

## WORSHIP NOTES

Leading worship tonight: Kathy Beach, Pastor, Stephanie Hankins, Parish Associate, Dave McCollum, Director of Music, Eric Luke, Accompanist.

### **Lent and Ash Wednesday**

Lent is the season in the church year in which we, as the community of Christians, prepare, through prayer and penance, for the renewing of our baptismal promises at the celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter. In the Old Testament we read that the Israelites used ashes and dust as signs of mortality, sorrow, and repentance. By A.D. 1091, Christians had universally accepted the practice of using ashes on the head as a sign of the desire for healing from brokenness and sin. This season and this service helps to prepare us for resurrection!

Our Lenten journey to Easter and beyond begins with Ash Wednesday's tracing of a cross with ashes on our foreheads or our hand. In this symbolic action we face our mortality, recognize our need for God the Author and Sustainer of all things, and look forward to personal and communal renewal at Easter.

**Our Lenten Cross** was created for Lent and Easter this year by Jim Crowell and Becca Vickrey. It will remain in the sanctuary throughout Lent and Easter Sunday.

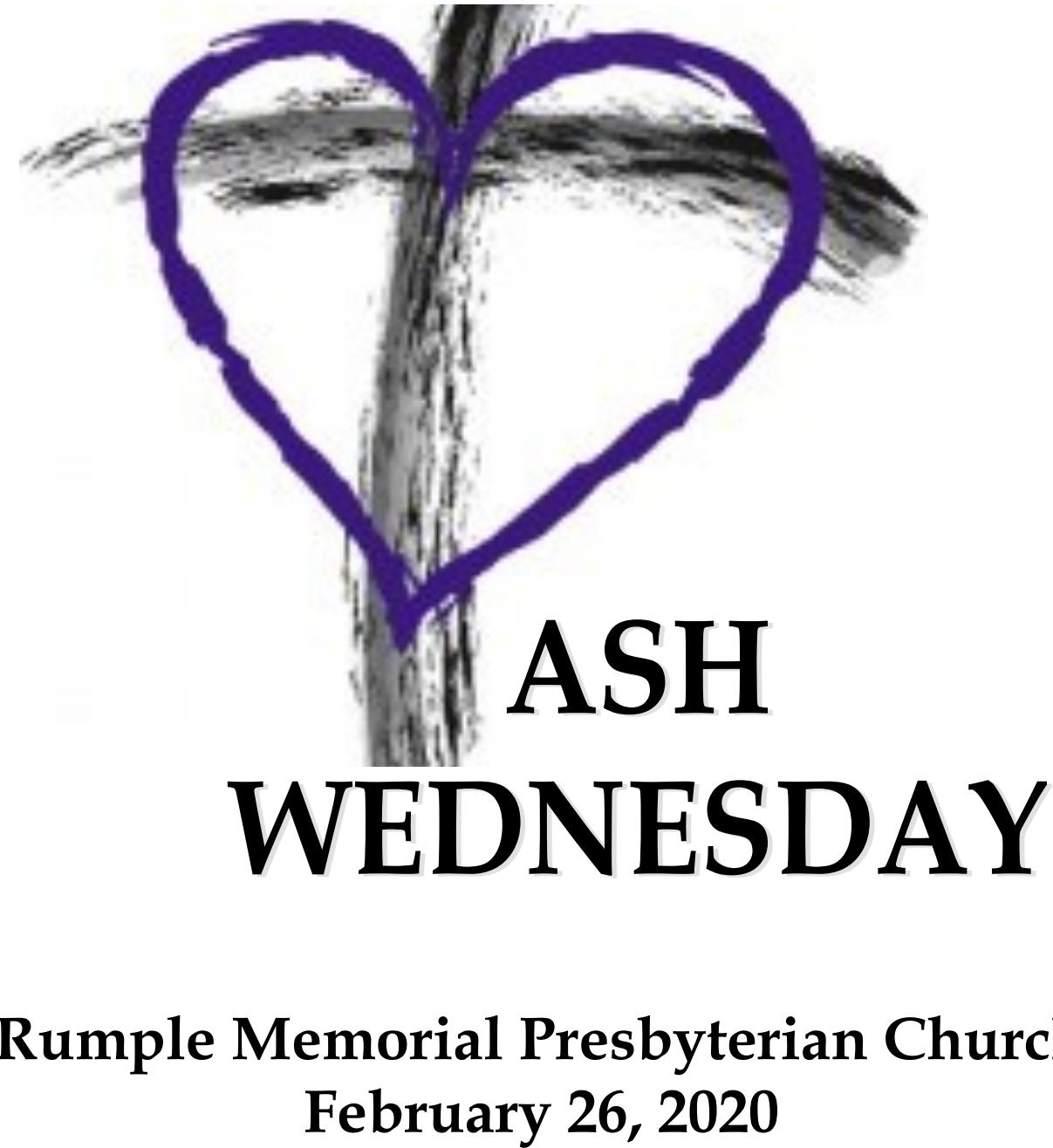
**Lent Small Group Bible Study.** Kathy will lead a small group Bible study on Wednesday mornings from 9:15-10:30 beginning March 4 and continuing through April 8. The group will explore the Gospel of Matthew, particularly the texts from the Sermon on the Mount that Kathy will be preaching on each Sunday during Lent. All levels of Bible knowledge and B

ible study experience are welcome.

