First Presbyterian Church Winnsboro Ash Wednesday March 5, 2025 5:00 p.m.

Gathering Prayer

Scripture: Psalm 51:1-17

*Hymn: #2138 (Sing the Faith hymnal)

"Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes"

Confession of Sin (first reading in unison, then silently)

Merciful God, we confess that we have wandered from the path you have chosen for us and followed the superficial ways of today's world. We have not lived our lives the way you have told us that you require us to live: to seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. We live in fear rather than trusting you. Forgive us for allowing the space that we have allowed to grow between us when you are as near as the breath in our lungs. *(followed by silent prayer)* Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri

Scripture: Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

Meditation on Scripture

Imposition of the Ashes

*Hymn: #326 "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

*Benediction (exit in silence)

