

ORDER OF WORSHIP



Words in bold indicate congregational response.

*Please stand as able.

PRELUDE

“Prayer”

Robert Lee

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God’s mercy endures forever.

*OPENING PRAYER

O God, maker of everything and judge of all that you have made, from the dust of the earth you have formed us and from the dust of death you would raise us up. By the redemptive power of the cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit, that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of your calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*THE HYMN - 269

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

(Pew Bible New Testament Page 5-6)

The Word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. T. Matthew Langford, Jr.

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

The early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord’s passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation.

During this season converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to participation in the life of the Church.

In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s Holy Word.

To make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now bow before our Creator and Redeemer.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION - 785 Rev. Lynn Smilie Nesbitt
“Psalm 51:1-17”

Response:

♪ **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; **according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! **For I know my transgressions and my sin is ever before me.** Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless in your judgement. **Behold, I was born into iniquity, and I have been sinful since my mother conceived me.**

♪ R

Behold, you desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. **Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow;** Make me hear with joy and gladness; let the bones which you have broken rejoice. **Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.**

♪ R

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. **Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.** Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. **Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.** Deliver me from death, O God, God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance. **O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall show forth your praise.** For you have no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. **The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

♪ R

PARDON

May the almighty and merciful God, who desires not the death of a sinner but that we turn from wickedness and live, accept our repentance, forgive our sins, and restore us by the Holy Spirit to newness of life. **Amen.**

THE ANTHEM

“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God” Carl. F. Mueller

THE THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so that we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

DEPART IN SILENCE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Worship Arts Director

Erin M. Smith

Organist/Accompanist

Patricia A. Smith, organ, Sally Northcutt, piano

Sound/Live Stream

Morgan Creech, Keely Griffin, Matthew Murray

Ushers

*Warren Cobb, Kerry Croom, Randy Hurst,
Alan Richards, Webb Speigner*

Acolytes

Cooper Blissett, Sophie Blissett

Server

Vincent Burgamy

Altar Guild

*Carol Ann Jones, Lisa Martin, Senthly Sanders,
Jeanie Solomon*

LENTEN LUNCHEONS

Fellowship Hall - Lunch: 11:30 am

Program: Noon until 12:45 pm

Suggested donation: \$10 per person - For more information, call 334-793-3555 or visit fumcdothan.org.

Wednesday, February 25 - Rev. Kevin Knight
Lead Pastor, Dothan First Church of the Nazarene

Wednesday, March 4 - Father Richard Perkins
Parochial Vicar, St. Columba Catholic Church

Wednesday, March 11 - Rev. Chris Herrin
Pastor, Evergreen Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, March 18 - Rev. Paul Horn
Pastor, Hines Chapel AME Church

Wednesday, March 25 - Rev. Powell Grisham
Lead Pastor, Wiregrass Church

Wednesday, April 1 - Rev. Carl Saxton
Rector, The Episcopal Church of the Nativity

JOIN US FOR LENT & EASTER!

Palm Sunday, March 29

First Light Chapel Communion - 8 am

Sanctuary (traditional) - 8:30 & 11 am

The Bridge (contemporary) - 8:55 am

Palm Sunday Reenactment - 10 am

Easter Egg Hunt - 4 pm

Hamburgers & hotdogs served

Cross Raising with The Promise Band - 5 pm

Maundy Thursday, April 2

6 pm - Fellowship Hall

Good Friday, April 3

Tenebrae Service - 6:30 pm - Sanctuary

Child-Friendly Tenebrae Service - 6:30 pm - Chapel

Stations of the Cross - Following the services

Easter Sunday, April 5

The Bridge (contemporary) Services - 8 & 10 am

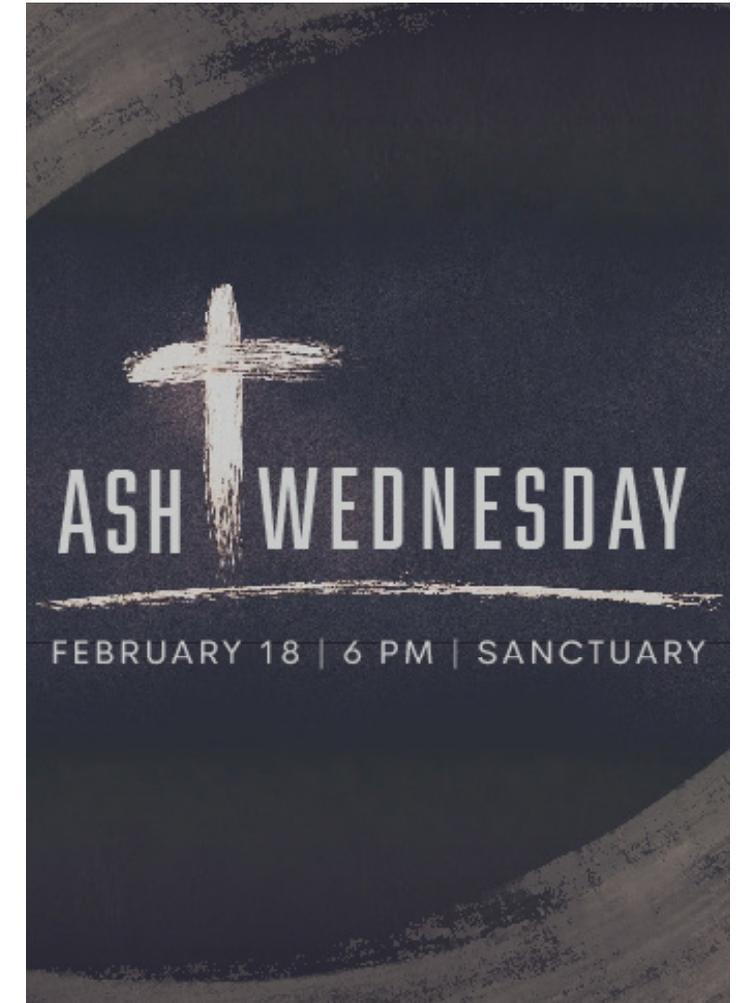
Sanctuary (traditional) Services - 9 & 11 am

Children's J.A.M. Time Easter Worship - 9 & 10 am

CONTACT

1380 West Main Street | Dothan, Alabama 36301

www.fumcdothan.org | 334-793-3555



February 18, 2026
6 p.m.



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