



Faith - Family - Fellowship

ASH WEDNESDAY

ORDER OF WORSHIP

MARCH 5, 2025

The Prelude and Candle Lighting		Layne Thompson
Call to Worship	Seek the Lord	Chancel Choir
Greeting		
Pastor: Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.		
People: Jesus, I belong to you. I lift my heart to you. I set my mind on you. I fix my eyes on you. I offer my body to you, as a living sacrifice. Jesus, we belong to you. Praying in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, amen.		
Prayer for the People of God		Pastor Robert
Hymn of Lent	Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling (Hymnal #348, ALL Verses)	Congregation
Litany of Reconciliation		Pastor Tim
Words of Wisdom	Proverbs 12	Diane Boykin
Special Music	Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy	Chancel Choir
Word of God	Ephesians 5:14-20	Jim Vaughn
Spiritual Vitamin	"THE CROSS" It Starts With a Change of Direction	Pastor Robert
Anthem of Praise	Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days	Chancel Choir
Invitation To The Observance Of Lenten Discipline		Pastor Tim
Thanksgiving / Imposition of Ashes		
Prayer of Confession and Repentance		Pastor Robert
Hymn of Repentance	I Surrender All (Hymnal #354, VS 1, 2, & 3)	Congregation
Lenten Blessing		

Prayer for the People of God

God, on this Ash Wednesday, we come before you acknowledging your greatness, exalting your supreme power, declaring that you are the God of our salvation. We come confessing the multitude of our transgressions known and unknown. God, we know that we have not helped the needy when there has been need. We have been greedy even in the land of plenty. Lord, we know that we've abused our brother, misused our sister, forgot about our parents, "played" our friends. We're guilty and we need your grace. And so we bow before you, asking that you would intervene for our sinful souls. Have mercy on us. Teach us so that we may live and declare your truth. Purge us, so that the shame of today will not be the guilt of tomorrow. Create in us newness of life, happiness of heart. Restore to us the full blessings of heaven. And we will rise up. We will stand up. We will get up and live up to the expectations of your calling on our lives. These things we pray in the powerful and mighty name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Litany of Reconciliation

Leader: Even now, return to me.

People: Even now, God says, return to me.

Leader: Let the sirens in the streets rage; let the trumpet from the church house blow. Let those consumed with darkness, gloomy from bad fortunes know that:

People: Even now, God says, return to me.

Leader: Let the abused and abusing hear, the defiant and disobedient revere. Let the sinner and the scornful draw near.

People: Even now, God says, return to me.

Leader: Return from your ignorance, return from your injustice. Return from your apathy, return from your agony.

People: Even now, God says, return to me.

Leader: Return from your selfishness, return from your greed. Return from your neglect, return out of your need.

People: Even now, God says, return to me.

Leader: Return to me, with a clean heart. Return to me with fasting, weeping, and mourning.

People: Return to me, God says, for I am gracious and merciful; I am slow to anger and full of steadfast love. Return to me, God says, for I am your God.

Prayer of Confession & Repentance

Pastor: Come on home and worship the Lord.

People: We're coming home tonight.

Pastor: Those beat down, needing a build-up.

People: Come on home to God tonight.

Pastor: Those who have been treated unjustly, looking for justice.

People: Come on home to God tonight.

Pastor: Those roughed up in the turmoil of life, lost in society, sad because of sleepless nights, heavy because our hearts hunger for righteousness.

People: Come on home to God tonight.

Pastor: We who are weary come home. Come home from sin and home from shame. Come home from dishonor and home from disdain. Come home to be made whole, come home for nourishment of the soul.

People: We who are weary come home.

Pastor: We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

People: God has a blessing for us. Come home. Let us worship God as we follow Him to Calvary and on to the glorious day of Easter.

Words of Wisdom

The key word in Proverbs is wisdom, “the ability to live life skillfully.” A godly life in an ungodly world, however, is no simple assignment. Proverbs provides God’s detailed instructions for His people to deal successfully with the practical affairs of everyday life: how to relate to God, parents, children, neighbors, and government. King Solomon, the principal author, uses a combination of poetry, parables, pithy questions, short stories, and wise maxims to give in strikingly memorable form the common sense and divine perspective necessary to handle life’s issues.

Allow these verses to open your heart to God’s desires for you during this Lenten season .

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge,
but whoever hates correction is stupid.
Good people obtain favor from the LORD,
but he condemns those who devise wicked schemes.
No one can be established through wickedness,
but the righteous cannot be uprooted.
The plans of the righteous are just,
but the advice of the wicked is deceitful.
The words of the wicked lie in wait for blood,
but the speech of the upright rescues them.
A person is praised according to their prudence,
and one with a warped mind is despised.
The wicked desire the stronghold of evildoers,
but the root of the righteous endures.
Evildoers are trapped by their sinful talk,
and so the innocent escape trouble.
From the fruit of their lips people are filled with good things,
and the work of their hands brings them reward.
The way of fools seems right to them,
but the wise listen to advice.
Fools show their annoyance at once,
but the prudent overlook an insult.
An honest witness tells the truth,
but a false witness tells lies.
The words of the reckless pierce like swords,
but the tongue of the wise brings healing.
Truthful lips endure forever,
but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.
Deceit is in the hearts of those who plot evil,
but those who promote peace have joy.
No harm overtakes the righteous,
but the wicked have their fill of trouble.

The LORD detests lying lips,
but he delights in people who are trustworthy.
Anxiety weighs down the heart,
but a kind word cheers it up.
The righteous choose their friends carefully,
but the way of the wicked leads them astray.
In the way of righteousness there is life;
along that path is immortality.

O Lord, you have given us the gift of your Word.

People: May we ever protect and keep it pure. Amen

The Word of God

The Book of Ephesians is addressed to a group of believers, similar to us at Knightsville Global Methodist. We are rich beyond measure in Jesus Christ yet living simple lives as we do our absolute best to **fully** grasp the truth to be a part of the fellowship of God's family and discernment of His Word.

Allow these words from chapter 5, verses 14 - 20, to enlighten your understanding of God's promise for your life and all the benefits to a changed heart for Jesus.

Everything that is revealed by the light is light. Therefore, it says, **“Wake up, sleeper, rise up from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”**

So be careful to live your life wisely, not foolishly. Take advantage of every opportunity because these are evil times. Because of this, don't be ignorant, but understand the Lord's will. Don't get drunk on wine, which produces depravity. Instead, be filled with the Spirit in the following ways: speak to each other with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs; sing and make music to the Lord in your hearts; always give thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.