

ASH WEDNESDAY TAIZE* SERVICE

March 1, 2017

7:00pm

GATHER IN SILENCE

RINGING OF BELLS

INVOCATION

Come, Holy Spirit! Fill our house of worship.

As we start our Lenten Journey today,
we welcome the breath and flame of the Holy Spirit.
Open our ears to hear you and to hear one another.

Come, Holy Spirit! Come! Amen.

TFWS 2118 "HOLY SPIRIT, COME TO US"

Holy Spirit, come to us.

TFWS 2198 "STAY WITH ME"

**Stay with me, remain here with me,
watch and pray, watch and pray.**

SCRIPTURE READING [PSALM 51:1-12]

SILENT MEDITATION

TFWS 2057 "BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD"

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

TFWS 2058 "SHEPHERD ME, O GOD"

**Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
Beyond my fears, from death into life.**

Bold Print indicates a place for you to sing or speak.

All Music Used with Permission. CCLI #11258608

*Taize is a blend of prayer and thoughtful quiet, designed to achieve a contemplative state through music, song and silence. Ash Wednesday Taize Service at Kona UMC is a service of meditation and prayer including the traditional imposition of ashes.

THE RITUAL ASHES

The Ashes of Forgiveness

Pastor: Ashes are a symbol of purification. As a fire burns, it can separate what is valuable from what is valueless. In this same way, these ashes are pure. They are a symbol of the new space that is now present within us for a new life. Let us claim the new life Jesus offers us by praying to our God:

People: God of love and mercy, we come to you in prayer, seeking to change our hearts and minds. We confess the baggage of idols, bitterness, and self-concern that we so often drag along with us, struggling under its weight all the while we attempt to follow Christ. Cleanse us from our attachment to these old things. Burn away their power in us and purify our hearts. In place of old ways, fill us with the new fire of Your Holy Spirit. Open up new opportunities for us to follow Jesus in loving You and our neighbors. In Jesus' name we ask these things. Amen.

Pastor: Friends, receive the good news of our faith, for in the name of Jesus, I announce our sins are forgiven. The old has died. Behold, the new has come! Amen.

Imposition of Ashes

Those who wish, now come forward and receive the mark of these ashes as a sign of your forgiveness and new life.

You may also light a candle of hope on the table.

TFWS 2156 "GIVE PEACE"

**Give peace to every heart. Give peace to every heart.
Give peace, Lord. Give peace, Lord.**

SCRIPTURE READING [PSALM 67]

SILENT MEDITATION

TFWS 2054 "NOTHING CAN TROUBLE"
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.
Those who seek God shall never go wanting.
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.
God alone fills us.

TFWS 2157 "COME AND FILL OUR HEARTS"
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

LORD'S PRAYER

RINGING OF BELLS

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THOSE WHO SERVE

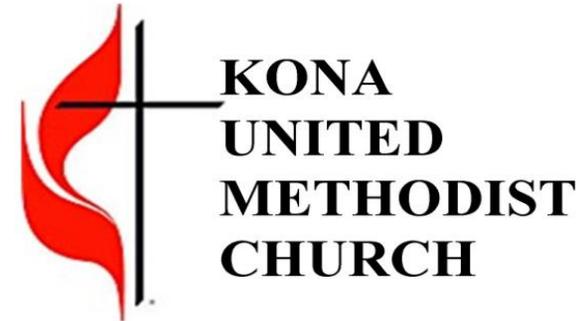
Pastors: Rev. Dr. Sunny Ahn & Rev. Malakai Tatafu
Music: Bernaldo Evangelista

Lenten Journey

Ash Wednesday is the gateway to Lent. It is the day to begin the Lenten Journey. The word "Lent" comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, or spring, the time of year when the days begin to lengthen. The early church determined that the Lenten period of fasting and renewal should correspond to Christ's fasting (Matthew 4:2), and by counting 40 days backwards from Easter (excluding Sundays, which remain "feast" days), arrived at the Wednesday seven weeks before Easter. It is the precious forty-days of journey to open ourselves up most particularly to God, to examine ourselves in the presence of the one who created us, knows us, and loves us.

Kona United Methodist Church

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The Mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The Vision of Kona United Methodist Church is growing disciples through worship, outreach, and living the gospel.