

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICE

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 1, 2017

Organist – Mrs. Phyllis Sands

Gold Hymnal

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Dante's Prayer" cello Kelly Kuhn

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The life of our Lord Jesus is much like a journey – from birth to baptism, from baptism to temptation, from temptation to victory.

People: All along the way we are challenged to think in new ways – to be last rather than first, to love rather than hate; to turn the other cheek, to serve rather than be served.

Leader: On this journey we begin to see how those who followed him did not always understand him.

People: And we admit that as we follow him we do not always understand him – for his ways are so different from our ways.

Leader: And yet we now join Him in what seems to be his final journey to Jerusalem, to the cross and to death.

People: Remind us that in his death there will be victory, there will be resurrection.

Leader: May our hearts be filled with hope, strength and courage, with faith in you and in your Son, our Savior. May we have faith to know that even in death there is life. AMEN.

***HYMN "Now I Belong to Jesus".....no. 637**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Gracious God, be present with us this night as we begin our Lenten journey, as we begin this period of inner reflection and examination. As the days stretch before us, invite us inward to that silent, holy space that holds your Spirit. May this season beckon us to see our lives through Christ's eyes and the truth and reality of your love incarnate. Give us the grace to enter

this season with the anticipation of our meeting. And, when we open our souls to your presence, let your loving kindness flow over us and seep into our hearts. We ask this for the sake of your love. AMEN.

CHOIR ANTHEM "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 18:9-14 pg. 853

MESSAGE Rev. Michael Roney

***PASTORAL & LORD'S PRAYER**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

"Softly and Tenderly"

OFFERTORY RESPONSE – the Doxology

***HYMN "Blest Be the Tie that Binds".....no. 560**

***IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND HOLY COMMUNION**

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 understand and share the love of God. May the Ashes we receive remind us not only of our sin, but also of the Love of God in Christ. May the elements of this communion remind us of the depth of God's love – For God so loved the world that God sent His only Son that we might have life in all its fullness. AMEN

***BENEDICTION and THREEFOLD AMEN**

***HYMN "Beneath the Cross of Jesus".....no. 253**

CHIMES and QUIET MEDITATION (congregation seated)

POSTLUDE "Rock of Ages"

*- those who are able, please stand

Serving this Evening:

Head Usher.....Amy Miller

Greeter.....Jim Gress

Following our worship service, please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the fellowship hall.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

The theme for our Wednesday Evening Services is the Parable of
Lent. Services begin at 7:30.

March 8th – at Trinity UMC - Brad Haws

March 15th – at St. John's UCC - Bob Smallman

March 22nd – at Swamp Christian Fellowship - Phil Horning

March 29th – at Gehman's Mennonite Church - Jeff Hain

April 5th – at Emmanuel Evang. Cong. Church - Bill Hoch

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.**

ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



*March 1, 2017
Parables of Christ*