

“Create
in me a
clean heart,
O God,
and put a
new and right
spirit
within me.”
Psalm 51:10

Central United Methodist Church

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***Office Hours- 8:30-4:00; M & W**

8:30-12: T & Th

Ash
Wednesday

Central United Methodist Church
Staunton, Virginia

MARCH 1 2017, NOON

Order of Worship

GATHERING *In silence and meditation.*

*GREETING

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 his 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.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray: *A brief silence.*

Most Holy God,

your son came to save sinners; we come to this of repentance,

confessing our unworthiness,

asking for new and honest hearts,

and the healing power of your forgiveness.

Grant this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*HYMN #269 “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

FIRST READING Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

PSALM 51:1-12

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:2-10

RESPONSE

Cry, and God will answer.

Call, and the Lord will say: “I am here.”

If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word;
if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed;

Call, and the Lord will say: “I am here.”

Your light will rise in the darkness and your shadows like noon.

The Lord will always guide you,
giving you relief in desert places.

Cry, and God will answer.

Call, and the Lord will say: “I am here.”

*GOSPEL Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE

A brief silence is kept.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Approach the kneeling rail to receive the cross.

HYMN #142 “If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee”

A PSALM OF CONFESSION Psalm 51:1-17

Read Responsively

RECONCILIATION AND COMMENDATION

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response: **Lord, have mercy.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

All may exchange signs of peace and reconciliation.

*DOXOLOGY UMH #94

*HYMN #382 “HAVE THINE OWN WAY LORD”

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

OFFERING

*The offering today will be in support of Central’s
Food Pantry ministry.*

All may depart in quietness.

