



St. Andrews United Methodist Church

Ash Wednesday

February 18, 2026 at 6 p.m.

*Please stand as you are able

Gathering and Prelude

"Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes"

*Call to Worship

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **God's mercy endures forever.**

*Opening Hymn

"Just as I Am, Without One Plea" v. 1 3, & 5 #357

*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.

Old Testament Lesson

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Epistle Lesson

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

An Explanation of Shrove Tuesday

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

Thanksgiving Over the Ashes

Imposition of Ashes

"Take My Life, and Let It Be"...come forward as you feel led

*Confession and Pardon

Psalm 51:1-17

#785

*Reconciliation and Commendation

Pastor: *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

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

#895

*Closing Hymn

"I Surrender All"

#354

During the Closing Hymn, you are invited to come forward as you feel led and drop a rock in the water, symbolizing something you are letting go of as we begin the season of Lent.

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Depart in Peace



You are dust and to dust you shall return....

Genesis 3:19 (NRSV)

Note: Do not use water to remove the ashes from your forehead; instead, gently rub it off with a dry paper towel or use oil to remove it. Water will cause it to burn.



Some Suggestions for Lenten Discipline

Inward & Personal Disciplines:

- *Spend time in solitude each day
- *Read a book for inner growth
- *Focus on thanksgiving rather than asking in prayer
- *Attend all St. Andrews UMC Holy Week services as an act of love and waiting with Jesus
- *Give up a grudge of a past event
- *Forgive someone who has hurt you
- *Dance your prayers to your favorite music
- *Take a one-hour inventory of priorities and plan how to re-order them and reorient to focus on your faith
- *Participate in Bible Study or another small group

Outward and Social Disciplines:

- *Plan to visit a homebound neighbor or church member weekly
- *Write a card of encouragement weekly
- *Go to coffee or dinner with someone from our church family who you want to get to know better
- *Say "No" to something that is a waste of time and money
- *Pray to God for help resisting racial prejudice and to give you courage in opposing it
- *Rebuke the spirit of criticism and be intentional in the way you speak to others

Revised and adapted from the United Methodist General Board of Discipleship 2/24/2012



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Our Minister

Rev. Mamie Alley

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Organist & Pianist

Sarah Grace Alley

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