



Ash Wednesday Worship

February 10, 2016

6:00 pm

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent.

It is a service for repentance and somber reflection based on the text:

“you are dust and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19).

The use of ashes began in the tenth century to remind worshipers of their mortality as they began their Lenten journey to the cross.

This first day of Lent reminds us that two things are involved in genuine repentance:

“the dying of the old self and the coming to life of the new.”

Gathering

Bless the Lord, My Soul

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

Procession of the Cross and Light

Prayer (responsive)

Let us pray. (pause)

Into all darkness, doubt, and despair,
Christ Jesus, be our light.

Into all sorrow, sickness, and grief,
Christ Jesus, be our comfort.

Into each conflict, division, and war,
Christ Jesus, be our peace.

Into all separation, apathy, and sin,
Christ Jesus, be our mercy.

Into all wounded and weary,
Christ Jesus, be our hope, now and always. Amen.

Word and Prayers

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

Greek Ky - ri-e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri-e e - le - i - son.

English Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

Ky - ri-e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri-e e - le - i - son.

Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

Psalm 51:

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgment.

Kyrie eleison.

You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

Kyrie eleison.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.
Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.
Deliver me from bloodshed,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
For you have no delight in sacrifice;
if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.
The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Kyrie eleison.

Glory In the Cross

1. Let us ev - er glo - ry in the cross of Christ who re -
deems us with his blood. Let us tell the sto - ry of the
cross of Christ and the power of his sav - ing love. Like a
lamb he was slain; he car - ried our shame, to

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The first staff begins with a repeat sign. The lyrics are: "1. Let us ev - er glo - ry in the cross of Christ who re -", "deems us with his blood. Let us tell the sto - ry of the", "cross of Christ and the power of his sav - ing love. Like a", "lamb he was slain; he car - ried our shame, to".

show us the mer-cy of God. Let us ev - er glo-ry in the

cross of Christ and the tri-umph of God's great love.

Meditation/Theme Interpretation

Carol McEntyre

Movement to the Cross

Please lay a nail by the cross, a symbol of the cross' ugliness and a reminder of the beauty we find in its grace and mercy. Then, take some time to kneel, sit, or stand in prayer, confessing your sins and asking for forgiveness.

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

1 O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer;
Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise.

when I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O
All my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song, the

Lord, hear my prayer; come and lis - ten to me. 2 The
Lord is my praise. God, the well-spring of life.

Prayer

*Many of your people, O God,
have lost their way, feel abandoned,
or are overwhelmed by the violence around them.*

*Many are trapped in the darkness of despair,
too hurt to speak;
and too broken to hope.*

*Many are drawn to other gods and easier loyalties,
too seduced to resist,
and too disenchanted to care.*

*Many feel utterly alone in the world,
unable to love themselves,
unable to love beyond themselves.*

*Many of your people are victims of recent world disasters,
near and far away,
whose misery goes unreported, unobserved,
and who endure famine, war, and disease.*

*We pray for all your people
who need your saving grace.*

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Glory In the Cross (stanza 2)



1. Let us ev - er glo - ry in the cross of Christ who re -
(2. Let us) bring our bur - dens to the cross of Christ who has



deems us with his blood. Let us tell the sto - ry of the
known our sor - row and tears. In the great com - pas - sion of the



cross of Christ and the power of his sav - ing love. Like a
heart of Christ, God has walked in our hopes and fears. He was



lamb he was slain; he car - ried our shame, to
mocked and be - trayed, de - sert - ed by friends, and



show us the mer - cy of God.
ban - ished to die a - mong thieves. Let us ev - er glo - ry in the



cross of Christ and the tri - umph of God's great love.

Movement to the Cross

Lent was originally a 40 day period of fasting prior to Easter, and from this tradition, some faith communities developed the concept of "giving something up" for Lent. Tonight, as we begin the season of Lent, we invite you to make a commitment to God. On the piece of paper under your chair, please write down a commitment you might make to God; for example, perhaps you

could read your Bible daily, pray for someone in need, volunteer at a local help organization, or give up caffeine. Once you have written a commitment, please lay the paper by the cross and pause to ask for God's help.

Special Music

Just As I Am

Madeline O'Meara, Bria Jones, Joey Smith, Ben Worley

Imposition of Ashes and Movement to the Cross

The ashes remind us of our mortality and our sinful nature. Please journey to the small table where Pastor Carol will give the sign of the cross to all who desire. The cross reminds us of Christ's death and symbolizes the grace and mercy that he shares so freely with us. After receiving the ashes of mortality and penitence, please light one of the candles located around the cross as a reminder that, in the light of Christ, darkness and sin are overcome.

Come As You Are

*Come out of sadness from wherever you've been
Come broken-hearted let rescue begin
Come find your mercy O sinner come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal*

*(So) Lay down your burdens lay down your shame
All who are broken lift up your face
O wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt lay down your heart
Come as you are*

*There's hope for the hopeless
 And all those who've strayed
 Come sit at the table come taste the grace
 There's rest for the weary
 Rest that endures
 Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure*

*Come as you are
 Fall in His arms
 Come as you are*

*There's joy for the morning O sinner be still
 Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
 Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal*

Come as you are

Glory In the Cross (stanza 3)

1. Let us ev - er glo - ry in the cross of Christ who re -
 (2. Let us) bring our bur - dens to the cross of Christ who has
 (3. Let us) kneel in hom - age at the cross of Christ where we

deems us with his blood. Let us tell the sto - ry of the
 known our sor - row and tears. In the great com - pas - sion of the
 see God's hu - man face. We be - hold the Mak - er of the

cross of Christ and the power of his sav - ing love. Like a
 heart of Christ, God has walked in our hopes and fears. He was
 sun and stars as he hangs on the throne of grace. As we

lamb he was slain; he car - ried our shame, to
 mocked and be - trayed, de - sert - ed by friends, and
 share in his pain, his sor - row and shame, our

show us the mer - cy of God.
 ban - ished to die a - mong thieves. Let us ev - er glo - ry in the
 hearts will be test - ed in fire.

cross of Christ and the tri - umph of God's great love.

Closing Prayer

Gathering our many prayers into one, let us pray. (pause)

*Holy God, our light and our salvation,
 you hear us when we cry to you
 and answer when we call.*

*Grant that all who seek your face in times of trouble
 may see your goodness in the land of the living,
 and dwell in your presence all the days of their lives,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

Sending

*The psalmist encourages us with these words:
 This we believe—
 we will see the goodness of God.
 Take heart as you go in peace
 or remain to pray.*

Worship Notes:

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1112 E. Broadway | 573-442-1149 | www.fbc-columbia.org

Church Staff

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