

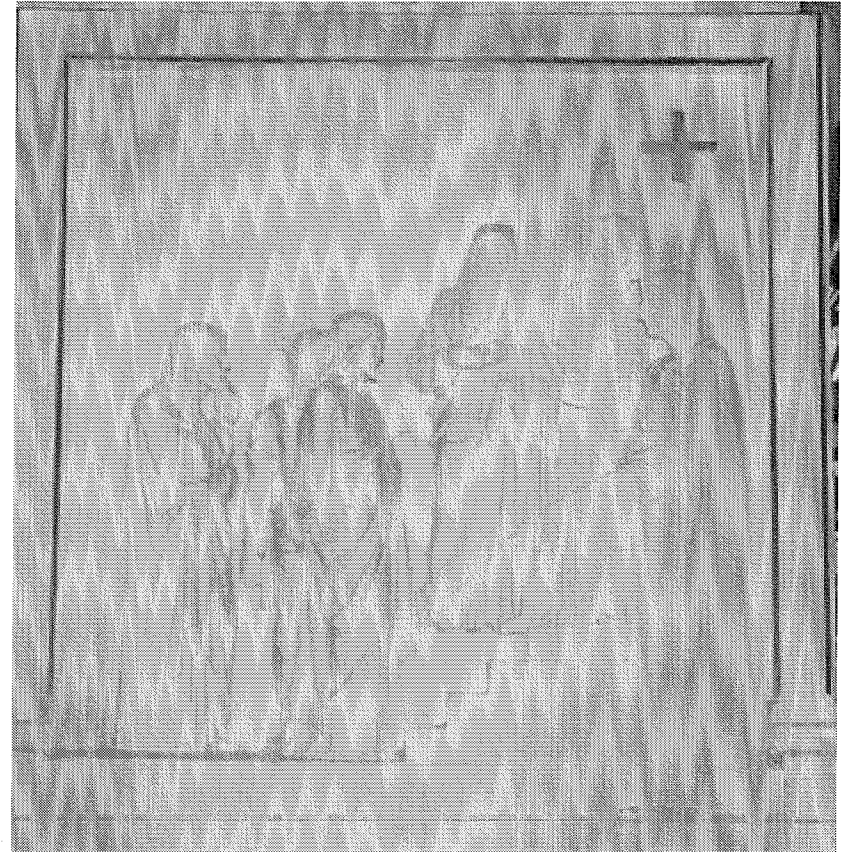
***ASH WEDNESDAY***  
***COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE***  
***PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST***

Our offering for this evening will be given to the Cocalico Area Christian Social Ministries. CACSM is a ministry of the Cocalico Ministerium. Gifts to CACSM will be used to provide rental and heating assistance to local residents in need.

We welcome you, our sisters and brothers in faith, our neighbors and our friends, to this evening of worship and fellowship. Though we are from different churches, we are all one in Spirit and in Truth. May God's blessings be upon us as we enter this season of Lent, seeking God's guidance and God's inspiration.

Everyone receiving communion and/or ashes is invited to come forward along the side aisles, as guided by the ushers, returning to your seats using the center aisle. If you wish to receive ashes, you may do so either on your forehead or on the back of your hand. To receive on your hand, please hold out your hand to the person standing at the head of the outside aisles. Communion will be received by intinction at the center aisle. **Please break a piece of bread off the loaf, hold it so that you may dip it in the chalice and partake before returning to your seat.**

Following our worship service, please join us for fellowship and refreshment in our Fellowship Hall.



***March 9, 2011***

**PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Ash Wednesday Lenten Service – March 9, 2011**

Organist – Mrs. Virginia Tobias      Pianist – Mrs. Lois Haldeman

Gold Hymnal

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**      *“God So Loved the World”*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

DB - Lord, come and help us clear all the debris from our hearts

**People - Come and restore us to your presence!**

PH - For too long we have ignored you and wandered from your presence.

**People - Bring us back to your fold, merciful God.**

MR - When we fear and are doubtful . . .

**People - Help us find the strength and courage of faith.**

SH - When we are lonely and afraid . . .

**People - Help us cling to your healing love.**

CS-Lord, we come to you this day, ready for your healing mercies.

**People - Be with us, O Lord, and heal our spirits.**

BH - Be with us as we worship in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. AMEN.

