

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
ASH WEDNESDAY
February 18, 2026, 6:30 PM**

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Jesus, I Will Ponder Now” arr. Paul Manz

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)*

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.

*HYMN #166 “Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days” st. flavian
**Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.**

**As you with Satan did contend and did the victory win,
O give us strength to persevere, in you to conquer sin.**

**And through these days of penitence , and though this passion tide,
yes evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.**

**Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Mighty Lord, we confess that we are lost without you. Forgive us. So often we forget that without you we are but dust and ashes with no hope beyond this life. Forgive us. In our assembly and in our daily lives keep our hearts and minds fixed on the cross of Christ remembering that our hope rests in his death and resurrection. May our journey these forty days be one of faith in you, service to your world, and claiming the forgiveness which is ours in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 51:1-4, 9-12 (NRSVUE)
Luke 18:9-14 (NRSVUE)

MEDITATION

“The Pharisee and the Tax Collector”
Chris Curvin, Pastor

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

The Imposition of Ashes

Those who wish to participate and receive ashes are asked to come forward for their imposition. Ashes acknowledge our mortality; the Sign of the Cross signifies the eternal life of those who believe in Jesus as Savior.

“What Wondrous Love Is This” arr. Dale Wood

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

*HYMN “Sing Out! We're Made of Common Dust” canonbury
**Sing out! We're made of common dust;
One day, to dust we shall return!
Yet, God, you've placed your mark on us,
and so for you our spirits yearn.**

**This gift of ashes we receive
reminds us we belong to you.
You call us to repent, believe,
and seek your Way in all we do.**

**The dust and dirt of children's play,
of youthful times, of working years
Are part of life — and life's decay;
We wash the dust with sorrow's tears.**

**We sing, O God, of what you give:
This ash reminds us we are yours.
In life we're claimed, in death we live!
In Christ our life, your love endures.**

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***BENEDICTION**

**Please stand if you are able.*

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
David Furr, Organist