

Order of Worship
February 22, 2023 – Ash Wednesday

Prelude

Call to Worship – Verses from Genesis on the Creation

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness...
So God created man in his own image;
in the image of God he created him...
Genesis 1:26-27

The LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground
and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life,
and the man became a living being.
Genesis 2:7

By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food
until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken;
for dust you are, and to dust you will return.
Genesis 3:19

Hymn *The Old Rugged Cross* #504

Invocation

Old Testament Scripture – Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

¹ Remember your Creator in the days of your youth,
before the days of trouble come
and the years approach when you will say,
“I find no pleasure in them”—
² before the sun and the light
and the moon and the stars grow dark,
and the clouds return after the rain;
³ when the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men stoop,
when the grinders cease because they are few,
and those looking through the windows grow dim;
⁴ when the doors to the street are closed

and the sound of grinding fades;
when people rise up at the sound of birds,
but all their songs grow faint;
⁵ when people are afraid of heights and of dangers in the streets;
when the almond tree blossoms and the grasshopper drags itself
along and desire no longer is stirred.
Then people go to their eternal home
and mourners go about the streets.
⁶ Remember him—before the silver cord is severed,
and the golden bowl is broken;
before the pitcher is shattered at the spring,
and the wheel broken at the well,
⁷ and the dust returns to the ground it came from,
and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

Prayer

Scripture Reading – John 4:43-54

⁴³ After the two days he left for Galilee. ⁴⁴ (Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country.) ⁴⁵ When he arrived in Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him. They had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, for they also had been there. ⁴⁶ Once more he visited Cana in Galilee, where he had turned the water into wine. And there was a certain royal official whose son lay sick at Capernaum. ⁴⁷ When this man heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and begged him to come and heal his son, who was close to death.

⁴⁸ “Unless you people see signs and wonders,” Jesus told him, “you will never believe.” ⁴⁹ The royal official said, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” ⁵⁰ “Go,” Jesus replied, “your son will live.”

The man took Jesus at his word and departed. ⁵¹ While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. ⁵² When he inquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, “Yesterday, at one in the afternoon, the fever left him.”

⁵³ Then the father realized that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live.” So he and his whole household believed. ⁵⁴ This was the second sign Jesus performed after coming from Judea to Galilee.

Sermon

Pastor Paul

**The Second Miraculous Sign of Jesus:
Savior of All Circumstances**

February 22, 2023

*This was the second miraculous sign that Jesus performed,
having come from Judea to Galilee.*

John 4:54

Hymn

At the Cross

#359

Benediction – Hebrews 12:1-3

¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Sunday, February 26

10:00 a.m. One Combined Service at Cherry Valley

Wednesday, March 1

7:00 p.m. Community Lenten Service at East Stroudsburg UMC

Sunday, March 5

Lenten Season Holy Communion

9:00 a.m. at Poplar Valley, 10:30 a.m. at Cherry Valley

Tools for Ministry Training for Leaders

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Saturday, March 11

Asbury UMC, 1233 Springhouse Rd, Allentown, PA 18104

Visit for more information & registration:

<https://www.epaumc.org/conference-calendar/2023-tools-for-ministry-church-leadership-education-events-2/>



**Cherry Valley & Poplar Valley
United Methodist Churches**

Significance of 40 Days or Years:

Old Testament

Noah & the Flood – rained 40 days & nights

Israelites 40 days to spy Canaan, 40 years in wilderness

New Testament

Jesus tempted in wilderness 40 days & nights

40 days between Resurrection & Ascension

Lent

40 days of Self-examination, Self-denial,

Confession & Repentance, Prayer, Fasting, Alms