

# ASH

WEDNESDAY

February 10

**NOON**

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**East Liberty  
Presbyterian Church**

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THE CATHEDRAL OF HOPE

116 South Highland Ave • Pittsburgh, PA 15206

**[www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)**

# Welcome

**Thank you for joining us this afternoon.**

We invite you to journey with us as we attempt to experience the final days and events of Jesus' life, the tragedy and the glory of this Lenten season.

May we see, perhaps for the first time, the whole picture.



*We invite you to continue your journey with us again during any of our Holy Week worship services:*

Wednesday Taizé Service, March 23 at 7 pm

Maundy Thursday, March 24 at 7 pm

Good Friday, March 25 at 12 Noon

Good Friday Tenebrae Service, March 25 at 7 pm

Holy Saturday, March 26 at 7 pm (*Easter Vigil*)

Easter Sunday, March 27 at 8:45 am and 11 am



*Order Of Worship*  
**Ash Wednesday**  
*February 10, 2016 † 12 Noon*

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

Leader: God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him

**People: God's love endures forever.**

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**People: God's love endures forever.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of tenderness, turn our broken hearts to you, heal our broken lives by your grace. Strengthen us to face our mortality that we may reach with confidence for your mercy – a mercy that you have graciously offered to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**\* OPENING HYMN** (*printed in bulletin*)

BAYLOR

“Restore in Us, O God”

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*\* Indicates where to please rise in body or spirit.*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: We are children of dust, unworthy of the favors and goodness that God showers upon us. We have not loved as God has loved us. We have not lived as we ought, knowing that our years are soon gone. Yet God has mercy on us and is present in our lives to lift us above every past regret and present failure. God has mercy and is present in our lives to reveal to us our true selves and to give us the grace and courage to live by God's promises. Trusting in God's mercy and faithful presence in our lives, let us confess our sins to the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Let us pray:

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Psalm 51:1-8

**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy wipe out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know that my sin is ever before me. Against you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight. You are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. Indeed I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. Yet 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.**

**TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION****HYMN** (*printed in bulletin*)

CREATE IN ME

"Create in Me A Clean Heart"

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS** The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: In spite of our sinfulness, God forgives. In spite of our brokenness, God redeems us and makes us whole. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel!

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

The Rev. Dr. Lisa Thompson  
Joel 2:1-2, 12-13

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf  
2 Corinthians 5:14-6:2

## HOMILY

The Rev. Schoenewolf

## INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE

The Rev. Schoenewolf

*Friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life in the paschal mystery. We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. We also begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes. This ancient sign speaks of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marks the penitence of this community. I invite you, therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by reading and meditating on the Word of God.*

## IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

*After coming forward for the imposition of ashes, you are invited to visit either or both of two prayer stations located in the front of the Chapel.*

*Station One: “Letting Go” – At this station, you are invited to identify and prayerfully surrender the things in your life of which you must let go in order to draw nearer to God. You are invited to light a candle as a symbol of giving up that which hinders you from closeness with God.*

*Station Two: “Taking On” – At this station, you are invited to identify and prayerfully affirm the things in your life that you would like to take on in order to draw closer to God – whether prayer practices, acts of service, Sabbath, etc. You are invited to select a small stone to carry with you on your Lenten journey as a symbol of taking on something that will enable you to draw closer to God.*

## SOLO DURING IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Mary Louise Bringle/William P. Rowan  
“Sign Us With Ashes”

## LITANY

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: Gracious God, you created us from the dust, giving all of us life, by your grace. You made us in your image and called us your own. You loved us, and asked us to love you in return. But we have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

**People: Turn our hearts to you, O God.**

Leader: We confess to you:  
Our past unfaithfulness – the pride, hypocrisy and impatience in our lives;  
Our self-indulgent choices; the ways in which we exploit others, through our actions and inactions.

