



February 14, 2018

ASH WEDNESDAY

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

Those are the words that are said all over the world today as Christians are marked with ashes. “You are dust,” we say, because the book of Genesis tells how God, “formed a human from the dust of the ground, and breathed into the human’s nostrils the breath of life; and the human became a living being.”

Genesis is a story that is full of theological insight. It tells us that we are connected to the earth. We are made of physical stuff. We are made of dirt, dust, stardust. To be reminded of this seems to me a wondrous gift, because it is amazing that such stuff could be pulled together as a human life. Your life is precious.

We are connected to the earth and to each other. That’s worth remembering, and remembering might help us to care more lovingly for ourselves, and for one another, and for the earth itself.

This day is about remembering. We begin by confessing that we often forget. We forget that we are connected to each other. We forget that we are filled with God’s spirit. We forget that life is precious.

The ashes help us to remember, and Lent is a season of remembering.

*Worship on Ash Wednesday is at noon and 7:00 p.m. in the Wallace
Chapel.*

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt". The signature is stylized with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

*Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster
Senior Minister*