

Seeking | Honest Questions for Deeper Faith

Prelude Poor Wayfaring Stranger

arr. D. Miller

Greeting & Welcome

+Call to Worship

We gather together at the edge of a new season.

We stand together on the cusp of something new.

Will we wade into self-reflection?

Will we invite honesty to dance?

Will we listen for God's invitation?

Will we seek deeper faith?

What kind of fast do we choose?

What kind of faith will we build?

We gather together at the edge of a new season.

Listen, God is speaking.

+Hymn Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes

TFWS #2138

Unison Prayer

God,

We want to hear your voice. Shout loudly; don't hold back.

Move in our spirits the way you moved over the waters of creation.

We are beginning a new season today, God, and we don't want to begin anything without you. So speak to us today—through silence, through scripture, through song. Speak to us as you spoke to the Israelites so many moons ago. Speak to us like a gentle breeze or a loud trumpet.

We don't care how, we just long to hear your voice. So don't hold back.

We are here. We are listening.

Amen.

Scripture Reading Isaiah 58:1-12

Call to Prayer O Lord Hear My Prayer

TFWS #2200 2x

Silent Prayer of Confession

Words of Forgiveness

Scripture Reading Genesis 2:4-7

Meditation Do you ever think about dying?

+Hymn Change My Heart, O God

TFWS #2152

Spiritual Practice Play-Doh Prayer

Blessing of the Ashes

Holy and Loving God,
bless these ashes, a sign of our journey—
from dust to dust, from grace to grace.

In this mark, remind us:

We are yours, wholly and always.

We are fragile, fleeting, yet filled with your Spirit.

We are broken, yet being made new.

May these ashes lead us deeper into love,
wider into justice, and ever closer to you.

Amen.

Special Music Sweet Hour of Prayer

Walford & Bradbury

arr. Craig Johnston

Imposition of the Ashes

Receive the sign of the cross on your forehead with these words.

"From blessed dust you have come and to blessed dust you shall return."

+Hymn I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

UMH #521

+Blessing

Postlude Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

African-American Spiritual arr. John Carter

—CCLI License No. 1093845 —OneLicense #A-708801

Donna Dempewolf, Pastor

David Miller, Piano

LENTEN CALENDAR

Sunday, March 29, 9:30 am - PALM/PASSION SUNDAY
Wednesday, April 1, 6:30 pm - HOLY WEDNESDAY
Friday, April 3, 6:30 pm - GOOD FRIDAY
Saturday, April 4, 1:00 pm - COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT
Sunday, April 5, 9:30 am - EASTER SUNDAY
Sunday, April 5, following worship, EASTER BRUNCH
(proceeds benefit NUMC Youth Programs)

No Super Wednesday March 25th (Spring break)
The church office will be closed Easter Monday, April 6th



Northfield United Methodist Church
1401 S. Maple St., Northfield, MN 55057
507-645-5689
www.northfieldumc.org

Worship.



Compassion.

Devotion.

Justice.

Ash Wednesday



**seeking:
honest questions
for deeper faith**

**February 18, 2026
6:30 pm**