

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

L: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and cup; make us one in the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

P: Keep us faithful through hardship and suffering, hunger and sleepless nights. Grant us purity, patience, kindness, holiness, truthful speech, and genuine love, so that we may be reconciled to you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

L: Through the Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, we bless you, God of glory, now and forever.

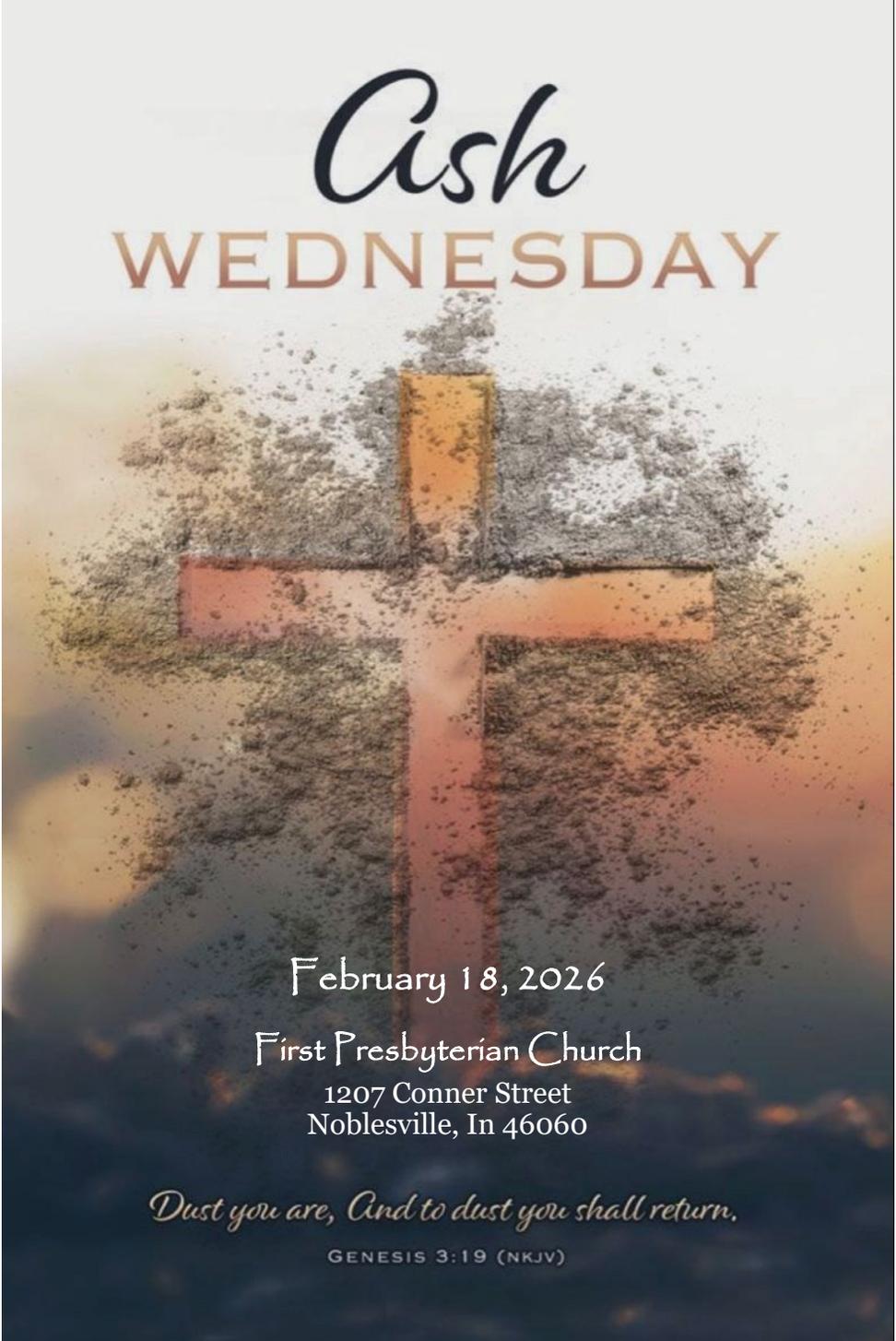
P: Amen.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*(Please Come forward down the right center aisle
to receive the imposition of ashes and the Lord's Supper)*

*(You may place your Lenten intentions in the offering plate at the back of
the sanctuary. Please leave the service in quiet contemplation.)*



Ash
WEDNESDAY

February 18, 2026

First Presbyterian Church
1207 Conner Street
Noblesville, In 46060

Dust you are, And to dust you shall return.

GENESIS 3:19 (NKJV)

ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 18, 2026

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

L: We come burdened by regrets, trembling in our mourning.

P: We know that the Lord is gracious and merciful, and we trust that God will lift our burdens.

L: As one people, with all our differences, we give ourselves to God, seeking healing and redemption.

P: In honesty and repentance, we worship the Lord and bless God's holy name.

† **HYMN** *"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"* #320 words on screen

† **CALL TO CONFESSION** (responsive)

L: Now is the time. Now is the day of salvation. Now is the beginning of a season of deep breaths, deep reflection, and deep reckoning.

P: We must not accept God's grace in vain. Now is the time for confession.

† **CONFESSION OF SINS**

L: Have mercy on us, O God.

We know the ways we have sinned against you.

We know the ways we have done evil.

We know the ways we are guilty.

**P: We deserve your judgment, and yet we plead:
do not cast us away from your presence.**

L: Do not take your Holy Spirit from us. Create in us clean hearts.

P: Hide your face from our sins and blot out the evil we have done. Let us hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

(Time for Silent Confession)

† **ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (responsive)

L: With our hearts turned to God in repentance, with the knowledge of our sins laid bare before the cross of Jesus Christ, in the name of the living God, our sins are forgiven. Receive God's mercy, take hold of your forgiveness, and, in the power of the Holy Spirit, walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Isaiah 58:1–12

Matthew 5:14-16; 6:1–6, 16–21

Homily: A Matter of Orientation

† **HYMN** *"Be Thou My Vision"* #562 words on screen

THE LITURGY OF PENITENCE (responsive)

L: Friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: Lent is a time for preparing for this celebration and renewing ourselves in the Good News of our salvation.

L: We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

P: We begin our journey to Easter with the nourishment of Communion and with the sign of ashes. This ancient sign speaks of the frailty and uncertainty of human life and marks the penitence of this community.

L: I invite you therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and reading and meditating on the Word of God. Let us look to God, our Creator and Redeemer, and consider how to celebrate this Holy Season.

*(How will you observe the joyful holiness of Lent? We invite you to write down any Lenten disciplines you may wish to follow or any sins you wish to give up.
What will you do to more orient yourself to God?)*

DRAPING OF THE CROSS

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (responsive)

L: Blessed are you, O Lord our God:

You are gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

P: The fast that you desire is righteousness and justice, compassion and peace: to feed the hungry, help the poor, welcome the stranger, and set captives free.

L: Therefore, with the universal church and the saints of heaven we praise you, saying.

P: Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full your glory. Hosannah in the highest!

L: Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior:

Jesus teaches sincerity of faith, and purity of heart in prayer and action;

P: not to make a spectacle of worship or charity, but to seek the inner gifts of grace;

L: not to store up treasures on earth, but to trust the heavenly treasure of your love.

L: Remembering your goodness and grace, we offer ourselves to you with gratitude as we share this joyful feast, saying:

**P: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**