

A woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a dark jacket, is shown in profile with her eyes closed and hands clasped in prayer. A small amount of dark ash is visible on her forehead. The background is blurred, showing other people in a church setting.

ASH

WEDNESDAY

worship service

2.26.20 • noon



East Liberty
Presbyterian Church

www.ELPC.church

Order Of Worship

Ash Wednesday

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Frances Wilson

Leader: Welcome to a season of self-examination; this is a time for reconciliation with God and neighbor.

People: Welcome together, siblings, to meet God, longing for the abundant mercy of our Creator.

Leader: Seek to know God's presence here and everywhere; let the wisdom of God guide you in truth.

People: Through hardship, affliction, and calamity, we reach for the power of God to steady us.

Leader: Prepare yourselves for a period of testing. Be open to the grace that enables your growth.

People: With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning, we seek the steadfast love of God.

* OPENING HYMN (*printed in bulletin*)

RESTORATION

"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Frances Wilson

Leader: Gracious and ever-living God, you love everything you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore.

People: Amen.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON The Rev. Dr. Angela Hancock
Psalm 51:1-17

HYMN (*printed in bulletin*)

KINGSFOLD

"Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

* Indicates where to please rise in body or spirit.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:13

HOMILY

The Rev. Schoenewolf
“Hard Conversations”

LITANY OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Hancock

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your faithful love! According to your great mercy, wipe away our wrongdoings. For we have sinned against you, choosing comfort over compassion, and selfish gain over service. With delight, you knit us together in secret and gave us hearts for love. But so often these hearts lust after the empty gods of this world and cause you distress.

People: **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.**

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, for we tear away at your vision of shalom. You yearn for creation to flourish, but we privilege our own security over the welfare of others. Rather than breaking the yoke, we are complicit in systems that oppress. Rather than sharing your abundance, we satisfy our own hearts and sate our own appetites. We pass by those who are desperate, when we could offer refuge or respite. We overlook those who are downtrodden, when we could offer comfort or care.

People: **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.**

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, renew our spirits and transform our lives. Purge our hearts and homes, our community and country of words that diminish and actions that harm. Draw near to us that we might draw near to you – not with superficial repentance, but with a deep desire to walk in your ways. Restore to us salvation’s joy, O God, and set us on the path of justice and righteousness, so that our light might break forth like the dawn.

People: **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Hancock

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Siblings in Christ, every year at the beginning of Lent we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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 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 sincere penitence of this community.

I invite you to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, prayer, and fasting, by works of love, reading and meditating on the Word of God, and through service to others.



IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

* HYMN (printed in bulletin)

SARADAY

“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Schoenewolf



PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching:	The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf <i>Associate Pastor</i>
Liturgists:	The Rev. Dr. Angela Hancock <i>Associate professor of homiletics and worship at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary</i> Frances Wilson
Musicians:	Dr. Edward Alan Moore <i>Organist/Music Director</i> Pamela M. Kimmel <i>Cantor</i>
Sound:	Wayne Gaines

SPECIAL PRESENTATION FOLLOWING SERVICE

Following our service, join us in the McKelvy Room for lunch and a discussion on the intersectionality of worship and theodicy, led by the Rev. Dr. Angela Hancock.

The Rev. Dr. Hancock is the associate professor of homiletics and worship at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and author of *Karl Barth's Emergency Homiletic, 1932–1933: A Summons to Prophetic Witness at the Dawn of the Third Reich*. She is an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and has served as pastor to churches in Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

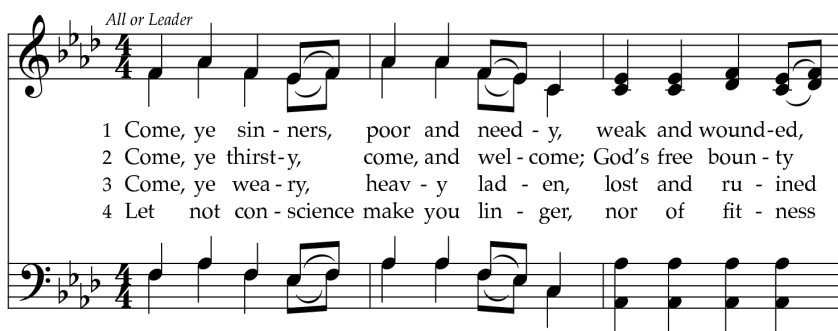
Later this evening, the Taizé Prayer service at 7 pm will continue the focus on preparing our spirits and souls for the Lenten season with the imposition of ashes and sung and silent prayers.

FACING SYSTEMIC RACISM LENTEN BOOK STUDY

As part of our focus on Facing Systemic Racism, the Mission Board encourages ELPC members and friends to embrace all aspects of Lent by engaging in an intentional read and weekly discussion of Pastor Daniel Hill's book *White Awake: An Honest Look at What It Means to be White*, beginning Sunday, March 1 at Noon in the McKelvy Room. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and a light lunch will be served. Childcare is available with reservation one week prior. Contact Sara Hackett for details (SaraH@coh.net).

