be read in unison)

Rev. Aho

*Come, Holy Spirit, let us find our rest in you.
As we begin this season of Lent, we step out of
the fast-moving current of daily life.
During this holy season,
may we choose stillness over action;
may we strive to listen rather than to speak.
Help us slow our pace and quiet our minds,
that our spirits may draw closer to you.
Bless our worship with your presence,
and fill our minds with new wisdom,
that we may rise with you at Easter
and lift up others in your name. Amen*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalms 51:1-12

Mrs. Joy

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Aho

MUSIC MEDITATION

“Near to the Heart of God “

arr., D. Phillips

*There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God.
A place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.
O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us who wait before Thee near to the heart of God.
Hymn by C. McAfee, 1903
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MEDITATION

Rev. Aho

BENEDICTION

*Return to God with all your hearts.
Turn to your neighbors with the compassion of Christ.
May the God who makes all things new,
Restore within you a spirit of joy and hope
as you go forth this day. Amen*