

**First Presbyterian Church
Winnebago, Illinois
March 1, 2017
Ash Wednesday
6:30 p.m.**

Liturgical color purple is for the season of penitence & preparation

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship: **Unison Reading**
I will sing of the LORD's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations. I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself. ... The heavens praise your wonders, LORD, your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones. ... Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you. Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, LORD. This evening I enter the house of the Lord with praise and thanksgiving. I desire to begin this Lenten season with humility so that God may receive glory and honor in my daily living. Amen and Amen.

*Hymn "Take My Life" #391

Call to Confession: **Unison Prayer**
Heavenly Creator, please forgive me of my faults, failures, and wrongdoings so that I will be able to sing of the LORD's great love with a clean heart. Cleanse me and make me holy so that I can declare your love, grace, and blessings as I walk in the light of your glorious presence. In Jesus name I pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: **Unison Prayer**
Gracious Lord, thank you for Christ's grace that forgives and pardons freely. In him I have redemption through his sacrifice and mercy, and I give thanks for my pardon in Jesus name. Amen.

RECEIVING THE WORD

Scripture: Romans 12:2; 9 - 12

Message: "Lent: A Season to Improve"
Pastor Carroll Smith

*Hymn "What Wondrous Love Is This" #85

Benediction: **Unison Reading**
Let us awaken to the beauty and love of our Lord in giving us eternal life. Allow this Lenten season to help us reset our priorities and place Christ first. Let it be said of us that we allowed the Lord to transform our hearts so that we can give glory to our Savior. In Christ's name, Amen.

Postlude

Accompanist Michelle West

All music in our bulletin is protected under CCLI#1409680

Romans 12:2; 9 - 12

Do not conform to the pattern of this world,
but be transformed
by the renewing of your mind.

Then you will be able to test and approve
what God's will is—his good,
pleasing and perfect will. ...

Love must be sincere. ...

Be devoted to one another in love.

Honor one another above yourselves.

Never be lacking in zeal,
but keep your spiritual fervor,
serving the Lord.

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer.