



# First United Methodist Church

February 22, 2012 A.D., 7:00 p.m.

*Ash Wednesday*

## Order of Worship to the Glory of God

Please stand as able for acts of worship designated with an asterisk (\*)

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### Prelude

#### \*Call to Worship

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
And all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
And forget not all God's benefits.**

Who forgives all your sins  
And heals all your infirmities;

**Who redeems your life from the grave,  
And crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness.**

#### \*Hymn

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

UMH 269

#### Gathering Prayer

**Most Holy God,  
you hate nothing you have made  
and forgive the sins of all who are penitent:  
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts,  
that we, acknowledging our sinfulness  
may obtain of you, the God of all mercy,  
perfect remission and forgiveness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### The Lesson

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17a

*Scripture Insert*

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Anthem

“Treasures in Heaven”

Joseph Clokey

*Chancel Choir; Dr. Woodrow Hodges, Director*



Psalm of Confession

Psalm 51:1-17

*Scripture Insert*

Assurance of Pardon

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints,

let us commend ourselves, one another,

and our whole life to Christ our Lord.

**To you, O Lord.**

Offering our Gifts

*Melodies of Compassion: Change in the offering plate this month supports the Samaritan fund*

Offertory

\*Doxology

UMH 95

\*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

\*Closing Hymn

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”

UMH 382

\*Benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*Postlude

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Margaret Lucke, pianist

We're glad you're here! Your attendance at worship is important to us. Please fill out the red “Who's Who in the Pew” pad, pass it along to your neighbor, return the pad to its starting point, take note of the names of those next to you and be sure to greet one another after the service.

We have a staffed nursery available during worship services.

## **Lenten Worship**

Maundy Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

Multicultural Circuit Worship Service

Good Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 12:30pm Worship Service

Easter Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am

ONE SERVICE ONLY

in the Sanctuary

First United Methodist Church  
919 60<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53142  
(262) 658-3213  
[www.firstumckenosha.com](http://www.firstumckenosha.com)

# *Ash Wednesday*

*Harold MacDonald*

*Surely in the brow's sweat we seek the good,  
a jewel desired but in harm's setting placed.  
Gained at a risk, our lives on danger based,  
a chasm 'twixt what's done and what we should;  
Hurt and help are in the single circumstance  
and evil taints the hope, the goal contaminates.  
So Providence submits to bitter fate -  
the cross; its partner in redemption's dance.  
Good comes by increments; so slow its speed!  
Humanity rebuffs the pure, God's Self!  
Gives up! The good is placed back on the shelf  
Two steps ahead, two back, progress indeed!  
Try again! Smudge the tiny ash of grace;  
God helps you make the world a better place!*

