

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

HOMILY

Rev. Collin Adams

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*You are invited to come up the center aisle to receive the sign of the cross.
To receive a blessing in lieu of the ashes, cross your arms over your chest
as you approach the minister.*

***CLOSING HYMN 433**

“Sign Us With Ashes”

***BENEDICTION AND BLESSING**



Service of Worship and Recommitment

February 22, 2023, 6:30 pm

GATHERING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to worship God as the Lenten season begins, aware of our weakness and our stumbling.

We come looking for God's mercy, aware that we cannot save ourselves.

Having gone through the waters of baptism,

We come now to be marked with ashes.

Let us humble ourselves before the Lord, not with a yoke of burden

But with a mantle of freedom in Jesus' name.

***OPENING HYMN 422**

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Psalm 51)

Have mercy on me, God, according to your faithful love! Wipe away my wrongdoings according to your great compassion! Wash me completely clean of my guilt; purify me from my sin! Because I know my wrongdoings, my sin is always right in front of me.

I've sinned against you – you alone. I've committed evil in your sight. That's why you are justified when you render your verdict, completely correct when you issue your judgment.

Yes, I was born in guilt, in sin, from the moment my mother conceived me. And yes, you want truth in the most hidden places; you teach me wisdom in the most secret space.

Purify me with hyssop and I will be clean; wash me and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and celebration again; let the bones you crushed rejoice once more.

Hide your face from my sins; wipe away all my guilty deeds! Create a clean heart for me, God; put a new, faithful spirit deep inside me!

Please don't throw me out of your presence; please don't take your holy spirit away from me. Return the joy of your salvation to me and sustain me with a willing spirit.

Then I will teach wrongdoers your ways, and sinners will come back to you.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

According to God's steadfast love, according to God's abundant mercy, God does not pass judgment on us, the judgment we deserve.

God creates clean hearts within us and breathes a new and right spirit into us. In the grace of Jesus Christ, we return to God forgiven. Praise God for our salvation! Alleluia, AMEN

ANTHEM

“Dust and Ashes”

David Haas

*Dust and ashes touch our face, mark our failure and our falling.
Holy Spirit, come, walk with us tomorrow,
take us as disciples, washed and wakened by your calling.
Take us by the hand and lead us, lead us through the desert sands,
bring us living water, Holy Spirit, come.
Dust and ashes soil our hands, greed of market, pride of nation.
Holy Spirit, come, walk with us tomorrow,
as we pray and struggle through the meshes of oppression.
Take us by the hand and lead us, lead us through the desert sands,
bring us living water, Holy Spirit, come.
Dust and ashes choke our tongue in the wasteland of depression.
Holy Spirit, come, walk with us tomorrow,
through all gloom and grieving to the paths of resurrection.
Take us by the hand and lead us, lead us through the desert sands,
bring us living water, Holy Spirit, come.*