

# **NEW BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**REVEREND ERIC SPOON**

**PHONE 423-433-9426**

**March 6, 2019**

*Ash Wednesday Worship Service*



*Mission Statement: To know Christ and make Christ known.*

## **ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME IN CHRIST'S NAME**

**Worship is a special time where people seek to meet God and have their lives changed. To prepare your heart and lives to be changed for God's glory, we invite you to a time of reflective prayer and reverent silence seeking the Holy Spirit in your personal time of worship.**

### **\*CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP "COME THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING"**

**Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Calls for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, Mount of God's unchanging love!**

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Grace and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Congregation: Amen.**

Leader: The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

### **\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

### **\*LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)**

### **\*OPENING HYMN #339 "BE THOU MY VISION"**

### **\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)**

**Merciful God, whose ways are good and true, we confess that we have not lived as Christ has called us to live. We have shut our eyes to evils our world allows. We have sealed our ears from the cries of the suffering whose pain we abide. We have clung to the hostility we harbor against one another and hardened our hearts to the creative power of love. Therefore we pray: Open our eyes to see injustice in our world. Give us courage to resist the powers that oppress the poor. Open our ears to hear the cry of the needy. Teach us generosity for sharing the abundance of your creation. Open our minds to imagine an end to human strife. Grant us wisdom to pursue the ways of peace. Open our hearts to love our neighbors and our enemies near and far. Give us desire to embody the compassion of Christ. For the sake of the world, in the name of Christ we pray. Amen.**

### **\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

CHOIR

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6: 1 – 6, 16 – 21

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON TITLE

**“CONCERNS”**

**REV. ERIC SPOON**

SERMON THOUGHT

What should we do during Lent?

\*RESPONSIVE HYMN #326

**“SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART”**

### VERSE 1

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

PSALM 51 LITANY

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness, in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**Congregation: Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.**

Leader: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

**Congregation: Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.**

Leader: And so you are justified when you speak and are upright in your judgement.

**Congregation: Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, a sinner from my mother's womb.**

Leader: For behold, you look for truth deep within me, and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

**Congregation: Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure, wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

Leader: Make me hear of joy and gladness that the body you have broken may rejoice.

**Congregation: Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.**

Leader: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

**Congregation: Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

Leader: Give me the joy of your saving help again and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

**Congregation: I shall teach your ways to the wicked, and sinners shall return to you.**

Leader: Deliver me from death, O God, and my tongue shall speak of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.

**Congregation: Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Leader: Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

**Congregation: The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

## PRAYER WITH SILENT MEDITATION

### IMPOSITION OF ASHES

All are invited to come forward to receive the sign of the Cross on your forehead or back of your hand. If you wish it to be on the forehead, please move your hair off your forehead and if you wish it to be on the back of your hand please indicate this by raising your hand when it is your turn to receive the ashes.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Leader: God in the highest, you came to us in a human being who humbled himself like a slave.

**Congregation: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

Leader: We pray for the nations that worship power and might; may they be ruled by humility and peace.

**Congregation: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

Leader: We pray for the church and its leaders, that we may have the mind of Christ.

**Congregation: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

Leader: We pray for the victims of human tragedies and disasters of nature.

**Congregation: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

Leader: We pray for those who are in prison – the repentant and the unrepentant and those falsely accused.

**Congregation: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

Leader: We pray for those who are ill or infirmed or are rejected because they are seen to be weak.

**Congregation: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

Leader: God of compassion, through Jesus Christ you have come to us and shared our common lot. Mold us into people who show your mercy and keep us obedient to him whose name is above all other names – Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN #326

**“SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART”**

### VERSE 4

### GO IN GOD’S NAME

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

**“TAKE MY LIFE”**

**Take my life, and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee  
Take my moments and my days;  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

\*Indicates that those who are able may stand.

The *Call to Worship* and the *Prayer of Confession* are from the Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion.