

Friends,

Today is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent. Each year on this special day, we have a service to mark the occasion, and sometimes have "Ashes to Go", where we offer a prayer and impose ashes outside the church for those in the community who cannot, or will not, come to a service.

On this day, we are reminded that in our busy, hectic world, we are not the masters of our own destiny. Try as we might, making schedules, and planning for the future, we are not ultimately in control of what happens. Who knows what will happen tomorrow? Who knows what the future holds? Not us. Ultimately all that we know is that "from dust we have come, and to dust we shall return" (Genesis 3:19).

Ash Wednesday is a time to remember our mortality, confess all the ways that we continue to fall short, and do not live rightly.

Whether or not you can or will make it to a service, I invite you to observe a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer and fasting, by deeds of mercy and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

On the journey with you,
Pastor Jordan