



The offering collected tonight is given to United Family Counseling Services.

ST. LUCAS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
UNITED ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
2227 West Michigan Street, Evansville, IN 47712



Ash Wednesday
February 14, 2018
6:00 p.m.

The liturgical color for Lent is violet, representing penitence, and sorrow.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Bill Wassner

OPENING MUSIC Rick Hobbs

INVITATION TO LENTEN OBSERVANCE Pastor Mary Hurley

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The LORD is compassionate and filled with unfailing love.

People: God will not accuse us, nor remain angry forever.

Leader: God does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve.

People: For God's unfailing love is toward those who are penitent.

Leader: God has removed our sins from us.

People: The LORD is tender and compassionate.

Unison: For God remembers we are dust.

Adapted from Psalm 103: 8-14 (NLT)

*OPENING HYMN "Lord, Who Through Forty Days" # 151

*UNISON INVOCATION

On this day of ashes, we come in repentance and sorrow for all our offenses against You and others. As we dare to worship You, we seek Your forgiveness that our sins may be removed and our spirits made clean and whole. Purify us, and enable us to walk in joy and gladness once again. All of this we ask in the name of the One who came to deliver us from sin and death. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

Offertory

*Doxology **Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord whom God did raise;
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

() All who are able should please stand when noted.*

SCRIPTURES

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

Pastor Bill

Isaiah 58: 1-12

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

MEDITATION

Rev. Lynn Martin

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Refiner's Fire" (Doerksen)

Song Leaders

UNISON PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR ASHES

Creator God, You have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence that we may remember that it is only by Your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life. Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER FOR COMMUNION

Gracious God, pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these Your gifts of bread and wine. By Your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in His name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. Give us strength to serve You faithfully until the promised day of resurrection, when, with the redeemed of all the ages, we will feast with You at Your table in glory. Through Christ our Savior, Amen.

COME FORWARD TO RECEIVE THE ASHES AND EUCHARIST

*A PSALM FOR SENDING FORTH (unison)

(ON SCREEN)

Psalm 51: 1-17 (NLT)

PLEASE DEPART IN SILENCE

() All who are able should please stand when noted.*