

NORTH PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ash Wednesday
February 18, 2026



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janrichardson.com

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Piety and personal spiritual discipline
and what we would call social justice and responsibility
cannot be separated.
If they are, then both become meaningless.

- Howard Wallace

WELCOME

One: The Lord be with you.
All: **And also with you.**

Katy Evans, Pastoral Intern

PRELUDE

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days
Louis Walker, Organist

S. Saxton / D. Schelat

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather at the edge of a new season.
All: **Will we wade into self-reflection?**
One: Will we listen for God's invitation?
All: **Will we seek a deeper faith?**
One: What kind of fast do we choose?
All: **We gather at the edge of a new season.**
One: Listen, God is speaking.

Rev. Amy Moore, Parish Associate

✠Please rise as you are able.

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
 how many times in a day could we choose love?
 How many times could we choose justice?
 How many times could we speak kindly to ourselves?
 How many times could we offer grace?
 How many times, God?
 And how often do we miss them?

Forgive us for choosing the path you did not travel.
 Forgive us for measuring our lives by the world's idea of goodness.
 Return our hearts to you.
 With gratitude we pray. Amen.

✠RESPONSE O Lord, Have Mercy

ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ



1 O Lord, have mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy; O
 2 O Christ, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy; O



Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.
 Christ, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

✠PROMISE OF GRACE

One: No matter how many times we fail,
 no matter how many times we choose the wrong path,
 God is waiting for us with open arms.

All: **We are forgiven. We are invited. We belong.**
Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

One: The Word of the Lord.
 All: **Thanks be to God.**

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (together)

We believe in a God who chooses freedom,
who unties every rope and carries our burdens.
We believe in a God who ushers in the poor and the hungry,
who has a seat saved for all of us.
We believe in a God who walks before us in the parched places,
who rescues our bones, who tends to us like a gardener.
And because we believe, we strive to choose love.
Because we believe, we strive to pursue justice. Amen.

✠IMPOSITION OF ASHES

You are invited to come forward by the middle aisle, return by the side aisles.

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

✠HYMN 548 May God Support You All Your Days

DICKINSON COLLEGE

✠BENEDICTION

*You are welcome to stay and pray in the Sanctuary as long as you wish.
So that you do not disturb those around you, please depart in silence.*

POSTLUDE Chorale Improvisation on "Mein Jesu, der du mich"

J. Brahms

My Jesus, who leads me through the shadows, guide my weary steps along the path.
In the quiet of the night, your presence glows; a beacon of hope, dispelling fear's wrath.
Through life's tempest and trials you remain, a steadfast anchor in the raging sea.
Your love, a melody that soothes my pain, a refuge where my restless heart finds joy.
My Jesus, keep me in your arms' embrace, grant me solace as I seek you.

On behalf of NorthPark Presbyterian Church, welcome this Ash Wednesday.
While even our littlest ones are welcome in worship, childcare is available.
Please ask an Usher to show you the way.

Reformed Words for a Transformed World is our current worship series.
Enhance your spiritual journey by picking up a card in the foyer
featuring scripture, reflection questions, and a breath prayer.
There are rings available to clip the cards together.
If you miss a week, previous weeks' cards are available too.

Tonight, we will depart in silence. Sunday mornings, we do not.
Services are warm and family-friendly, traditional in style but casual in feel.
Please join us Sundays at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

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