

Lent 2026
From the Cross to the Crown

February 18 Ash Wednesday
Worship Service at 7 pm with ashes

March 29 Palm Sunday
Worship Service at 10:30 am

April 2 Maundy Thursday
Eucharist Foot/Hand Washing Service at 7 pm

April 3 Good Friday
Tenebrae Service at 7 pm

April 5 Easter
Sunrise Service at Opequon Presby. Church Shelter at 6 am
Easter Service, Holy Communion & Cantata at KUMC at 10:30

Kernstown United Methodist Church
Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 7:00 pm
ASH WEDNESDAY

GATHERING

Prelude

GREETING

†Call to Worship

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Bless the Lord Who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures forever.

†Opening Prayer

O God, maker of everything and judge of all that You have made, from the dust of the Earth, You have formed us and from the dust of death You would raise us up. By the redemptive power of the cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of Your calling, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

†Hymn *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* UMH 269

Old Testament Lesson *Joel 2:1-2, 12-17*

Epistle Lesson *2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10*

†Hymn *Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior* UMH 351

†Gospel Lesson *Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21*

Ways to Give -Kernstown UMC appreciates all donations to further God's Kingdom. There are several options available:

1. Place in offering basket during worship
2. Use QR Code to the right →
3. Give online at kernstownumc.org/give
4. Scheduled payments through your bank
5. Mail check to KUMC



Kernstown United Methodist Church

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INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENT

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: the early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that, before the Easter celebration, there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation. During this season, converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was, also, a time when people who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness and restored participation in the life of the Church. In this way, the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word. To make a right beginning of repentance, and as mark of our mortal nature, let us now bow before our Creator and Redeemer.

Video: Sacrifice (please remain silent for personal reflection)

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

Almighty God, You have created us out of the dust of the Earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so that we may remember that only by Your gracious gift are we given everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

(At this time everyone is welcome to come to the chancel to receive the ashes on your forehead, you will hear the words: **Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return. Repent and believe in the Gospel.**)

CONFESSION AND PARDON

May the Almighty and merciful God, Who desires not the death of a sinner but your repentance, forgive your sins, and restore you by the Holy Spirit to newness of life. **Amen.**

Lighting of the Lenten Wreath

THE PEACE

†Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love

†Hymn

When We Are Living

UMH 356

SENDING FORTH

Dismissal with a Blessing

May God, Who has forgiven and fed us, now make us strong for these days ahead. May Jesus lead us, and we be found faithful to follow.

May the Spirit drive us into the wilderness, burning away the chaff of our lives, and purifying our hearts for all to see and be blessed. And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Mercy, Master, and Fire, be with us and remain with us always!

People: Amen!

Go in peace, to love and serve God and your neighbor.

People: Thanks be to God!

†Stand as you are able

Bold print – all respond

UMH=United Methodist Hymnal (red)

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