

# Ash Wednesday

## Church at Home Liturgy

### Song - All Through History

Noah built the most enormous boat  
That kept the birds and animals afloat  
The Lord was good the Lord was strong  
And Noah lived his life for Him

Moses led his people through the sea  
Taking them away from slavery  
The Lord was good the Lord was strong  
And Moses lived his life for Him

*Oh thank You oh thank You  
That all through history  
You were faithful  
Thank You oh thank You  
That You are just the same  
When it comes to me  
When it comes to me*

David fought Goliath and he won  
A humble shepherd boy became a king  
The Lord was good the Lord was strong  
And David lived his life for Him

Daniel was inside a lion's den  
But God brought him to safety once again  
The Lord was good the Lord was strong  
And Daniel lived his life for Him

Jesus died to take away our sin  
So we could get to know our God again  
The Lord is good the Lord is strong  
And we will live our lives for Him

### Saying Sorry to God

When we have hurt God and other people  
with our words  
**Lord forgive us, and help us to be more loving**

When we have hurt God and other people  
with our actions  
**Lord forgive us, and help us to be more loving**

When we have hurt God and other people  
with our thoughts  
**Lord forgive us, and help us to be more loving**

### The Ashing

Receive these ashes as a sign of being sorry  
Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ Jesus

### The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you**

### The Reading

Matthew 26:26-30

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." Then they sang the hymn.

### Song - Every Move I Make

Every move I make I make in You  
You make me move Jesus  
Every breath I take I breathe in You  
Every step I take I take in You  
You are my way Jesus  
Every breath I take I breathe in You

La la la la la la  
La la la la la la la la

Waves of mercy waves of grace  
Everywhere I look I see Your face  
Your love has captured me  
Oh my God this love how can it be

### The Blessing

This is love, not that we loved God,  
**but that he loved us and sent his Son.**

He is the sacrifice for our sins,  
**that we might live through him.**

If God loves us so much  
**we ought to love one another.**

If we love one another  
**God lives in us.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen**

# Notes

## **What is Ash Wednesday and why are we celebrating it with Children this year?**

There are lots of festivals and celebrations throughout the year, and they are great points for teaching our children about the different aspects of our faith.

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent which is the 40 day period running up to the celebration of new life on Easter Day. At the start of Lent, which is a season of self-examination, we have the service of Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is all about the problem of sin and distance in our relationships with God and with each other and we pay particular attention to turning away from the sin in our lives and turning towards Jesus.

## **Why do we draw crosses on our foreheads with Ash?**

In the Bible Ash represents grief and mourning; you'll have heard the phrase 'sackcloth and ashes'. We mourn the fact that we are full of sin and so we put ash on ourselves to represent this grief.

The ash also reminds us of our mortality; you'll have heard the phrase 'dust to dust, ashes to ashes'. We remember that our lives are short and weak.

But the Ash comes in the sign of a cross. The cross cancels out our sin and our mortality and reminds us that we are forgiven, and that we have eternal life in Christ.

## **What do we need to know about participating in the Church at Home service?**

To participate in the service you will need three things:

1. Ash, which you can pick up from church.
2. Something to build a wall with; maybe lego bricks, building blocks, pillows or cushions, or even a pen and paper to draw one.
3. Some bread and juice to eat and drink as we remember the story of the last supper

There are also a couple of points in the service where we ask the children some questions about their faith. Don't be tempted to answer for them! Try and leave some silence so that they have space to answer for themselves. As someone who likes to have all the answers, I'd recommend counting up to ten in your mind!

The Church at Home Ash Wednesday service is only 30 minutes long and will be available on YouTube from Sunday 14th February, so that you can take part in it at a time that's convenient for your family.