

YOU
BELONG
here

***Please stand if you are able**
UMH is United Methodist Hymnal (red book)
TFWS is The Faith We Sing (black book)

Welcome to Worship with Centering Postlude

Create in Me a Clean Heart

arr. Mark Hayes

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, and renew a right spirit within me.
Based on Psalm 51:10-12

Call to Worship (*responsive*):

Leader: Let us test and examine our ways and return to the Lord!

All: God has blessed us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

L: Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their ways, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord.

A: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Opening Prayer (*in unison*):

All: O God, make 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.

Psalm 51:1-17 NRSVue (*in unison*):

All: ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. ²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. ³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. ⁴Against 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 judgment. ⁵Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. ⁶You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. ⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. ⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. ¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. ¹¹Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. ¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. ¹⁴Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance. ¹⁵O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. ¹⁶For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. ¹⁷The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. Amen.

Scripture

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Hymn UMH 288

Where You There?

Message

I Meet You as Dust

Invitation to the Observance of the Lenten Discipline

Thanksgiving Over the Ashes

Imposition of the Ashes

Confession and Pardon (*in unison*):

All: Almighty and most merciful God, you know the thoughts of our hearts. We confess that we have sinned against you and done evil in your sight. We have transgressed your holy laws. We have disregarded your Word and Sacraments. Forgive us, O Lord. Give us grace and power to put away all hurtful things, that, being delivered from the bondage of sin, we may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance, and from henceforth may ever walk in your holy ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dismissal with Blessing

Passing the Peace of Christ



Worship and Bible Study Opportunities:

Worship on Sundays at 9:30am at N. Gouverneur UMC

Worship on Sundays at 11am at First UMC

Worship on Sundays at 11am on FB Live

Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10am at First UMC

Preparation for the Lenten Season:

Holy Week – March 29th – April 4th

Easter Sunday – April 5th



**First United Methodist Church
of Gouverneur**

Pastor Benjamin Lalka

Choir Director: Don Schuessler

Organist: Glenda Schuessler

February 18, 2026

