

May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth, speak to you words of pardon and peace.  
**Amen.**

\* Recession in Silence

*\* Congregation will please stand*

**Bold** *Congregation will please respond*

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## BRENTHAVEN CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*A welcoming community of Christian disciples seeking to love and serve God and neighbor*

February 14, 2024 † 6:30 pm



If Lent means giving up things, constant reminders of how worthless and temporary I am, any glorification of suffering, then it means nothing to me. If it means embracing the importance of self-reflection when it comes to your identity as a disciple, who you believe Jesus to be, what (if anything) the cross really means to you, how you understand the meaning of the resurrection, and that you take the resurrection forward to the meaning of the ascension, then Lent has meaning to me.

*-- Karoline Lewis*

### Gathering

Prelude *Nearer, My God, To Thee* Robert Hughes

Welcome & Announcements

Time of Reflection *Sacrifice* Video

Invocation

**Holy God, in the stillness of the hour, we listen for the Spirit's voice. With broken hearts, we remember our faults and fears. And still, the Comforter comes and soothes so that we may feel the power of promised forgiveness. As we journey with Christ and seek strength for the life of faith, may we be reconciled unto God. Amen.**

\* Hymn, No. 471

*Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

RESTORATION

Confession

Lent is a journey of deepening reflection and renewal, an opportunity to make new commitments in faith. We prepare for the journey by setting aside burdens that would weigh us down. Let us turn to God and confess our sin.

*Time for Silent Confession*

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

**Against 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.**

Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

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

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**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.**

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

**For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.**

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

*Psalm 1-7, 10-12, 15-17*

In the name of Jesus Christ, know that you are forgiven and rejoice.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* Hymn, No. 635

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

SOJOURNER

### Proclaiming

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament

*2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10* (p. 1054, Pew Bible)

Gospel

*Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21* (p. 881, Pew Bible)

Sermon

Pastor

### Responding

Blessing & Marking with the Ashes

Dear friends in Christ, let us ask God to bless these ashes that we will use as the mark of our repentance.

**Lord, bless these ashes by which we show that we are dust. Pardon our sins and keep us faithful to the discipline of Lent, for you do not want sinners to die but to live with the risen Christ.**

Almighty God, from the dust of the earth you have created us. May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence. And may they be a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we given eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*Those who desire to receive ashes now come forward.*

*After all have received, the service continues with the following:*

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors.

**In this season of repentance, restore to us the joy of our salvation and strengthen us to face our mortality, that we may reach with confidence for your mercy, in Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### Sending

\* Hymn, No. 507

*Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

\* Prayer

**God of compassion, through your son Jesus Christ you reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve you and one another in holy love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

\* Blessing and Charge

May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit, give you a contrite heart.

May Christ, who bore our sins in his body on the tree, heal you by his wounds.