**People: Turn our hearts to you, O God.**

Leader: We confess to you:  
Our anger at our own frustrations,  
Our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,  
Our neglect of the world you have made.

**People: Turn our hearts to you, O God.**

Leader: In your goodness, O God, you make all things new. Renew our hearts, our minds, our spirits, our bodies that we might serve you. Renew our homes, our neighborhoods, our cities, and all nations of this world that we might live in peace.

**People: Transform our lives by the power of your steadfast love, that we might love you fully, and love others in your holy and precious name. Amen.**

\* **HYMN** (*printed in bulletin*)

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

**CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

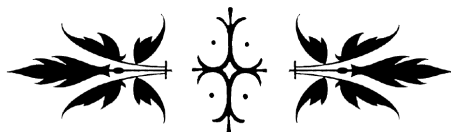
The Rev. Schoenewolf

**POSTLUDE**



## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

- Preaching: **The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf**  
*Associate Pastor*
- Liturgists: **The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush**  
*Senior Pastor*
- The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy**  
*Associate Pastor*
- The Rev. Dr. Lisa Thompson**  
*Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*
- Musicians: **Dr. Edward Alan Moore**  
*Organist/Music Director*
- David Jennings Smith**  
*Soloist*
- Sound: **Wayne Gaines**



## SPECIAL PRESENTATION FOLLOWING SERVICE




Following this service, a simple lunch of soup and bread will be served in Room 234. The Rev. Dr. Lisa Thompson of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary will be with us to share some reflections on this season. All are welcome!

Later this evening, the Taizé Prayer Service at 7 pm will continue the focus on preparing our spirits and souls for the Lenten season with the imposition of ashes and sung and silent prayers.


# RESTORE IN US, O GOD

Capo 1: (Em) (Bm7) (Em)(Bm7) (Em) (C) (Bm)  
 Fm Cm7 Fm Cm7 Fm D<sup>b</sup> Cm



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen-dor of your love;  
 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your power;  
 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy;  
 4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace,

(Am7) (Em) (Am) (Bm) (Em) (Bm7) (Em)  
 B<sup>b</sup>m7 Fm B<sup>b</sup>m Cm Fm Cm7 Fm



re - new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.  
 from fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flower.  
 bap - tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.  
 that we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

This text reflects the historic understanding of Lent as a time to prepare catechumens for Baptism and penitents for reconciliation at the Easter Vigil. The first three stanzas address one of the three divine Persons, while the fourth stanza implores the help of the full Trinity.

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1987  
 MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1985  
 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company  
 Music © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

BAYLOR  
 SM

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# CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

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.

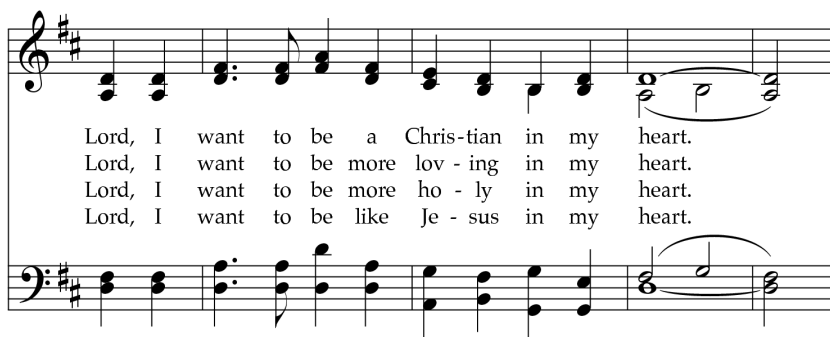
*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

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.

# LORD, I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN



1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;  
 2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart;  
 3 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;  
 4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;



Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.



In my heart, in my heart,  
 In my heart, in my heart,



Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Through its recurring phrase, "in my heart," this poignant African American spiritual expresses the desire that our professed faith will not be superficial or hypocritical but will permeate the very center of our being, so that we may truly be the people God calls us to be.



