

Imposition of Ashes

The Peace

***Offertory Response**

Glory, Glory Everlasting vs. 1&3

***Prayers of Thanksgiving**

The Lord's Prayer

***Closing Praise**

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days # 269

***Sending**

Postlude

*You are invited to stand as you are able or willing.

Leading Worship:

Michael Swimley, Pastor

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James Beatty, Minister of Music

Liturgist: Judy Smith



Ash Wednesday

February 18, 2026

7pm

Livestream at 7pm on
our Facebook page.
Welcome to worship at
[Mt Nittany Church](#)

As followers of Jesus, we
need to be reminded
that the sacrifice of
Jesus was done by Jesus
on our behalf.

Giving:

Mt. Nittany UMC.org
Mount Nittany UMC
1500 E. Branch Rd
State College, PA 16801
mnumcoffice@gmail.com
814 237-3549



Greeting

Prelude

Centering Words

Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I
shall not want.

**2 He makes me lie down in
green pastures; he leads me
beside still waters;**

**3 he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.**

4 Even though I walk through
the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,

**for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**

5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
**you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.**

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
**and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.**

Opening Prayer

**Loving God, you son came, and like a good shepherd,
gave his life for your sheep. Receive our humble
gratitude for this act of sacrifice and courage. Amen.**

***Opening Praise**

I Am Thine O Lord # 419 vs. 1 & 3
Are Ye Able Said The Master # 530

Scripture

Children's Message

John 10: 1-18

Message

Jesus Lays Down His Life

***Gospel Praise**

At the Cross (Love Ran Red)

Prayer of Preparation for Ashes

Invitation to Observance of Lenten Discipline

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 would be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation.
During this season convert to the faith were prepared for
Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had
committed serious sins and had separated themselves from

the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and
forgiveness, and restored to 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 meditation on God's Holy Word.

To make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of
our mortal nature, let us now kneel (bow) before our
Creator and Redeemer.

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**

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, your blessed Son was led by the Spirit
to be tempted by Satan.

Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many
temptations.

And, as you know the weakness of each of us,

let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ
your Son, our Lord. Amen. (The Book of Common Prayer)