First Presbyterian Church
February 22, 2012
6:30 p.m.

God’s spirit, given by Christ, flows through us as living water, to wash, heal, and satisfy. As a congregation we become a fountain, sharing this living water with others.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
February 22, 2012, 6:30 p.m.
Ash Wednesday

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

Introit
Kyrie Eleison  (Lord, have mercy)

*Call to Worship
—From Psalm 51

Blow the trumpet in Zion!  Sound the alarm on the holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near.
Return to the Lord, your God, for the Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

*Hymn
Sunday’s Palms are Wednesday’s Ashes

Sunday’s palms are Wednesday’s ashes as another Lent Begins;
thus we kneel before our Maker in contrition for our sins.
We have marred baptismal pledges, in rebellion gone astray;
now, returning, seek forgiveness; grant us pardon, God, this day!

We have failed to love our neighbors, their offences to forgive,
have not listened to their troubles, nor have cared just how they live,
we are jealous, proud, impatient, loving over much our things;
may the yielding of our failings be our Lenten offerings.

We are hasty to judge others, blind to proof of human need;
and our lack of understanding demonstrates our inner greed;
we have wasted earth’s resources; want and suffering we’ve ignored;
come and cleanse us, then restore us; make new hearts within us, Lord!

*Call to Confession
Let us pray.

*Prayer to Confession
Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness; in your great compassion, blot out my offenses.
Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions and my sin is ever before me.
Against you only I have sinned and done what is evil in your sight. And so you are justified when you speak and upright in your judgment.

Indeed, I have been wicked from birth, a sinner from my mother’s womb.
For behold, you look for truth deep within me, and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; wash me and I shall be clean indeed.
Make me hear of joy and gladness, that the body you have broken may rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Give me the joy of your saving help again and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
I shall teach your ways to the wicked and sinners shall return to you.

Deliver me from death, O God, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.
Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, but you take no delight in burnt offerings.
The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

AMEN

Anthem
   Lord, For Thy Tender Mercies’ Sake
   Farrant

GOD’S WORD

Hymn 298
   There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy
   Isaiah 58:1-12

Old Testament Reading
   Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm 51
   Create in Me a Clean Heart
   Dunlap

New Testament Lesson
   Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Sermon
   Rev. Craig Hendrix

   The Mark

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Invitation to the Lenten Discipline

Imposition of Ashes
**The Eucharist**

Communion Hymn No. 504  
*Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*  

Union Seminary

**Invitation to the Lord’s Table**

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving
The Lord be with you.
And Also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is truly right and our greatest joy…

**Breaking of Bread**

Communion of the People

*The Presbyterian Church practices open communion-welcoming to the table baptized children and anyone who confesses Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. If your tradition permits, you are welcome to share the table with us. If you are uncomfortable doing so, please use this time as a time of prayer and reflection.*

**Prayers of the People**

Lord’s Prayer  
(Traditional, p. 16, Hymnal)

**SENDING US OUT TO BE GOD’S WORD IN THE WORLD**

*Hymn No. 366  
*Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*  
ST. CATHERINE

*Charge and Benediction*

*Congregational Response (Hymn 585)*  
*Amen*  
McNeil Robinson II

*Postlude*

*All who are able please stand.*

Text printed in **Bold Italics** to be read in unison by the people.

**THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEERS!**

**Liturgist:** Ronnie Griffin

**Ushers:** Dennis Strickler, Rebekah Bell, Teresa Brittain, Anna Robinson, Mary Ann Davidson, Robin Killough and Chris Brittain

**Sound Guild:** Carolyn Krause

**Counters:** Teresa Brittain and Dave Mullins

**Opening and Closing:** Dennis Strickler and Randy Pietrzak