

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 14, 2024, 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.*

422 Create in Me a Clean Heart

(Psalm 51)

Capo 3: (C) (F) (C) (E7) (Am)
 Eb Ab Eb G7 Cm

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

(D) (Dm) (F) (G) (C)
 F Fm Ab Bb Eb

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

(Dm7) (E7) (Am) (D7) (G7) (Gm7)
 Fm7 G7 Cm F7 Bb7 Bbm7

pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.

(C7) (F) (Em7) (Am)
 Eb7 Ab Gm7 Cm

Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -

(F) (Em7) (Am) (Am/F#) (C)
 Ab Gm7 Cm Cm/A Eb

hold me with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean

(A) (F) (C) (Dm) (C)
 C Ab Eb Fm Eb

heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This reflective setting of Psalm 51:10–12 uses the first of those verses as an embracing refrain. Because of its penitential tone, a longer version of this psalm is customarily used on Ash Wednesday. In Christian tradition, it is identified as one of the seven penitential psalms.

433

Sign Us with Ashes

Capo 3: (G) (D) (Em) (Bm) (Am7)
 Refrain B \flat F Gm Dm Cm7
All



Sign us with ash - es, mer - ci - ful God, chil - dren of

(G) (Am7) (D) (G) (D)
 B \flat Cm7 F B \flat F



dust, as to dust we re - turn. Sign us with ash - es,

(Em) (Bm) (Am7) (D7) (Gsus) (G)
 Gm Dm Cm7 F7 B \flat sus B \flat *Fine*



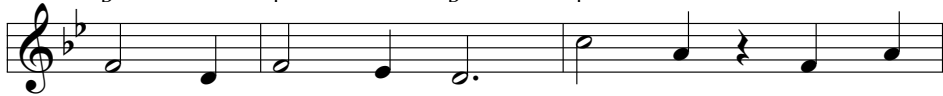
mer - ci - ful God. Mark us and make us your own.

(D) (G) (C)
 F B \flat E \flat



1 Sure - ly, you a - lone can save us. You pay our
 2 Sure - ly, you a - lone up - hold us. You give us
 3 Sure - ly, you a - lone can heal us. Yours is the
 4 Sure - ly, you a - lone can free us. You break the
 5 Sure - ly, you a - lone re - fine us. You give us
 6 Sure - ly, you a - lone re - deem us. You fill our

(G) (D) (G) (D)
 B \flat F B \flat F



price with pre - cious blood. Reach - ing through your
 strength for all our needs. Shield - ing with a
 will to make us whole. Sooth - ing with a
 bonds of guilt and sin. Brac - ing, till we
 grace for lives made new, forg - ing, through your
 dust with ho - ly breath. Burst - ing from the

The refrain here recalls the imposition of ashes, a ritual based on Genesis 3:19, which has been a part of Christian worship on Ash Wednesday since the 9th century. As *The Book of Common Worship* states, "This ancient sign speaks of the frailty and uncertainty of human life."

CONFESSION

(G) (C) (G) (Dsus) (D)
 B^b E^b B^b F^{sus} F
to Refrain

great com - pas - sion, you lift up your peo - ple with love.
 fa - ther's fa - vor, you bless us with par - don and peace.
 moth - er's kind - ness, the con - trite of heart, you con - sole.
 walk up - right - ly, you bol - ster our hope once a - gain.
 fire and ra - diance, a sac - ri - fice wor - thy for you.
 grave in glo - ry, you rise from the ash - es of death!