

**COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**March 5, 2013**

Organist – Mrs. Virginia Tobias

Pianist- Mrs. Lois Haldeman

Gold Hymnal

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *“I Lay My Sins on Jesus”* *piano/organ*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: In the scriptures Ashes are a symbol of repentance. When a person was ready to repent, they would dress in raggedy clothes and sit in piles of Ash as a public demonstration of their need for God’s grace and mercy.

**People: Our sins are many and our needs are great. But God’s grace and forgiveness are even greater.**

Leader: The Lenten Season begins with the imposition of ashes. They are for us a reminder of our need for God!

**People: From the Ash Heap we see not only our sin and need, we see God’s grace, mercy and power.**

Leader: In this season of Lent, may God lift us from the Ash Heap and make of us a new creation as we worship together in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

**\*HYMN “All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”.....no. 325**

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**Gracious God, the raucous celebrations of Mardi Gras and Carnival are over and there is nothing left but to pick up after ourselves in preparation for a new beginning. Yesterday we ate our fill of good things, of sweets and treats. Today we begin a solemn journey, a pilgrimage of faith. In these coming forty days lead us into the desert of repentance that we might learn to be your people once more. Through fasting and repentance bring us back to your heart. Open our eyes to your presence in our lives. And help us to know that as we clean up after ourselves, you are there to cleanse and renew us from within! From the Ash Heap of repentance help us to see the dawning of**

**a new day that we might be prepared for the Rising of the Son of God – Jesus our Savior, in whose name we pray. AMEN.**

OLD TESTAMENT Job 2:1-10 pg. 393

CHOIR ANTHEM *“Canticle of Renewal”*

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 8:31-38 pg. 820

MESSAGE Rev. Craig Snow

**\*PASTORAL & LORD’S PRAYER**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

*“God so Loved the World”* *piano/organ*

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 “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”.....no. 621**

CHIMES and QUIET MEDITATION (congregation seated)

POSTLUDE \*- those who are able, please stand

Serving this Evening:

Greeter.....Vicki Garner-Sweigart

Head Usher.....Bobbi Porter-Kunkel

**LENTEN SCHEDULE**

March 12 – Trinity United Methodist – Pastor: Mike Roney  
Main Street, Denver Speaking: Dave Brumbaugh

March 19 – St. John’s UCC – Pastor: Dave Brumbaugh  
4<sup>th</sup> Street Denver Speaking: Phil Horning

March 26 – Swamp Christian Fellowship Pastor: Craig Snow  
Swamp Bridge Road, Reinholds Speaking: Bill Hoch

April 2 – Gehman’s Mennonite Church Pastor: Phil Horning  
Witmer Rd, Brecknock Speaking: Mike Roney

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

We welcome 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 into this season of Lent, seeking God's guidance and God's inspiration.

Our offering this evening will go to the Cocalico Ministerium CACSM Fund. This fund is used to assist our neighbors in need. We have used this fund for rental assistance, heating fuel, electric, water and other issues needed for daily living. We thank you for your continued support of this vital ministry.

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 the back of your hand or on your forehead. To receive on your hand, please hold out your hand to the person standing at the head of the outside aisle. If receiving on your forehead, simply tip your head toward that person. Communion will be served 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 refreshments in the fellowship hall.



***March 5, 2013***