

First Presbyterian Church of Rumson, NJ



Our Mission Statement - "We, the First Presbyterian Church of Rumson, are called by God to be a spiritual and visible presence by living out our faith and sharing our gifts among God's people."

Ash Wednesday

February 18, 2026 @ 7:30 PM

PRELUDE “Ashes” by Tom Conry

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: If God threw a party,

All: all would be invited.

Leader: If God hosted a dinner,

All: there'd be a seat saved for each of us.

Leader: If God prepared a banquet,

All: a cheer would go up when you arrived.

Leader: This is the good news:

All: God is throwing a party.

God is hosting a dinner.

God is preparing a banquet,

and all are invited.

Leader: Let us worship this invitational God.

*HYMN #769 “For Everyone Born” (Vs. 1-3) FOR EVERYONE BORN

LITANY OF CONFESSION (based on Psalm 51)

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.

All: Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin. For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.

Leader: You desire truth in our inward being; therefore teach us wisdom in our secret hearts.

All: Purge us with hyssop, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.

Leader: Hide not your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities.

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

Leader: *Then we will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.*

All: **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: *So join me in these good news words:*

All: **We are forgiven, again and again.
 We are invited, again and again.
 We are loved, from beginning to end.
 Thanks be to God, our Inviter. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 14:15-24 (pg. 94 NT)

MEDITATION “*The Good News Is...All Are Invited*” Dr. Whitney S. Bayer

SOLO “*What Wondrous Love Is This*” WONDROUS LOVE
 ~ Offered by **Suzanne Parmly** ~

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

(Come forward, if you wish, to receive ashes on forehead or hand)

PRAYER

***HYMN #166 “*Lord Who throughout These Forty Days*” ST. FLAVIAN**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “*The Glory of These Forty Days*” ERHALT UNS, HERR

**Please stand if you are able.*

Indicates song in Glory to God (The Presbyterian Hymnal).

*Front Graphic Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman
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