

ASH WEDNESDAY

*"From dust you came and
from dust you will return."*



Rockford United Methodist Church
February 18, 2026

Prayer of Confession Psalm 51: 1 – 17

Bold print verses for Everyone to read together.

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless in your judgment.

5 Behold, I was born into iniquity, and I have been sinful since my mother conceived me.

6 Behold, you desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Make me hear with joy and gladness; let the bones which you have broken rejoice.

9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

11 Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your holy spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

14 Deliver me from death, O God, God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth your praise.

16 For you have no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

17 The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP
February 18, 2026 – 7pm

Welcome to our worship service! *Those who are able, please stand.
Please silence your cell phone; and please take a moment to sign in on the registration attendance pad, or online at rockfordumc.org.

GATHERING John Dibble

GREETING / CALL TO WORSHIP / ASH WEDNESDAY PRAYER

PRELUDE Forty Days and Forty Nights H. Alexander Matthews

*HYMN Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days No. 269

SCRIPTURE Luke 4:1-13 (pew bible pg. 936) Steve Holen

MESSAGE “In the Wilderness” Pastor Anna Moon

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Psalm 51:1-17)

SONG Create in Me a Clean Heart Praise Team

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

IMPOSITION AND RECEIVING OF ASHES

Please present hand or forehead for the ashes.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SHARING OF PEACE

*SONG Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

*BENEDICTION

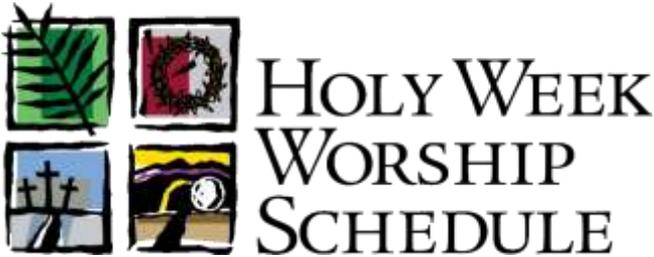
*POSTLUDE My Song is Love Unknown Dale Wood

Our Wi-Fi password is: welcomefriends

Create In Me a Clean Heart

Create in me a clean heart, O God
And restore a right spirit within me
Create in me a clean heart, O God
And restore a right spirit within me

Cast me not away from Thy presence, O Lord
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me, the joy of Thy salvation
And renew a right spirit within me.



Please join us for our Holy Week and Easter services!

- **Sun, March 29:** Palm Sunday Services,
8:45 am Traditional & 11 am Contemporary
- **Thurs, April 1:** Maundy Thursday Service, 7 pm
- **Fri, April 2:** Good Friday Services,
1 pm Traditional & 7 pm Contemporary
- **Sun, April 5:** Easter Sunday Services,
8:45 am Traditional & 11 am Contemporary

Please mark your calendars for our Easter Egg Hunt!

Saturday, March 28, at 10 am
For children ages Pre-k through 5th grade.
Watch for registration information.