

# Ash Wednesday - February 17, 2010

## Order of Worship for 7:00 PM Service

### WE GATHER

PRELUDE “Near the Cross” – arr. Eubanks Carolyn Howard, Organist

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Joel 2:1, 12-14a (NRSV) Responsive

Leader: Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain!

**People: Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,  
for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near.**

Leader: Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

**People: Rend your hearts and not your clothing.**

Leader: Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to  
anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

**People: Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,  
and leave a blessing behind him.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE “Open My Eyes That I May See” No. 454

\*OPENING PRAYER by John A. Brewer Unison

**O God of endless mercy, we gather on this day  
to acknowledge our mortality, and our complete reliance on you  
for compassion and forgiveness.**

**If there is any hope for us, O God, our hope rests completely in you.  
Have mercy, O God, have mercy. You are the source of our mortal life.  
You are the destiny to whom we return in the hope of Jesus Christ,  
our risen Lord and Savior.**

**May the mark of mortality remind us of our dust-to-dust existence,  
and draw us nearer to you. Amen.**

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WELCOME Pastor

### WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

ANTHEM “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me” – arr. L. Larson Chancel Choir

EPISTLE LESSON (An Invitation) 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:2 pp. 171-72 NT

\* THE PSALTER (A Response) Psalm 51:1-17 (pp. 785-86 with Response 1) Responsive

SERMON “Honestly Facing Ourselves—and God” Pastor Easley

### WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

REFLECTION WITH MUSIC “White as Snow” by Jon Foreman

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES Pastor

### IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*All who would wish may come forward by either center aisle to be marked by the  
Pastor or Outreach Director. Once you have received the ashes, return quietly to  
your seat, either directly or after stopping for prayer at the communion railing.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION, ASSURANCE AND PARDON No. 890

PRAYER CHORUS “Spirit of the Living God” No. 393

INVITATION TO THE PRACTICE OF A LENTEN DISCIPLINE Pastor

OFFERTORY “The Old Rugged Cross” – arr. Huggins Carolyn Howard, Organist

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Nancy Reid

\*THE LORD’S PRAYER Unison

### WE ARE SENT FORTH INTO GOD’S WORLD

\* HYMN “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” No. 402

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING Pastor

POSTLUDE Organist

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NEXT SUNDAY: The First Sunday of Lent

Sermon: “Shelter in the Storm” Scripture: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

### OFFERING TONIGHT FOR RUTH’S HOUSE

Tonight’s offering goes to Ruth’s House, a faith-based residential program of recovery from chemical dependency for homeless women. It opened 2 years ago and was having good results, but had to shut down this fall, because of an operating deficit. Blue Grass UMC and its members pledged up to \$40,000, matching gifts from others this month, dollar for dollar. About half of it was matched Saturday at Ruth Milgate’s 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party. When it is fully matched, that \$80,000 will meet Ruth’s House funding needs for the next year and allow it to reopen, while they continue to work on ongoing support.

### MEN’S LENTEN BREAKFASTS BEGIN

The first Lenten Breakfast is this Saturday, February 20 at Simpson UMC. These continue at **7:15 A.M. each Saturday** of Lent at various churches.

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Senior Pastor - <b>Rev. Joseph N. Easley</b>	<a href="mailto:jeasley@central-church.org">jeasley@central-church.org</a>
Pastors Emeritus - <b>Rev. Ralph Miller &amp; Rev. Charles Robertson</b>	
Director of Family Ministries - <b>Nancy Reid</b>	<a href="mailto:nreid@central-church.org">nreid@central-church.org</a>
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Organist - <b>Carolyn Howard, CAGO</b>	<a href="mailto:Carolyn@DecemberMoonlight.com">Carolyn@DecemberMoonlight.com</a>
Pianist - <b>Linda Wambach</b>	<a href="mailto:jwambach@wowway.com">jwambach@wowway.com</a>
8:30 Service & Children's Music Coordinator - <b>Patti Wright</b>	<a href="mailto:pwright62@gmail.com">pwright62@gmail.com</a>
Central Child Care Director - <b>Penny Staples</b>	<a href="mailto:director@centralchildcare.org">director@centralchildcare.org</a>
Administrative Assistant - <b>Lisa Miner</b>	<a href="mailto:cumc@central-church.org">cumc@central-church.org</a>
Business Administrator - <b>John Robertson</b>	<a href="mailto:johnr@central-church.org">johnr@central-church.org</a>
Parish Nurse - <b>Carol Crabtree</b>	<a href="mailto:carol35@wowway.com">carol35@wowway.com</a>
Custodians - <b>Russell Daugherty &amp; Kenneth Chandler</b>	

**We welcome all to worship today.** If you are a visitor, we invite you to stop by our Visitors Welcome Station.

**Access & Parking:** Our elevator is at the west entrance; handicapped parking is nearby off Franklin St. Other parking is across Mary St. from the church, around the Family Life Center and at Edgar & Michigan Sts. We may also use Deaconess Hospital and Berry Plastics' lots.

**Nametags** help members and visitors. Wear yours each Sunday; then leave it on a rack for next Sunday. If you need one, notify the church office.

**Have you remembered Central in your will?** Bequests show ultimate caring. You may designate your gift as you wish. Undesignated bequests go half to Endowment (earnings of which support building maintenance & local missions) and half to fund major needs.

**2010 CHURCH GOALS:** Radical Hospitality    Passionate Worship    Extravagant Generosity  
Intentional Faith-Development    Risk-Taking Mission and Service

## Central United Methodist Church February 21, 2010



**“Honestly Facing Ourselves—and God”**