

## Grace United Methodist Church



**February 18, 2026 – 8PM**  
**Order of Worship/Ash Wednesday**

**Grace United Methodist Church is a Family of Faith  
striving to share God's love with all.**

**\*Please Stand If You Are Able**

**Opening Voluntary** – "What Wondrous Love Is This" arranged by Larry Shackley

**Choral Introit**

**Greetings**

**\*Opening Hymn #2138** – "Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes"  
(Faith We Sing Hymnal) *BEACH SPRING*

**\*Call to Worship**

L: Repent and return to the Lord!

**P: Repent? Wait ... what did I do?**

L: Repent and return to the Lord!

**P: Return? Wait ... where did I go?**

L: Repent and return to the Lord!

**P: Lord? Wait ... is that you?**

L: Beloved, I am calling you home to me.

**P: Lord, I am on my way.**

**\*Opening Prayer**

**Holy God, we gather here to mark the beginning of Lent and to prepare ourselves to celebrate Christ's suffering, death and resurrection.**

**During this season, let us remember the humanity of Jesus and His temptation in the wilderness. As we look to Him, help us to focus on our own humanity and struggles with sin. While sin may bring up thoughts of harsh judgement and deep shame, lead us not to places of darkness and death, but to the joy of new life and resurrection. Pour out your Spirit upon us as we offer ourselves to You during these days of reflection and prayer. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

**Westminster Ringers** - "Ah, Holy Jesus" based on the hymn tune Herzliebster Jesu, arr. by William E. Moats, under the direction of Drew Banzhoff.

## **Scriptures**

**Old Testament** – Psalm 51:1-12 (New International Version)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup>Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. <sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. <sup>4</sup>Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. <sup>5</sup>Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. <sup>6</sup>Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place. <sup>7</sup>Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. <sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. <sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. <sup>10</sup>Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. <sup>11</sup>Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. <sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

**L:** The Word of God, For the People of God. **P:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel** – Matthew 16:24-28 (New International Version)

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. <sup>26</sup> What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>27</sup> For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done. <sup>28</sup> "Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of

Man coming in his kingdom.”

L: The Word of God, For the People of God. **P: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Hymn before Message #397** – “I Need Thee Every Hour”

*NEED*

**Ash Wednesday Meditation**

Rev. Prumeh Lee Kim

**Silent Prayer and Confession** (*As background music plays, people are invited to come to the altar for a private time of prayer*)

### **Invitation to Observance of Lenten Discipline**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: the early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation. During this season, converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to participation in the life of the Church. In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Christ to observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word. To make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now come before our Creator and Redeemer.

### **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**

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

### **Lord's Prayer and Choral Response**

## **Passing of the Peace**

As we travel through this Lenten season, we journey together and not alone. Let us greet your brothers and sisters in Christ with thanksgiving.

## **Invitation to Tithes and Offering**

In gratitude for all we have received, we offer our lives back to God. We share our time, our skills, our money and in so doing, we say “yes” to God’s invitation to building God’s kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

**Chancel Choir** – "It Is Well With My Soul" setting by Craig Courtney

\* **Hymn No. 95** – Presentation of the Offering

## \* **Prayer of Dedication**

**God of the Cross, in losing our lives we find them in you. In sharing our resources and time, we receive the blessings of your Kingdom. Use these gifts toward your holy work of peace, justice, and service in the world. Amen.**

\* **Closing Hymn #348** - “Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling” *THOMPSON*

## \* **Dismissal with Blessing**

**Closing Voluntary** – "HERZLIEBSTER JESU" by Johann Crüger

<b>Pastors:</b> Rev. Eumin Kim, Rev. Prumeh Lee Kim	<b>Ushers:</b> Everett Fitch, Carol Provenzano, Michael Provenzano
<b>Liturgist/Reader:</b> Pat Eshun	<b>Audio-Tech:</b> Brandon Gauntlett
<b>Music Director:</b> Drew Banzhoff	



♥♦Anthony Nicosia (stepson of Debbie Nicosia), ♥♦Lisa Becker, ♥♦Bill Smyth, ♥♦†Family of Andrea Russell (Kennedy Russell's grandmother), ♥Steve Savarese, ♥Ana G (student of Naomi Brown), ♥Chris Ukanwoke, ♥Rhoda Lankins and Roosevelt Lankins, ♥Country and People of Nigeria, ♥Juana Fernandez (mother of Marisa Pershad), ♥Elmer Alfaro and Dion Alfaro (friends of Andrea Owen-Boyd), ♥Family of Jennifer Seymour (friend of Andrea Owen-Boyd), ♥Prayers for everyone in Cuba and Jamaica, ♥Beth Zeller and family (friends of Debbielee Thomsen), ♥Rev. Carl Borden, ♥Andrea Russell (family member of Debbielee Thomsen), ♥Kalli Medina (student of Naomi Brown), ♥Barbara Woodford, ♥Pat Panzarino, ♥Sonia Elliott, ♥Amanda Brown (Naomi Brown's mother), ♥Diane Rutledge (Naomi Brown's aunt), ♥George and Jeanne Simmons, ♥Maudlyn Scarlett, ♥Marianne and Don Pike, ♥Jerry Noble (Tom Noble's dad), ♥Lionel Brown, ♥Diane Vitacco, ♥Heather Manning (friend of Kim Neri), ♥SofiaRose Curry (relative of Sing Larson), ♥Edie Zipperlen, ♥Mary Flynn (mom) and Maureen Andersen (daughter), ♥Manny Kurz, ♥Debbielee Thomsen, ♥Cliff McBride (friend of Debbielee Thomsen), ♥Everon Palmer (son of Enid Simpson), ♥Carol Whyte, ♥Winston Scarlett (brother-in-law of Maudlyn Scarlett), ♥Jennifer LaRoche (friend of Kim Neri), ♥David Biegler, ♥Vin Dowling, ♥Garvin Phillip (nephew of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Elaine Treske, ♥Marilyn Eller (sister of Elaine Treske), ♥Jim Poch, ♥All our Military men and women, ♥Barbara Siegl, ♥All UMW in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske), ♥Evelyn Neber (friend of Elaine Treske). † - Death in family, ♦ - New entry

**GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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**Reverend Eumin Kim  
Reverend Prumeh Lee Kim**