

# Elkton United Methodist Church

## Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 6, 2019

7:00 p.m.

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- ▶ Before the service begins, please give your white prayer request card to an usher.
  - ▶ Please see an usher if you would like to have a large print bulletin or hymnal.
  - ▶ All worshipers are asked to sign the attendance register. If you are a guest, please fill out all the information. As the register is passed back down the pew, make note of those sitting near you so you can greet them after the service.
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LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES AND RINGING OF CHIMES

GREETING AND WELCOME

TIME OF CENTERING PRAYER

PRELUDE ..... MEDITATION ON “BEACH SPRING”<sup>1</sup> ..... SETTING BY HOPSON

RESPONSE #3096 (W&S)..... “GENTLE SHEPHERD”

**Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us, for we need you to help us find our way.**

**Gentle Shepherd, come and feed us, for we need your strength from day to day.**

**There’s no other we can turn to who can help us face another day;**

**Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us, for we need you to help us find our way.**

**\*\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)**

Leader: Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people.

**People: Let us gather and sanctify all of this congregation – young and old, male and female, joyful and sorrow-filled.**

Leader: This is a day of true repentance, a time to return to God with all our hearts.

**People: We return to God in true repentance, for all those things which we have done that we should not have done and those things we have left undone which we should have done. We rend our hearts and not our garments.**

Leader: We seek God’s amazing forgiveness.

**People: We affirm that God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**\*\*HYMN #2138 (TFWS)..... “SUNDAY’S PALMS ARE WEDNESDAY’S ASHES”**

PRAYER (in unison)

**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.**

MUSICAL OFFERING ..... “LAMB OF GOD”<sup>1</sup> ..... CHANCEL CHOIR

LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES, PSALM 51: 1-17 (pages 520-521)

**\*\*GOSPEL LESSON, MATTHEW 6: 1-6, 16-21 (pages 5-6)**

Leader: This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God**

**\*\*RESPONSE #599 (UMH) ..... “BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE” (stanza 1)**

**Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as thou didst break the loaves beside the sea; beyond the sacred page I seek thee, Lord; my spirit pants for thee, O Living Word!**

MEDITATION

A TIME FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT EXAMINATION OF OUR LIVES

HYMN #2200 (TFWS) ..... “O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER”  
(repeated numerous times – please remain seated for the hymn) ACCOMPANIED BY PAUL HUMPHREY

PRAYER (in unison)

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

RESPONSE #2200 (TFWS) ..... “O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER”  
(one time)

**\*\*THE PEACE**

CALL TO OFFERING AND OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY ..... “MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE”<sup>1</sup> ..... HOPSON

**\*\*RESPONSE, #95 (UMH) ..... “PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW”**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, PAGE 13 (UMH)**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP, IMPOSITION OF ASHES

All who seek to know Jesus are invited to the Lord’s Table. Communion will be served by intinction – you will be given a piece of bread, and then you are invited to dip the bread into the juice and consume both elements together. Following communion, you are invited, if you wish to do so, to kneel at the chancel rail and receive ashes on your forehead. Remain there in prayer as long as you wish, and then return to your pew.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

\*\*HYMN #3097 (W&S).....“DEPTH OF MERCY”

\*\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

ALL DEPART IN SILENCE TO OBSERVE A HOLY LENT



**\*\*Indicates the congregation should stand if able**

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal (red cover)

TFWS: The Faith We Sing (black cover) - found in the rack underneath the pew in front of you

W&S: Worship & Song (green cover)

<sup>1</sup> *Public Music performance provided for and reported to CCLI Licensing*

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Sharon Williams ..... Organist/Coordinator of Music Ministries  
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