

First Presbyterian Church
Kingsport, Tennessee

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Ash Wednesday Service
February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday Service

FEBRUARY 22, 2023

6:30 P.M.

Please gather in silence.

PRELUDE

Selected hymns for Lent

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In these forty days, you lead us into the desert of repentance ~

People: **that in this pilgrimage of prayer, we might learn to be your people once more.**

Leader: In fasting and service, you bring us back to your heart. You open our eyes to your presence in the world.

People: **Be with us in these journey days, for without you we are lost and will perish.**

To you alone be dominion and glory.

*HYMN OF PRAYER NO. 695

“Change My Heart, O God”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we do not deserve your mercy and we cannot earn your love. All our good works are as filthy rags before your holiness. Yet, we try to defend our self-centeredness and make up excuses. We wear masks and play games that make us appear better than we are. Forgive our foolish ways, O Lord. Thank you for the invitation to come clean, to be remade from the inside out, and to be washed in forgiveness that you alone can give. Thank you for the work of Christ that makes reconciliation with you and one another possible.

(silent prayer)

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

D. Johnson

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 5: 33-37

HOMILY

“Saying Yes and Saying No”

Mike Shelton

SUNG MEDITATION

“Lenten Meditation”

J. Althouse

EVENING PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

SONG OF MEDITATION

“Sign Us with Ashes”

***Refrain: Sign us with ashes, merciful God, children of dust,
as to dust we return. Sign us with ashes, merciful God.***

Mark us and make us Your own.

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

Meditation on Psalm 51

S. R. Love

***Those who are able please stand**