

Blessing the Dust For Ash Wednesday

—Jan Richardson

All those days
you felt like dust,
like dirt,
as if all you had to do
was turn your face
toward the wind
and be scattered
to the four corners

or swept away
by the smallest breath
as insubstantial—

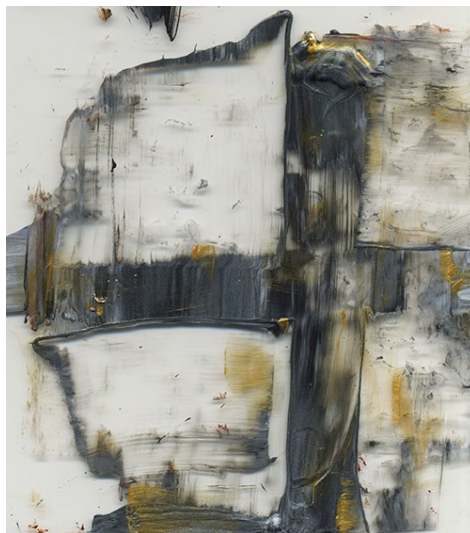
did you not know
what the Holy One
can do with dust?

This is the day
we freely say
we are scorched.

This is the hour
we are marked
by what has made it
through the burning.

This is the moment
we ask for the blessing
that lives within
the ancient ashes,
that makes its home
inside the soil of
this sacred earth.

Image: *Blessing the Dust*
~ Jan Richardson



So let us be marked
not for sorrow.
And let us be marked
not for shame.
Let us be marked
not for false humility
or for thinking
we are less
than we are

but for claiming
what God can do
within the dust,
within the dirt,
within the stuff
of which the world
is made
and the stars that blaze
in our bones
and the galaxies that spiral
inside the smudge
we bear.



Aldersgate

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

15315 W. 151st Street , Olathe, KS 66062 |
913.764.7560



March 6, 2019

7:30 p.m.

*God is leading Aldersgate United Methodist Church
to be a welcoming community of faith that is spiritually
ALIVE, socially INVOLVED, and selflessly SERVING.*

Aldersgate

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Wednesday, March 6, 2019

7:30 pm Service

Thank you for silencing your electronic devices as we prepare for worship.

We Gather to Worship

Music for Gathering Laura Peden

Greeting

LEADER: The grace of the Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

LEADER: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

PEOPLE: **God's mercy endures forever.**

*Opening Prayer

*Opening Song Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days
UMH 269

We Hear the Word

Scripture Lesson: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Special Music Jesus Christ Is the Same Choir
(Berry) Dir Debie Robinson

Scripture Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Song Have Thine Own Way, Lord UMH 382

Children's Message Kayla Houck
Children's Faith Formation Director

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 Pastor Shelly

Sermon Rev. Shelly McNaughton-Lawrence

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

Thanksgiving over the Ashes - People's Response: **Amen.**

*Imposition of the Ashes

Confession and Pardon

Psalm of Confession: Psalm 51

UMH 785

We Respond to the Word

*Sharing the Peace - let us offer one another signs of
reconciliation and love.

A Time for Giving

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us
our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory
forever. Amen.**

*The Sacrament of Holy Communion -
All are Welcome at God's Table

Pastor Shelly

We Depart to Serve

*Closing Hymn It's Me, It's Me, O Lord UMH 352

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Going Forth

*Departing Music Laura Peden

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

*(Child care is provided for children 4 months to 2 years during
worship. The ushers will be glad to help you find the nursery.)*