

CUP EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

530 Blackhawk Rd. Beaver Falls, PA. 15010

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“Join us for a drink of Living Water”



February 14, 2024

Ash Wednesday

Lent is a time for discipline, for confession, for honesty, not because God is mean or guilt-finding or finger-pointing but because he wants us to know the joy of being cleaned out, ready for all the good things he now has in store. ~ N.T. Wright

Preparation in Silence

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude ‘Beneath the Cross of Jesus’ ~ Maker

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Father God, you are full of compassion.

People: As we enter this season of Lent, allow your Spirit to lead us more and more into our awareness of our need for Jesus Christ our Savior.

Leader: May we turn away from our sinful habits regularly and genuinely,

People: Resist temptations great and small,

All: And remember with confidence that You have Conquered sin, hell and death.

***Hymn No. 186** ‘The Old Rugged Cross’

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord God, it is hard to think that we will die someday. We dream, make plans, and talk about what we’ll do in the near future. We don’t always think about what you want. Instead, we make choices that we think are good for us. But we are only here because you take care of us. We confess that we forget we need you all the time. We confess that sometimes we make choices that aren’t what you want. We don’t know what is best for our lives. Holy God, we are sorry for our sin. Help us to remember we live because of you. Help us to do what you want us to do through Jesus, our Lord. Amen. (Silent prayers of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

***Hymn No. 202** ‘Amazing Grace’ (verses 1-2, 4)

***Creed** *The Nicene Creed (325 A.D.)*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven, was incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Scripture*Joel 2:12-17*

“Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing—grain offerings and drink offerings for the Lord your God. Blow the trumpet in Zion declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly. Gather the people, consecrate the assembly; bring together the elders, gather the children, those nursing at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her chamber. Let the priests, who minister before the Lord, weep between the portico and the altar. Let them say, “Spare your people, Lord. Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’”

Sermon

*‘Rend Your Hearts and Not Your Garments’
Rev. Dr. Marc Shefelton*

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

“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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”

***Communion Hymn No. 185**

‘When I Survey the Wondrous Cross’

Communion

(Communion will be served by intinction. Please proceed down the center aisles to take a piece of Matza bread, dip it into the juice and receive the elements together. For those who wish, please proceed to the side aisles for the imposition of ashes. We invite you to exit the sanctuary in silence.)

CUP Officers...

Elders: *Jud Herter, Cindy Vannoy, Pat Shawgo,
John Myers, Brian O’ Roark, Andy Sutton*

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