**Prelude** Jaci Greig

**\*Call To Worship**

*One: The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you.*

**Many: And also with you.**

*One: The Lord is merciful to all and hates nothing he has created.*

**Many: Our God overlooks our sins to bring us to repentance.**

*One: He is the Lord, our God, and is greatly to be praised.*

**Many: Lord, protect us in our struggle against evil. As we begin the discipline of Lent make this day holy by our self-denial.**

*One: Let us pray.*

**All: Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hears, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our brokenness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen**

**First Scripture Reading** Joel 2:12-18

**Hymn** *Just As I Am #488*

**Second Scripture Reading** II Corinthians 5:20 – 6:2

**Third Scripture Reading** Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

**Homily**  *“Ashes?”* Pastor Dianna Cline

**Silent Prayer and Reflection** Pastor Dianna Cline

*One: Let us now in silence reflect on the gospel message and make our confession and our vows of repentance and new life before the Lord*.

*(Time of silent prayer and meditation)*

*One: Lord forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.*

**Many: I confess to you O God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do. I am truly sorry and humbly repent.**

*One: Lord, hear our prayer of repentance and bless us that we might walk in the newness of the life that you offer.*

**Many: Amen.**

**Imposition of Ashes** Pastor Dianna Cline

**Passing the Peace**

*One: The Lord be with you.*

 **Many: And also with you.**

 *One: Lift up your hearts.*

 **Many: We live our hearts up to the Lord.**

 *One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

 **Many: It is right to give thanks and praise to God.**

*One: Father, all powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise. Through our observance of Lent you correct our faults and raise our minds to you. You help us to grow in holiness and offer us the reward of everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him the angels and all the choirs of heaven worship in awe before your presence. May our voices be one with theirs as they sing with joy the hymn of your glory.*

**Many: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

*One: Blessed indeed, O Lord, is the one who comes in your name. We remember in thankfulness how Christ Jesus came among us, how he lived and how he died so that the chains of sin and death might be struck from us, and how he rose again so that we might never die. We thank you for his sacrifice on our behalf – for his love – for his courage – for his strength – for his suffering. We give praise for how you listened to him and granted to him the prayer of his heart.*

**Many: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**\*Hymn** *Jesus, I Come* #491

**\*Blessing & Dismissal** Pastor Dianna Cline

 *Pastor: May the peace of Christ be with you as you go from this place*

 **Many: And also with you.**

**WELCOME TO NEW BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH**

**We are blessed by your presence!**

**GUEST AND MEMBERS:** If you have questions or would like more information about New Bethel, please feel free to contact the church office. Thank you!

*An American Baptist*

*Congregation*

**\*\*\*\*\*\***

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Pastor Dianna Cline

Jaci Greig, Pianist

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**Welcome to New Bethel Baptist Church**

##  Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025

