

# FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

695 E. Calvin Street, Fayetteville, AR 72703 • (479) 442-4411 • www.fupcfay.org



*February 18, 2026*

*6:00 p.m.*

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## PRELUDE

Xiao McCollum, organ

## WELCOME AND PRAYER

Rev. Stewart Smith

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Ash Wednesday is a special time for us to consider our less pleasant traits and tendencies.

**People: It is an opportunity for us to examine ourselves in complete honesty.**

Leader: It is a chance for us to engage in heartfelt repentance for everything in our lives that separates us from God.

**People: For us to do so is not to wallow in guilt, but to open ourselves to grace, and to the merciful God who bestows it.**

**Unison: Let us begin our Lenten journey with worship as we bring praise to the living and loving God!**

### \*HYMN 675

*All Praise to Thee, My God This Night*

Words by Thomas Ken, 1674; Music by Thomas Tallis, 1567

Glory to God

**All praise to Thee, my God this night, for all the blessings of the light!  
Keep me, O Keep me save from harm within the shelter of Thine arm!**

**Forgive me, Lord, through Christ, I pray, the wrong that I have done this day,  
That I, before I sleep may be at peace with neighbor, self and Thee.**

**O may my soul on Thee repose, and with sweet sleep mine eyelids close.  
Refresh my strength, for Thine own sake, to serve Thee well when I awake.**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

## CALL TO CONFESSION (Isaiah 30:15-16)

In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore, he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

## LITANY OF PENITENCE

Leader: Gracious God, we come before You with a contrite heart as we make our confession to You.

**People: We confess to You and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

Leader: We have not loved You with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven. Have mercy on us, O God.

**People: We have not listened to Your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit. Have mercy on us, O God.**

Leader: We confess to You, O God, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives; our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people, we confess to You O God.

**People: Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves, we confess to You, O God. Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work, we confess to You, O God.**

Leader: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us, we confess to you, O God. Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done.

**People: For our neglect of human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, accept our repentance, O God. For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, accept our repentance.**

Leader: For our waste and pollution of Your creation and our lack of concern for those who come after us, accept our repentance, O God.

**Unison: Restore us, O God, and let Your anger depart from us. Favorably hear us, O God, for Your mercy is great.**  
*(Moment for Silent Confession)*

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*Lord, Have Mercy*  
Words and Music by Steve Merkel

Use bulletin or screens

**Lord, Have Mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on me.  
Lord, Have Mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on me.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel  
**in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

## HYMN 447

*We Are Forgiven*  
Words: Traditional Liturgy; Music by Hal H. Hopson

Glory to God

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.  
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Joel 2:12-13

<sup>12</sup> Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; <sup>13</sup> rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

Luke 9:51-56

<sup>51</sup> When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; <sup>53</sup> but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?' <sup>55</sup> But he turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup> Then they went on to another village.

## SERMON

*Yo(u)-Turn – The Lenten Journey*

## ANTHEM

*Speak to Me in Ashes*  
Words by Karen Crane; Music by Douglas Nolan

Chancel Choir  
SungKun Jung, piano

Speak to me in ashes. Speak to me in tears. Whisper to the silence in my soul.  
Lord, I wait in stillness, ready now to hear. Speak to me in ashes and in tears.  
Speak to me in silence. Speak to me your peace. Touch my heart and still my troubled mind.  
Words of calm assurance, all my fears release. Speak to me in silence. Give me peace.  
Lord, speak to me. My heart is open to receive your grace.  
Lord, speak to me. Here in these shadows, let me feel your sure embrace.  
Speak to me with mercy. Speak to me in love. By your Word, my spirit is reborn.  
Echoes of compassion sounding from above. Speak to me with mercy and in love.

## INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENT

### IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*(Those who desire to be marked with ashes as our Lenten journey begins may come forward.)*

## HYMN #433

*Sign Us with Ashes*  
Words by Mary Louise Bringle; Music by William F. Rowan

Glory to God

[Refrain] **Sign us with ashes, merciful God, children of dust, as we to dust we return.  
Sign us with ashes, merciful God. Mar us and make us your own.**

**Surely, you alone can save us. You pay our price with precious blood.  
Reaching through your great compassion, you lift your people with love. [Refrain]**

**Surely, you alone uphold us. You give us strength for all our needs.  
Shielding with a father's favor, you bless us with pardon and peace. [Refrain]**

**Surely, you alone can heal us. Yours is the will to make us whole.  
Soothing with a mother's kindness, the contrite of heart, you console. [Refrain]**

**Surely, you alone can free us. You break the bonds of guilt and sin.  
Bracing, till we walk uprightly, you bolster your hope once again. [Refrain]**

**Surely, you alone refine us. You give us grace for lives made new,  
Forging, through your fire and radiance, a sacrifice worthy for you. [Refrain]**

**Surely, you alone redeem us. You fill your dust with holy breath.  
Bursting from the grace in glory, you rise from the ashes of death. [Refrain]**

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of our salvation.

**People: That we may show forth Your glory in the world.**

Leader: By the cross and passion of our Savior.

**People: Bring with us all Your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection.**

Leader: it is in the sweat of our face that we eat bread, till we return to the ground  
out of which we were taken. (Genesis 3:19)

**Unison: However, as we reflect on these things, we are reminded that Easter is on the horizon,  
and new life and resurrection will come to all believers.**

**\*HYMN 676**

*Day is Done*

Glory to God

Words by James Quinn, 1969; Music: Welsh Melody, c. 1784

**Day is done, but love unfailing dwells ever here;  
shadows fall, but hope, prevailing, calms every fear.  
God, our Maker, none forsaking, take our hearts, of love's own making;  
Watch our sleeping; guard our waking; be always near.**

**Dark descends, but light unending shines through our night;  
You are with us, ever lending new strength to sight:  
One in love, Your truth confessing, one in hope in heaven's blessing,  
May we see, in love's possessing, love's endless light.**

**Eyes will close, but You unsleeping watch by our side.  
Death may come; in love's safekeeping still we abide.  
God of love, all evil quelling, sin forgiving, fear dispelling,  
Stay with us, our hearts indwelling, this eventide.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Stewart Smith

**POSTLUDE**

Xiao McCollum, organ

**PARTICIPANTS**

**Interim Senior Pastor** – Rev. Stewart Smith

**Minister of Music/Commissioned Ruling Elder** – Isaac Thomas

**Director of Christian Education** – Kristi Button

**Director of Youth and Young Adults Ministries** – Amanda McDonald

**Audio/Visual Team** – Christopher Verdery, Connor Button, and Drew Parker

**Choral Interns** – Amelia Booker, Cole Jackson, Jeffrey Kerst, Verna Labitad

**Organist** – Xiao McCollum

**Pianist/Choral Accompanist** – SungKun Jung

**Membership Coordinator** – Amy McCann

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