

## 2025 Holy Week Schedule



**Maundy Thursday**  
**Worship with the Lord's Supper**

April 17th  
7:00pm

**Good Friday Service**

April 18th  
12:00pm

**Easter Sunday - April 20**  
9:00am- Contemporary Service  
11:00am- Traditional Service

## What is Ash Wednesday?

Traditionally the palms that we waved on Palm Sunday are burned to ashes and brought out for use on Ash Wednesday. On Ash Wednesday, ashes are placed, "imposed", on our foreheads, or on the back of the hand, with a cross-shaped sign, saying, **"You are dust, and to dust you shall return,"** from Gen. 3:19. The ashes remind us of our mortality, the brevity of life, and our need for confession and avoidance of sin and pardon. At the same time, because the sign on our foreheads is cross-shaped, it's meant to remind us of our baptism. **"We who have died in Christ will be raised with him."** So the ultimate point of Ash Wednesday is to face up to some hard realities of our sinful nature, buoyed by our confident hope in the One who raised Jesus from the dead and who will have the last word over our lives, too.

### FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY

#### GREETERS:

Cindy Gamble & Marti Raiche

#### USHERS:

Jill Manning & Earle Lusk



**Northwood Presbyterian Church**  
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Chris Curvin, Pastor  
Paul Means, Associate Pastor for  
Congregational Care & Mission



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# ORDER OF WORSHIP ASH WEDNESDAY

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March 5, 2025, 6:45 PM

OPENING VOLUNTARY “There Is a Balm in Gilead”  
arr. David Christensen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Chris Curvin, Pastor

## GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive*)

Leader: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**People: God’s mercy endures forever.**

\*HYMN #415 “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy” RESTORATION

**Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you full of pity, love, and power.**

*Refrain: I will arise and go to Jesus;  
he will embrace me in his arms.  
In the arms of my dear Savior;  
O there are ten thousand charms.*

**Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome; God’s free bounty glorify,  
true belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.**  
*Refrain*

**Come, ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall;  
if you tarry till you’re better, you will never come at all.** *Refrain*

**Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;  
all the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him.** *Refrain*

CALL TO CONFESSION Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENES

**Mighty Lord, we confess that we are lost without you. Forgive us.  
So often we forget that without you we are but dust and ashes  
with no hope beyond this life. Forgive us. In our assembly and in  
our daily lives keep our hearts and minds fixed on the cross of  
Christ remembering that our hope rests in his death and resur-  
rection. May our journey these forty days be one of faith in you,  
service to your world, and claiming the forgiveness which is ours  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 51:1-12 (NRSV)

MEDITATION “Good News in Ashes”  
Chris Curvin, Pastor

## RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

### THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*Those who wish to participate and receive ashes are asked to come forward  
for their imposition. Ashes acknowledge our mortality; the Sign of the Cross  
signifies the eternal life of those who believe in Jesus as Savior.*

“Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee” Max Reger

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

\*HYMN #166 “Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days” ST. FLAVIAN  
**Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,  
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.**

**As you with Satan did contend and did the victory win,  
O give us strength to persevere, in you to conquer sin.**

**And through these days of penitence , and though this passion tide,  
yes evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.**

**Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,  
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.**

### \*BENEDICTION

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

Stephanie Carson, Music Director  
David Furr, Organist