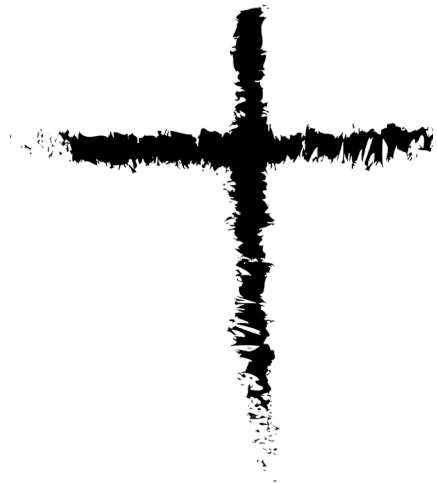
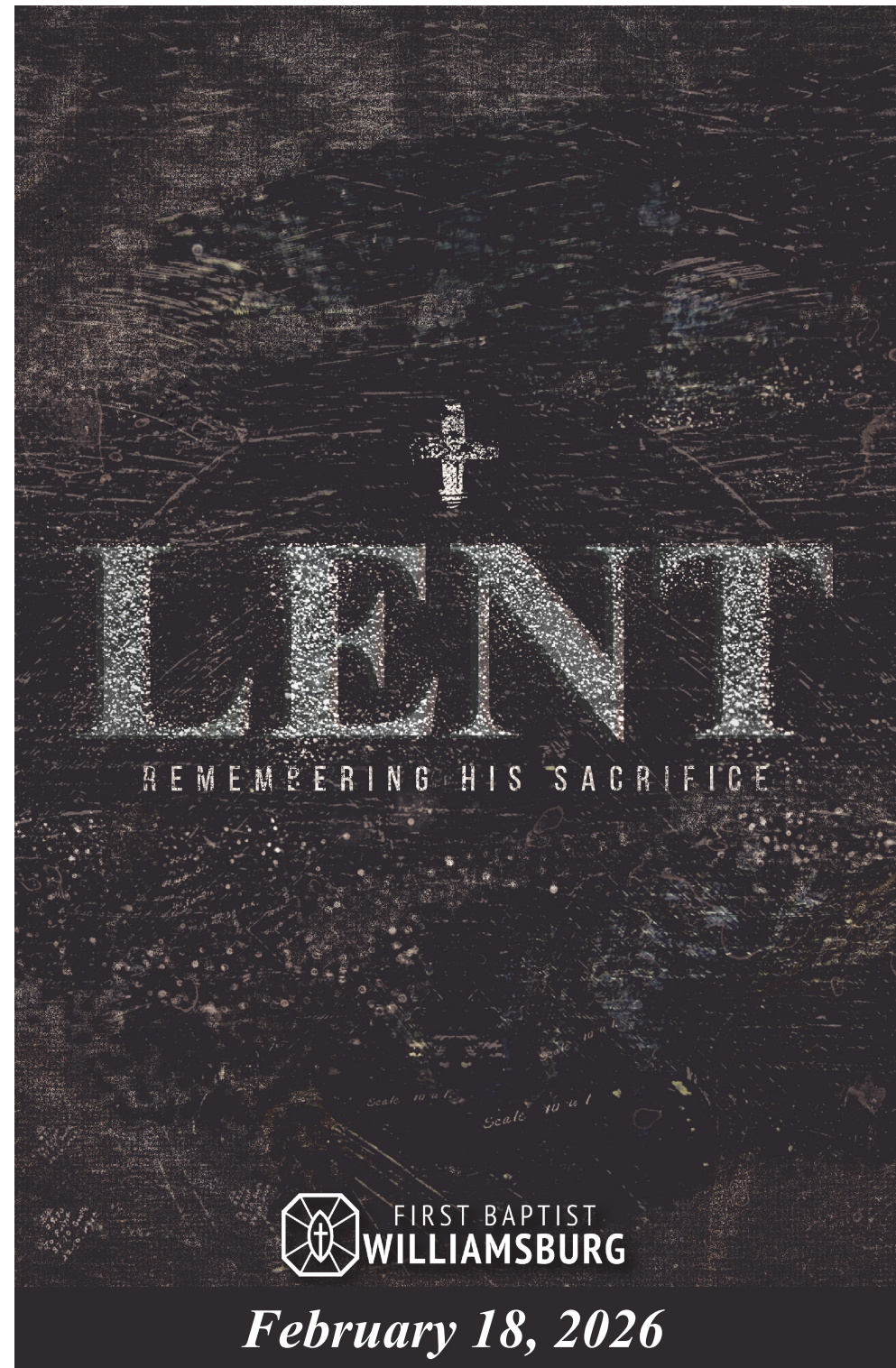


815 - Doxology

*Before new converts in the early Church were baptized on Easter Sunday, a period of preparation was observed. This forty day (46 counting Sundays or "little Easters") period is known as **Lent**, a time for us to prepare ourselves for the coming Easter through contemplation and confession. Though its origins in the Church are unknown, because of historical Church documents (Canons of the Council of Nicea) we know that forty days of fasting before Easter was customary practice by 325 A.D. Beginning Ash Wednesday, February 18th, and through Holy Week (March 29th - April 5th), we will journey with Jesus together with Christians around the world.*

***Ash Wednesday** begins the season of Lent. All are welcome to receive a cross of ash on their foreheads or hand to remember that each of us are dust and will return to dust. Traditionally, the ashes come from burning the previous year's palm branches from Palm Sunday.*



First Baptist Church
230 S. Fifth Street
Williamsburg, KY 40769
606-549-0280
www.fbcwky.org
fbcwoffice@gmail.com



February 18, 2026

First Baptist Church
Ash Wednesday Service
February 18, 2026 at 6:15 PM

“During Lent, let us find concrete ways to overcome our indifference.” - Pope Francis

Prelude Alex Stone, Piano
Forty Days And Forty Nights
Nurnbergisches Gesangbuch, 1676
Arranged by Tracey Craig McKibben

As we gather in the presence of God, let us enter in silence, preparing our hearts for reflection, repentance, and renewal. This is a solemn day in which we acknowledge our mortality, confess our sins, and turn toward God’s mercy and grace.

Let the stillness settle within you. Let the quiet be an invitation to draw near to God. As we begin, may our silence be an act of reverence, an openness to the Spirit’s work within us.

Welcome Jeremy Shannon

Scripture Reading Jolly Sharp
Joel 2:12-13

Worship in Song Congregation
562 - *Be Thou My Vision*

Responsive Reading Brian Logan

Leader: 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.

People: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgement. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

Leader: 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. Let me hear joy and

gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

People: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Leader: Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

People: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were 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.

Leader: Do good in Zion in your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then you will delight in right sacrifices, in burnt-offerings and whole burnt-offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Worship in Song Congregation
486 - *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy*

Imposition of Ashes Brian Logan
Jeremy Shannon
You are invited to make your way forward to receive an ashen cross on your forehead or hand. As the sign of the cross is made, remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.

Assurance of Pardon Jeremy Shannon
Serves as a reminder of God’s grace and forgiveness.

Prayer of Thanksgiving Janet Logan

Worship in Song Congregation
488 - *Just As I Am*

The Lord’s Prayer Congregation
*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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*