SPRING CITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ASH WEDNESDAY – PURPLE March 5, 2014

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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 Worship Leader		
*HYMN	"Majesty, Worship His Majesty"	No. 176
*RESPONSIVE REA	DING Psalm 51:1-17	No. 785
*HYMN	"Surely the Presence of the Lord"	No. 328
*GOSPEL LESSON	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	Worship Leader
SERMON	"Turning Our Hearts to God"	Rev. Dale S. Wyrick
INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE		
SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE III		No. 15
SILENT MEDITATION		Congregation
IMPOSITION OF ASHES		
Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.		

PEOPLE RESPOND: I repent, and believe the gospel.

*Please stand, as you are able.

BENEDICTION

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

¹Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—

² a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

¹² Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

¹³ rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

¹⁴ Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD, your God?

¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly;

¹⁶ gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

¹⁷ Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES (Cont.)

2 Corinthians 5:20 - 6:10

²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹ As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

² For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!

³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry,

⁴ but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities,

⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger;

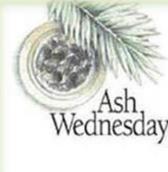
⁶ by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love,

⁷ truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left;

⁸ in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true;

⁹ as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed;

¹⁰ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.



Dear Lord, As we enter this Solemn and Holy Season, we pray that you would send your Holy Spirit upon us that we might prepare ourselves for these coming 40 days of Lent. Even though we may no longer wear sackcloth and ashes, we do seek to humble ourselves so that we can understand the magnificence of Your Love for us as You humbled Yourself and gave Your Life on the Cross that we might receive the gift of Eternal Glory with You. AMEN.

> Ash Wednesday Service March 5, 2014 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Dale S. Wyrick, Pastor

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USHERS Earl Robbins **Eddie Garrison**