

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

7 pm | February 14, 2024 | Buffalo Grove



GATHERING GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude *Spirit of the Living God* Diemer

Welcome and Centering Rev. James Preston

***Opening Hymn** *Seek Ye First* Blue Hymnal #405

***Words of Gathering** Donna Gavin

One: Create in me a clean heart, O God!

All: A heart that loves and forgives!

One: Create in me a clean heart, O God!

All: A heart that welcomes and also invites!

One: Create in me a clean heart, O God!

All: Put a new and right spirit within me!

Opening Prayer (Unison)

O Loving God, from the dust you formed us and from the dust of death, you would raise us up. Create in us clean hearts and put a new spirit within us. We repent of our sins and long for your mercy. Open our hearts to love others as we invite them to your saving power. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

A Reading from the Psalms *Psalms 51: 1-17*

A Reading from the New Testament *2 Corinthians 5: 11-13*

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Song of Preparation *Have Thine Own Way, Lord* Blue Hymnal #382 (vv. 3 & 4)

Sermon *Is Your Heart Really Open?* Rev. James Preston

Anthem Chancel Choir

Dust and Ashes Brian Wren

Invitation to the Observance of Lent Rev. James Preston

Thanksgiving and Imposition of Ashes Rev. James Preston
(You are invited to come to the one station to receive the ashes on your forehead or hand.)

One: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Repent, and believe the Gospel.

A Prayer of Confession and Pardon Rev. James Preston

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. Have mercy on us, and forgive us so that we may walk in your ways each day. Amen.

SILENCE

One: Hear the Good News, Christ died for us while we were yet sinners. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, you too are forgiven. We really are forgiven. Amen.

Hymn of Response *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* Blue Hymnal #402

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Intercession Rev. James Preston

The 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 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.

Offering Rev. James Preston

Offertory Response Felicia Patton

Give Me Jesus Fernando Ortega

Announcements Rev. James Preston

Hymn of Sending Forth* *Blessed Assurance* Blue Hymnal #369

Benediction* Rev. James Preston

Postlude *O Sacred Head Now Wounded* Telemann

**Stand as you are able.*

Liturgist: Donna Gavin
Ushers: Larry & Sally Arends

Scripture Reader: Jay Jayapalan
Greeters: Colleen Spasari, Sue Kluge

Holy⁺Week **SERVICES**

Palm Sunday - March 24

Brunch, sponsored by United Methodist Men, follows Buffalo Grove services

9:00 & 10:30 am
Buffalo Grove campus
10:00 am
Deerfield Campus

Holy Thursday - March 28

Meal & Drama with Holy Communion and Foot/Hand Washing

6:00 pm
Deerfield campus

Good Friday - March 29

Special drama at 7 pm service

12:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Buffalo Grove campus

Holy Saturday - March 30

Contemporary Easter Celebration

5:00 pm
Buffalo Grove campus

Easter Sunday - March 31

Celebrate the Resurrection!

9:00 & 10:30 am
Buffalo Grove campus
10:00 am
Deerfield campus

Your gifts make a difference! We thank you for your generous financial gifts to the ministry and mission of Kingswood Church. You can give in the following ways:

Online at www.Kingswoodumc.com/give

Mail your check:
401 W. Dundee Rd. Buffalo Grove, IL 60089



Kingswood Mobile App

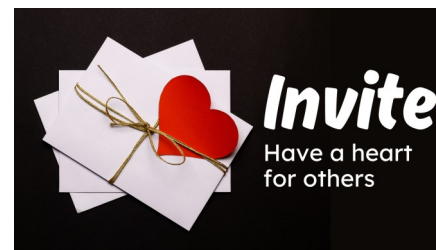
Offering basket in Fireside Room

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL!

FEBRUARY 14, 2024

OUR MISSION:

LOVE GOD, SERVE OTHERS & BUILD SACRED COMMUNITY AS FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST



Welcome to Kingswood Church as we gather for Ash Wednesday and begin our new sermon series, **INVITE: Have a Heart for Others**. Ash Wednesday is the first day of the 40-day season of Lent, a time of reflection and confession as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter. We receive the ashes as a sign of our mortality as well as a sign of repentance and confession.

Persons often receive the ashes on their forehead or hand as a sign of following Jesus more fully. Our sermon series calls us not only to prepare our hearts to welcome Jesus, but also to invite others into that life-changing love and grace. Does your heart need some house cleaning? Are you open to others and ready to seek them out?



This Lenten season, join us in making a meaningful impact with **Heifer International**. Our goal is to raise enough funds for a Gift Ark - a remarkable donation that includes two water buffaloes, two cows, two sheep, and two goats, along with bees, chicks, rabbits, and more. By supporting Heifer's sustainable development programs, we can empower families with the resources and training they need to achieve self-reliance.

Through initiatives like providing livestock, agricultural training, and access to markets, Heifer International fosters long-term solutions to hunger and poverty. Let's come together as a community to make a lasting difference this Lenten season and sow seeds of hope for a brighter future for all.



Join us for ONE service on **March 3 at 10 am at the Buffalo Grove campus** as we celebrate U2 Eucharist with a potluck brunch to follow. (No worship at Deerfield campus this day.) This service is a communion, or Eucharist, service accompanied by songs from the band U2. This worship experience is an opportunity to personally invite someone to join us. U2's music offers profound messages about global reconciliation, peace,

and justice. Bono, U2's lead singer, has been vocal about ending human trafficking, caring for the poor, and supporting those on the margins. We welcome the band, Without U2, as our musical guests. The service is underwritten with a gift from Lisa, Annalise, and James Dreyer in memory of Bill Dreyer, husband and father. **To contribute brunch items visit kingswoodumc.com/events.**