First Presbyterian Church

Whiteville,
North Carolina
"To be a light in our
community reflecting
Christ's love and
compassion..."

Ash Wednesday February 14, 2018



Rev. Dr. Joseph D.
Washburn
&
Rev. Mark Fisher

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Joseph Washburn

Silent Prayer and Meditation

Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise 442

"Just As I Am, Without One Plea"

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Opening Prayer Rev. Mark Fisher

Scripture Reading Rev. Mark Fisher

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Call to Confession Rev. Joseph Washburn

Prayer of Confession Rev. Joseph Washburn We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

We confess that when we practice our piety we want others to know it.

We urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

We confess the propensity to focus on how much we give of ourselves.

For our sake God made him to be sin who knew no sin.

We confess our prayers lack sincerity unless there is something we want.

So that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

The Declaration of Forgiveness

Rev. Mark Fisher

Choral Anthem "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" Choir

Scripture Lesson Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

This is the Word of the Lord; Thanks be to God!

Meditation "Sound the Alarm!" Rev. Joseph Washburn

The Invitation Rev. Mark Fisher

(A time of silence is held for reflection and self-examination)

The Prayer of Preparation

Rev. Joseph Washburn

Loving God, in the beginning you created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence, and a reminder that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Imposition of the Ashes

Rev. Mark Fisher & Rev. Joseph Washburn

Members of the congregation are invited to come to the communion table to receive the imposition of ashes. The pastor will mark your forehead with ashes by placing a finger into the bowl and tracing the cross on your forehead.

*Response

"Breathe On Me Breath of God"

286

The Prayer of Commitment

Rev. Mark Fisher

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

That we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of our Savior,

Bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection. Amen.

Hymn

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

166

Blessing & Benediction

Rev. Mark Fisher & Rev. Joseph Washburn

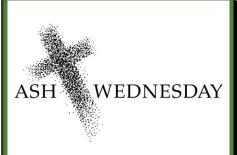
Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

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