

# *Ash Wednesday*



*Central Presbyterian Church*

*A Service of Healing, Prayers,  
The Application of Ashes,  
& The Lord's Supper*

*Worship Leader: Rev. Timothy Reeves*

*March 6, 2019*

*6:00 P.M.*

## **WELCOME**

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*JOHN 3:17, PSALM 46:1 - 3*

Let us worship God. God sent Christ into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

**God's love endures forever.**

God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear**

**though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,  
though the waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

**God's love endures forever.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY (UNISON)**

**Almighty God, you despise nothing you have made and you forgive the sins of all who ask for forgiveness. Create in us new and contrite hearts, that truly repenting of our sins and acknowledging our brokenness, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness. We pray through your son Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, Amen.**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Hear the Good News! I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

## THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rejoice in God's promises. Please turn to those around you, say to them "The peace of the Lord be with you," and receive their words in turn, "And also with you."

### \*HYMN

#### *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
calling for you and for me;  
see, on the portals he's waiting and watching,  
watching for you and for me.

#### *Refrain:*

*Come home, come home;  
you who are weary come home;  
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
calling, O sinner, come home!*

O for the wonderful love he has promised,  
promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,  
pardon for you and for me.

#### *Refrain*

**FIRST READING**

**ISAIAH 58:1-12**

**GOSPEL READING**

**MATTHEW 6:1 – 6, 16 - 21**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SERMON**

*Repairing the Breach*

Rev. Timothy Reeves

**APPLICATION OF ASHES**

The marking of believers' foreheads with ashes is an ancient solemn ceremony, based on the words of Genesis 3:19: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." During the 40 days of Lent we are reminded of our utter dependence on God's grace and mercy, just as Jesus was during his 40 days in the wilderness. If you wish to take part in this ritual, please come forward at this time. After you have received the sign of the cross, please return to your seat in solemn silence. If there are those who wish to participate but coming forward is difficult or not possible, please let the minister know so he may come to you.

**\*HYMN**

***There is a Place of Quiet Rest***

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.

*Refrain:*

*O Jesus, blest redeemer, sent from the heart of God,  
Hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.*

There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God,

A place where we our Saviour meet, near to the heart of God.

*Refrain*

There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God,  
A place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.

*Refrain*

**Invitation to the Lord's Table**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Therefore, with all of creation, the heavenly angels, and all saints, we join our voices in praise, saying:

**SANCTUS**

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Great is the mystery of faith ...

**Christ has died,**

**Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Glory to God, from whom all love flows, glory to Jesus who showed his love through suffering, and glory to the Holy Spirit who brings light to the darkest places.

**God, our Creator, we are held in your everlasting arms.  
Jesus, our Savior, we are healed by your wounded hands.  
Holy Spirit, be present as we reach out to one another in love.**

## **PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

### **THE STORY**

Friends, these are the gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Let us keep the feast.**

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE POURING OF THE WINE**

### **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

If you wish to participate in communion, please come forward at this time. Break off a piece of bread, dip into the chalice, and eat. Then please return to your seat in solemn silence. If there are those who wish to receive the elements but coming forward is difficult or not possible, please let the minister know so we may come to you.

### **PRAYER**

**Watch now, dear Lord, with those who wake or watch or weep tonight, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ; rest your weary ones, bless your dying ones, soothe your suffering ones, pity your afflicted ones, shield your joyous ones, and all for your love's sake. Amen.**

\*Hymn

*God Be With You Till We Meet Again*

God be with you till we meet again,

Loving counsels guide, uphold you;

With a shepherd's care enfold you:

God be with you till meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;

Keep love's banner floating o'er you;

Smite death's threatening wave before you:

God be with you till we meet again.

**THE BLESSING AND THE CHARGE**

***OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED. PLEASE GO BACK INTO THE WORLD IN SOLEMN SILENCE AS CHRIST'S HUMBLE SERVANTS.***