

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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WORSHIP SERVICE 6:00 PM

First United Methodist Church

where God meets people face to face! March 5, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith.

(* Stand, if able.)

GATHERING MUSIC

All silently gather

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE

Liturgist

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. It was 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 Church, 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.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Respond in bold.)

Liturgist: Blessed are those who know they have great spiritual needs, **People: because the kingdom of heaven belongs to them**.

L: Blessed are those who are humble,

P: because the earth will belong to them.

L: Blessed are those who want to do what is right,

P: because God will fully satisfy them.

*OPENING HYMN

"Just as I Am, Without One Plea" (verses 1, 2, and 6)

UMH # 357

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON (In unison)

God, on this Ash Wednesday, we come before you exalting your supreme power, declaring that you are the God of our salvation. God, we come confessing the multitude of our transgressions known and unknown. God, we know that we have not helped the needy. 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. We're guilty and we need your forgiveness. And so we kneel before you, asking that you would intervene for our sinful, sorrowful, and sick souls. God, create in us newness of life, happiness of heart. Restore to us the full blessings of heaven. Deliver us from the penalty we deserve. And 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. Amen.

*HYMN

"Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

UMH # 382

(verses 1, 3 and 4)

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 90: 1 - 12

Liturgist

MESSAGE

"Two Illusions"

Rev. Yohan Baek

SERMON NOTES:

Almost everyone lives with two illusions:

1) I am in control; 2) I am going to live forever.

What is reality? I am going to die. What is happening in my everyday life? With each tick of the clock, a moment of my life is behind me. I am dying.

James 4:14 "...you do not know what will happen tomorrow! **Your life is like a mist.** You can see it for a short time, but then it goes away."

Psalm 90: 12 "<u>Teach us to number our days</u>, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."

THANKSGIVNG OVER THE ASHES

Rev. Yohan Baek

RECEIVING THE ASHES

(Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return)

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING (Respond in bold)

Rev. Yohan Baek

Leader: Blessed are those who show mercy to others,

People: because God will show mercy to them.

L: Blessed are those who are pure in their hearts,

P: because they shall see God.

L: Blessed are those who make peace,

P: because they shall be called children of God! Amen.

*All quietly depart

UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal – red hymnal)

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Yohan Baek, Pastor Brian Gray, Liturgist Jeeyoung Baek, Pianist Josh and Felicia Graves, Videography and Online Church

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Thank you for joining us for worship this evening.

Please join us again on Sundays at 10:30 AM

Easter Resurrection Celebration: Sunday, April 20

Prayer Breakfast, 9:15 AM Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00 AM Easter Worship Service, 10:30 AM

Weekly Gatherings:

Sweet Hour of Prayer, Mondays - 1:00 PM

Mother's Day Out, ages 1 - 5 years, Tuesdays and Thursdays - 9 AM - 3 PM

Craft Club, Tuesdays - 3:30 PM

Choir Practice, Wednesdays - 6:30 PM

Wesley's Tree Study Group, Thursdays - 6:00 PM