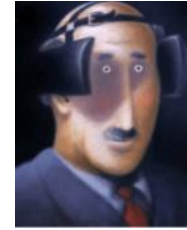


### Assisting this Evening

Rev. Katie Palmer, Pastor  
Rev. Randy Campbell, HR, Pastor Emeritus  
Rev. Pat Halverson  
Zoom Host, D.R. Palmer  
Visuals, Tegan Palmer  
Office Manager, Linda Solyntjes  
Director of Music, Karyl Lyne  
Accompanist, Em Krall  
Singers: Christie Baskett, Karyl Lyne, D R Palmer

*We are glad you have joined us for this  
Ash Wednesday service and hope it is  
meaningful for you.*



### FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1000 Douglas Avenue, Las Vegas NM 87701

February 17, 2021 5:30 p.m.

### LOOKING BEYOND THE BLINDERS: ASH WEDNESDAY

**MEDITATION**—*Repentance means change, and it takes a humble  
person to change.* Ezra Taft Benson

**WELCOME AND A WORD ABOUT LENT** Rev. Katie Palmer

### CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Rev. Randy Campbell and Rev. Pat Halverson

(adapted from Psalm 32 in Nan Merrill's *Psalms for Praying*)

Blessed are we whose wrongdoings have been forgiven, whose shame  
has been forgotten.

**Blessed are we in whom God's love finds a home, and whose spirit  
radiates truth.**

When we fail to acknowledge our shortcomings, we become ill,  
weighed down by guilt.

**Our spirits become dry as desert bones.**

We will admit our faults to the Most High and make known our regret.

**We will cry out, "Forgive me, O God, for those times I have sinned  
in my thoughts,**

**my words, and my deeds" and God will create within us clean and  
open hearts.**

Therefore, let everyone who is sincere give thanks to God,  
for whenever we feel paralyzed by fear, we shall be embraced by Love.

**Dwelling in the Heart of God, we see grace and truth and are free to  
live for love.**

**OPENING SONG** *Create in Me a Clean Heart* (GTG #422)

## OUR WORDS OF REPENTANCE

Rev. Pat Halverson and Rev. Katie Palmer

As we enter into this season of self-reflection and repentance, we acknowledge that we have not always fully lived this gift of life God gave to us. We have not sought to follow God's voice or to see through God's eyes. We pause now to examine ourselves and to recognize where we have failed to live as God would have us live. (Pause)

And so, we confess to God these failures, open ourselves to God's grace-filled forgiveness, and commit anew to seeing as God sees as we pray the words of the psalmist:

**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.  
Against you I have sinned.**

**But you desire truth in the inward being;  
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

**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.**

**Then I will teach others your ways. Amen.** (from Psalm 51)

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Randy Campbell

## SCRIPTURE READING Luke 9:51-62

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?' But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' To another he said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.' But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.' Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.' Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

## MEDITATION *A New Way of Seeing*

Rev. Katie Palmer

## PRAYER OVER THE MUD

Rev. Pat Halverson

## IMPOSITION OF MUD

*Please mark your forehead with the sign of the cross in mud  
as you hear these words:*

*Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*

*In between these times, seek to see and love as Christ.*

## CLOSING SONG *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!* (GTG #437)

## SENDING FORTH

May God, who has forgiven us, guide us to see.

May we look for God's vision, guided by the Spirit.

May Jesus show us the way and may we faithfully follow.

## BENEDICTION

*Following the benediction, our Zoom worship will end.*

*Please spend a few minutes in silence and self-reflection with these  
words from Psalm 16:8a, 9-11b:*

I keep the Lord always before me. . .

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;  
my body also rests secure.

For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.  
You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy.

