

*The prayers and liturgy are adapted from Book of Common  
Worship, © 1993 John Knox Press except the prayer of  
penitence and pardon, which is from Rev. Thom Shuman,  
Lectionary Liturgies.*

## Welcome to Faith Presbyterian Church



### Ash Wednesday Service

March 1, 2017 12:00 P.M. Noon

#### **Pastoral Team**

Rev. Karen Ware Jackson, Pastor  
Rev. Jim Rissmiller, Parish Associate  
Prince Mundeke Mushunju, Swahili Pastor  
Stephanie Lindley, Music Director  
Beverly Lucas, Office Administrator  
Michelle Watkins, Childcare Provider

#### **Faith Presbyterian Church**

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## Ash Wednesday

### Words of Welcome

### Call to Worship

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

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

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a 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 with its tumult.

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

### Prayer of the Day

**Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of tenderness, and strengthen us to face our mortality, that we may reach with confidence for your mercy; in Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Scripture**            *Isaiah 58:1-11*            **Pew Bible, OT, p. 688**

**Message**            "A Lenten Fast"            Rev. Karen Ware Jackson

### Invitation to the Observance of the Lenten Discipline

### Prayer of Penitence

**We have trouble telling the truth, God of broken hearts, yet we must admit how we have trouble being your people. We may not trample the poor, but we sometimes walk right past them. We don't receive bribes, but we are more privileged than many around us. We trust more in ourselves than in you, and spend far too much time patting ourselves on the back, rather than holding out a hand to others. Where can we go for forgiveness but to you, God of the ashes? When we are greedy, you promise to be gracious. When we have trouble confronting injustice, you stand at our side. When we struggle to seek good, you point us to Jesus, our Brother, our Savior, who shows us how to turn our back on evil to follow him. Amen.**

*Silence is kept*

### Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God refuses to stand far off, but comes close to us – to hear our prayers, to touch our hearts with forgiveness, and to walk with us during this holy season and beyond.

**People: We have no need to go anyplace else, but into the comforting and restoring heart of the One who loves us. Thanks be to God. We are forgiven. Amen.**

### Imposition of Ashes

*After the pastor prays over the ashes, you may come forward to receive ashes on your hand or on your forehead. If you are unable to come forward and still wish to receive ashes, they will be brought to you in your seat.*

### Charge and Blessing