

About the East Penns Valley Ministerium's Lent Worship Series

Jesus repeatedly explains himself with "I Am" in the Gospel of John. What do they tell us about Jesus? How do they help bring us closer to Jesus! Using a preaching series from Working Preacher, we will investigate five of these statements during our Lenten worship.

March 12 – *I am the Bread of Life* St. John's Lutheran Church, 101 Mill St, Millheim. Serving a soup supper at 6pm in the choir room behind the sanctuary.

March 19 – *I am the Light of the World* Brush Valley Fusion of Faith, 113 Madisonburg Pike, Madisonburg

March 26 – *I am the Door* Brush Valley New Life Church, 123 Madisonburg Pike, Madisonburg

April 2 – *I am the Good Shepherd* Salem United Church of Christ 4469 Penns Valley Rd., Spring Mills

April 9 – *I am the Resurrection and the Life* – Grace UCC 118 2 Steeples Lane, Spring Mills

April 17 – Maundy Thursday Brush Valley Fusion of Faith 113 Madisonburg Pike, Madisonburg

April 18 – Good Friday Salem Lutheran 138 East Plum St., Aaronsburg

Donations received during this series will be split between the H.O.P.E. Fund of Penns Valley and World Central Kitchen.

Several elements of today's service are from The United Methodist Book of Worship CCLI #1671542

Ash Wednesday



Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.

E C C L E S I A S T E S 3 : 2 0

East Penns Valley Ministerium Ash Wednesday Worship Service
March 5, 2025 at 7 P.M.

Saint James Coburn United Methodist Church
501 Main Street Coburn PA 16832

Pastor Theresa M. Heiser, Officiating John Abbott, Musician

† Please rise in body or in spirit where this symbol appears.

Offerings may be placed in the plate prior to the service and during imposition of ashes.

Benefits The H.O.P.E. Fund of Penns Valley and World Central Kitchen.

GATHERING MUSIC

CENTERING WORDS God's judgement nears. Yet even now, God yearns to remove the funeral shrouds we have woven for ourselves. The Lord is here, offering us the chance to begin again.

† CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

P: God's mercy endures for ever.

† OPENING PRAYER

**O God, maker of everything and judge of all that you have made,
from the dust of the earth you have formed us
and from the dust of death you would raise us up.**

By the redemptive power of the cross,

Create in us clean hearts

And put within us a new spirit,

That we may repent of our sins

And lead lives worthy of your calling;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

† OPENING HYMN Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days UMH #269

SCRIPTURE Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

SERMON Crossing the Bridge:

A Lenten Journey of Reflection, Repentance, and Renewal

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

† BLESSING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS – DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below. Praise him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

† CLOSING HYMN Just As I Am, Without One Plea UMH #357

COMMISSION & BLESSING

Feel free to take your time after worship to pray
and contemplate the journey that begins today.

Thank you for worshipping with us.