

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ash Wednesday  
February 18, 2026



First Presbyterian Church of Mount Clemens invites you to  
“Come as a guest, leave as family.”

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**BOLD TEXT** – All participate

\* - Stand if you are able

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## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### \*GRATEFUL RESPONSE

*“Restore in Us, O God”*

Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy; baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy

### CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

## THE WORD

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Mark 8:27-30

Leader: We proclaim Christ crucified -the wisdom and power of God

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

“Who do You Say He Is”

Rev. Kathy Nealand

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*(Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.12, 9.14)*

**The reconciling act of God in Jesus Christ**

**exposes the evil in people**

**as sin in the sight of God.**

**In sin, people claim mastery of their own lives,**

**turn against God and each other,**

**and become exploiters**

**and despoilers of the world.**

**They lose their humanity in futile striving**

**and are left in rebellion, despair, and isolation.**

**But God’s love never changes.**

**Against all who oppose the divine will,**

**God expresses love in wrath.**

**In the same love, God bore judgment**

**and shameful death in Jesus Christ,**

**to bring all people to repentance and new life.**

## THANKSGIVING

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

### OFFERING MUSIC

**\*OFFERING RESPONSE**

**Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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**

**ADMINISTERING OF ASHES**

**SENDING**

**\*SONG**

**"O Lamb of God Most Holy!"**

**#82**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**