

Ash Wednesday
First United Methodist Church of Tipton
February 26, 2020

GATHERING:
In silence and meditation

GREETING:
The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you
And also with you.
Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
God's mercy endures forever.

OPENING PRAYER:
O God, maker of everything and judge of all that you have made, from the dust of the earth you have formed us and from the dust of death you would raise us up. By the redemptive power of the cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit, that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of your calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN:
Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days..#269 (UMH)

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING:
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

EPISTLE SCRIPTURE READING:
2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10

HYMN:
More Love to Thee, O Christ....#453 (UMH)

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE READING:
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

MESSAGE: *“The Ashes of Wednesday, for Thieves and for Preachers Alike”* a story by Walter Wangerin Jr.

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES:
Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so that we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

CONFESSION AND PARDON
*The congregation prays Psalm 51:1-17 (UMH 785)
without the musical response.*

All offer prayers of confession in silence

May the almighty and merciful God, who desires not the death of a sinner but that we turn from wickedness and live, accept your repentance, forgive your sins, and restore you by the Holy Spirit to newness of life. Amen.

THE PEACE

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

OFFERING

(The elements of Communion are brought forth)

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE III
#15 UMH

HYMN:

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian...#402 (UMH)

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING:

Go forth into the world in the strength of God's mercy to
live and to serve in newness of life.

May Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven, bless and keep you.

Amen.

May the Lamb of God who laid down his life for all,
graciously smile on you.

Amen.

May the Lord God order all your days and deeds in peace.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

A Service of Worship for Ash Wednesday used by permission from *The United Methodist Book of Worship* (Nashville: The United Methodist Publishing House, 1992) 321-324
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(02/26/2020)



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12 noon & 7:00 p.m.

United Methodist Church
Tipton, IA