



# WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



ORDER OF WORSHIP  
FEBRUARY 14, 2024 AT 6:15 PM  
ASH WEDNESDAY

## GATHERING

Voluntary

- † Call to Worship ..... Will McLeane  
Liturgist: God, you make beautiful things out of the dust.  
**People: You make beautiful things out of us.**  
Liturgist: Turn our hearts toward you in this season of Lent.  
**People: May we be people who lead lives worthy of your calling.**

- † Hymn No. 269: Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days .....Land of Rest

## PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination

**Awakening God, stir our imagination by the power of your Holy Spirit that in receiving your Word we might faithfully live into the new world of mercy and justice you are creating in our midst.**

A Lesson from the Old Testament..... Micah 6:6-8

Response to the Lesson

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

Homily: Observing a Holy Lent.....Shannon Baxter

The Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline .....Carol Cavin-Dillon

Thanksgiving Over the Ashes

Liturgist: Holy 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, so that we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life: through Jesus Christ our Savior.  
**People: Amen.**

Imposition of Ashes

† Words of Assurance

Liturgist: Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be weighed down by the sins and worries of this life, but watch and pray for the grace of God who will save you in your time of trial.”

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession, No. 890 **(in unison)**

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of  
your name.**

† Silent Confession

## SENDING FORTH

† Salutation and Thanksgiving

Liturgist: The peace of the Lord be with you.  
**People: And with your spirit.**  
Liturgist: Let us give thanks unto the Lord.  
**All: Holy and most merciful God, from you comes every good and perfect gift. We give you praise and thanks for all your mercies. Your goodness has created us, your bounty has sustained us, your discipline has chastened us, your patience has borne with us. Give us a heart to love and serve you, and enable us to show our thankfulness for all your goodness and mercy by giving up ourselves to your service, and cheerfully submitting in all things to your blessed will, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

† Benediction

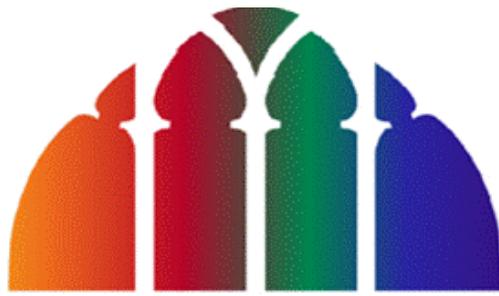
Voluntary

*The voluntary is the final Alleluia of our worship.*

† The congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.

**Music Participants** Matthew Phelps: Accompanist

*Today’s Call to Worship was written by Rev. Maggie Jarrell. The first two lines of the call to worship come from the song “Beautiful Things” by the band Gungor.*



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