**\*HYMN**      **“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”**.....no. 251

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Patient and loving God, you wait for us to recognize all the wonders that you have placed before us. You want us to enjoy and celebrate the marvels of your creation and to treat ourselves and others with love and respect. Somehow, we missed those lessons. We became selfish and greedy. We sought abundance for ourselves at the expense of others. We wanted people to look at us and admire us. We took the easy way, the way that leads to destruction.**

**Now on this Ash Wednesday we are confronted with the Lenten journey; we are challenged to look within at the ways in which we have blocked your love and compassion. We are challenged to look outward for ways in which we can serve you.**

**Heal us, gracious Lord. Restore us. Give us eyes for seeing the ways in which we can be of service to you and hearts for loving you. For we ask this in the name of Christ Jesus. AMEN.**

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader - Do not be afraid for God is with you now and God is with you always and God will bring to you healing, hope and forgiveness.

**People - Thanks be to God! AMEN.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**      **no. 142**

CHOIR ANTHEM      *“Once Upon a Tree”*

GOSPEL LESSON      Matthew 26:57-66      **pg. 809**

MESSAGE

**\*PASTORAL & LORD’S PRAYER**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY      *“What Wondrous Love Is This”*

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE**      – The Doxology

**\*HYMN**      **“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”**.....no. 560

**\*IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND HOLY COMMUNION**

**See insert**

**\*BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN**

**\*HYMN**      **“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”**.....no. 608

CHIMES AND QUIET MEDITATION (congregation seated)

POSTLUDE      \*- those who are able are invited to stand

Serving this Evening:

Greeter.....Vicki Garner-Sweigart

Acolyte.....Mark Anthony

Head Usher.....Jill Kegerise

LENTE N SCHEDULE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Preacher</b>
March 16	Trinity United Methodist	Phil Horning
March 23	Gehman’s Mennonite Church	David Brumbaugh
March 30	St. John’s UCC	Craig Snow
April 6	Swamp Christian Fellowship	Bill Hoch

## **SERVICE OF REPENTANCE AND CONFESSION**

As disciples of Jesus Christ we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from our love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, study and deeds of love help us to turn to the love of God. Therefore, we are invited once again to commit ourselves to lives of faithful and loving service by confessing our sins and seeking God's grace.

**Almighty and merciful God, we confess before you and one another that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and what we have failed to do. We have not loved you with all our being and we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven. We have been deaf to your call. We have grieved your Spirit. We are not the people you would have us be. May the ashes of this service remind us of the cost of true repentance – and nerve us to pay that cost. We ask all this in the name of Christ Jesus, our compassionate Lord and Savior. AMEN.**

## **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION** *(those who are able please stand)*

Luke the evangelist wrote of our Risen Lord, that when he was at table with two of his disciples, he took bread and blessed and broke it, and their eyes were opened and they recognized Him.

**In company with all believers in every time and beyond time, we come to this table to know Him in the breaking of the bread.**

For the Lord Jesus, on the night that he was betrayed, took bread and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them saying, "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he also took the cup, after supper saying, "This is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink of it in remembrance of me."

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is good that we do.**

We give you thanks, Lord God, our creator, for bringing the world into being, for creating us in your image, for recalling us when we rebel against you and for keeping us in your steadfast love. We praise you especially for Jesus Christ; who was born of Mary and lived as one of us; who knew exactly the life we know, yet was obedient to your purposes, even unto his death upon the cross. We thank you that you stamped his death with victory by raising him in power and by making him head over all things. We rejoice in the continuing presence of your Holy Spirit, in the church you have gathered, in its tasks of obedience, and in the promise of eternal life. We the faithful in every time and place, we praise with joy your Holy Name: *(Sanctus- Red Hymnal page 364)*

***Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabbaoth; Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest!***

Therefore, consecrate these ashes that they may be a reminder of our repentance and the forgiveness you offer in Christ Jesus our Savior. Bless also by your word and Spirit, both us and these gifts of bread and cup, that in receiving them at this table, and in offering here our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and remain faithful to the tasks he sets before us.

**In the strength Christ gives we offer ourselves to you, giving thanks that you have called us to serve you. AMEN.**

Introduction of the Elements

*(Congregation may be seated and come forward as directed by our ushers)*

Anthem – *Canticle of Renewal*

Let us give thanks:

**We give thanks, Lord God, that you have received us at this table by granting us the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and in peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior. AMEN**