

PRELUDE

## **OPENING AND WELCOME**

## CHOIR ANTHEM – A LENTEN PRAYER

## SCRIPTURE READING: JOEL 2: 1-2, 12-17

<sup>1</sup>Blow 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—<sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; <sup>13</sup> rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. <sup>14</sup> 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? <sup>15</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; <sup>16</sup> gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her canopy. <sup>17</sup> 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?' "

## **MEDITATION - REND YOUR HEART, NOT YOUR CLOTHES**

TIME OF SILENT MEDITATION

**EVENING HYMN - ABIDE WITH ME - #543 PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL** 

**IMPOSITION OF ASHES** 

DISMISSAL