**Special Adult Sunday School Class for Lent** Beginning March 1st, Dave McCollum and Stephanie Hankins will teach a five week Sunday school class entitled "Won't You Be My Neighbor?". This class will look at the important lessons taught by our favorite Presbyterian minister, Mr. Rogers. This class will run through March 29 and meet 9:30-10:30 in the Adult Classroom Upstairs.

**Blowing Rock C.A.R.E.S. Special Lent Food Collection** We will continue our support of the BR CARES Food Pantry during the Lenten season. Blowing Rock CARES will be collecting special donations for an Easter dinner for their clients. In addition to the regular pantry items, they will be providing items for a special Easter dinner. Please consider supporting BRCares with a monetary donation or with non-perishable items such as canned yams, trail mix and brown sugar along with personal items (toilet paper, toothpaste, soap). They will also be collecting bags of potatoes and onions. Please bring items anytime during the Lenten season (through April 5) and leave them in the shopping cart in the church office reception area. Checks should be clearly marked with "BR CARES Easter food collection" in the memo line and can be made to Rumple or directly to BR CARES.

**Our annual Rise Against Hunger** meal packing event will be Sunday April 5 at Blowing Rock School, 3-5 pm. Rumple will join with St. Mary's Episcopal Church, St. Mark Lutheran Church, and Presbyterian-Episcopal Campus Ministry to pack over 18,000 meals for hungry children around the world. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up online ahead of the event to allow for a quicker start the afternoon of the event. Consider this mission effort as part of your Lenten journey.



**Rumple Memorial Presbyterian Church**  
**February 26, 2020**

*Each newborn servant of the crucified bears on the brow the seal of Christ who died.*

**Lift High the Cross**

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

### +CALL TO WORSHIP-

God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

### **God's love endures forever.**

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore, we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble.

### **God's love endures forever.**

### +HYMN

Text: Stanzas, Joseph Hart Music: Walker's Southern Harmony

“Come Ye Sinners Poor and Needy”

John 3, Psalm 46

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

**Lord, we confess our sins before you.**

**We confess that we have fallen short of your glory and your intent for our lives.**

**Open our eyes that we may see ourselves with clarity and truthfulness, that we may have eyes to see all of that within us that is not pleasing to you ...**

**Lord, we confess to you that we have not loved as we ought.**

**We have been impatient with others with whom we could have been patient.**

**We have disregarded those you have called us to serve.**

**We have chosen the selfish way when you have called us to selflessness...**

**Lord, we confess that we have not tended to the care of our souls.**

**We have been too busy to pray.**

**We have been too quick to speak and too slow to listen for you.**

**We have filled our lives with all kinds of noise instead of patiently waiting like sheep for our shepherd's voice...**

**Lord, we confess our need of you. We need your grace. We need your patience.**

**We need your guidance. We cannot see beyond the moment.**

**We cannot worship you as we ought. As we begin this solemn journey toward the cross, we call upon your mercy and your love for our salvation. Amen.**

## PSALM RESPONSE

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

God does not cast us off or forsake us but is with us in our suffering and our adversity.

Even when we live as enemies of the cross, our God does not give up on us.

There is shelter for us in the midst of our trouble and our sin.

There is forgiveness for us, in Jesus Christ, when we have gone astray.

Friends, lift up your eyes and behold God's promises.

**We give praise to our God with all of our being.**

**In Jesus we are forgiven and made new. With peace in our hearts we begin this Lenten journey.**

Matthew 4:1-11, P. 3

Matthew 16:24-26, P. 17

## GOSPEL LESSONS

## INVITATION TO THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

### IMPOSITION OF ASHES

SOLO

“Sign Us With Ashes”

“Jesus Remember Me”

See Hymn No. 433 for text

No. 227

*All are invited to come forward and receive the ashes as a sign of our sin, our willingness to repent, and our need for new life in Jesus Christ..*

“Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Genesis 3:19

“Consider yourself dead to sin and alive to all that is new in Jesus Christ!”

Romans 6:11

## RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth.**

**May these ashes remind us of our mortality and penitence and teach us again that by your gracious gift we are given everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Savior.**

**May we put our trust and hope in you alone as we make this journey through Lent to Easter joy. Amen.**

### +HYMN

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

Text: Claudia F. I. Hernaman Music: Day's Psalter

No. 166

TUNE: ST. FLAVIAN

### +CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

May God keep us faithful to the word, wash us in the river of the water of life,

Help us to walk in newness,

**And keep our whole being- spirit, soul, body-**

**Free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Go in peace this Lenten season to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### +DEPART IN PEACE

*As you depart the sanctuary you are invited to touch the water of baptism as a reminder that you have been washed clean and made new in Christ.*