COME, YE SINNERS, POOR AND NEEDY

All or Leader



1 Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound-ed,
2 Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel - come; God's free boun - ty
3 Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y lad - en, lost and ru - ined
4 Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness

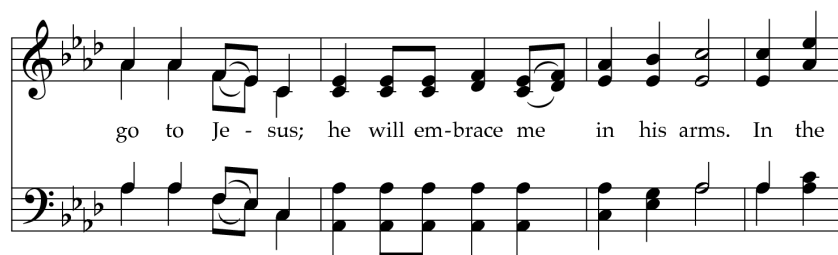


sick and sore; Je - sus read - y stands to save you,
glo - ri - fy, true be - lief and true re - pen - tance,
by the fall; if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,
fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness he re - quir - eth

Refrain
All



full of pit - y, love, and power.
ev - ery grace that brings you nigh. I will a - rise and
you will nev - er come at all.
is to feel your need of him.



go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me in his arms. In the

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves, a treble staff and a bass staff, both in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The piece ends with a double bar line.

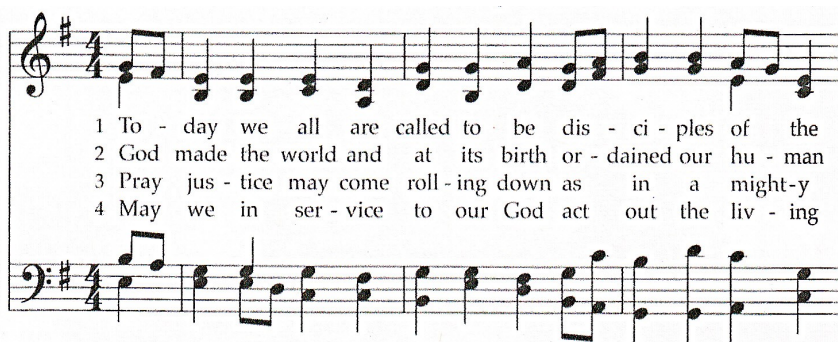
arms of my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou-sand charms.

The differing voices of this text indicate that its parts were not created together. The stanzas are cast in the voice of a preacher or exhorter, but the refrain (added later) takes the voice of a penitent heeding that call in language like that of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:18).

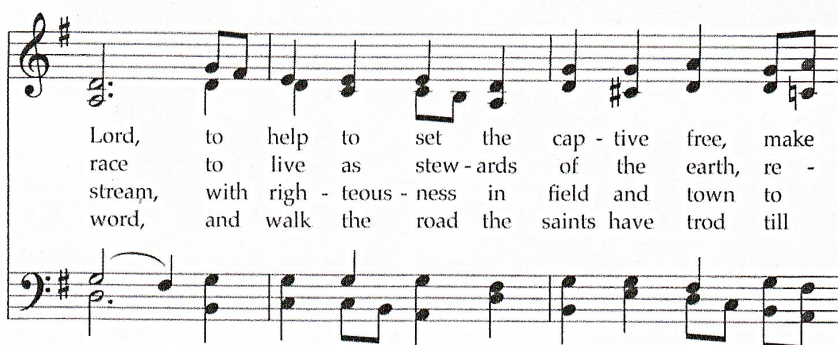
TEXT: Stanzas, Joseph Hart, 1759, alt.; refrain, anon.
MUSIC: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835

RESTORATION
8.7.8.7 with refrain

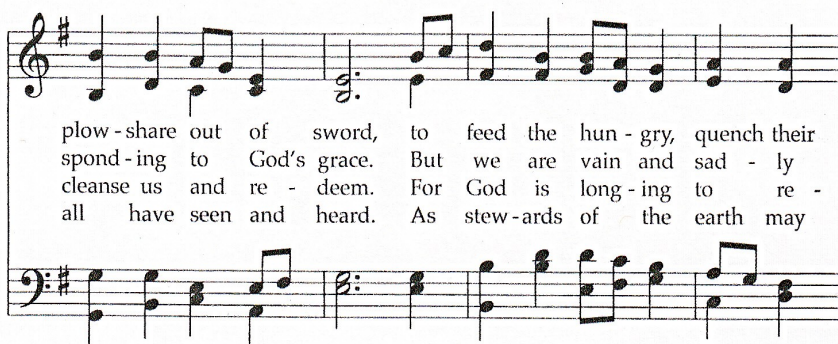
TODAY WE ALL ARE CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES



1 To - day we all are called to be dis - ci - ples of the
 2 God made the world and at its birth or - dained our hu - man
 3 Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down as in a might - y
 4 May we in ser - vice to our God act out the liv - ing



Lord, to help to set the cap - tive free, make
 race to live as stew - ards of the earth, re -
 stream, with righ - teous - ness in field and town to
 word, and walk the road the saints have trod till



plow - share out of sword, to feed the hun - gry, quench their
 spond - ing to God's grace. But we are vain and sad - ly
 cleanse us and re - deem. For God is long - ing to re -
 all have seen and heard. As stew - ards of the earth may

This text placing stewardship in the context of faithful witness was written by a retired Presbyterian minister to be part of the 1986 stewardship campaign titled "Called to Be Disciples." The tune name recalls the Sussex village where the arranger first heard the melody.

thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the
 proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our dis - cord
 store an earth where con - flicts cease, a world that
 we give thanks in one ac - cord to God who

poor and home - less first, our ease and com - fort last.
 spreads a dead - ly cloud that threat - ens all of life.
 was cre - at - ed for a har - mo - ny of peace.
 calls us all to be dis - ci - ples of the Lord.

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD

Capo 5: (F) (Gsus) (G) (C) (Em7) (F) (A7)
B \flat Csus C F Am7 B \flat D7



1 Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God; cre -
2 7 Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence; 7
3 Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion; re -

(D) (D7) (G) (Dm)
G G7 C Gm



ate in me a clean heart, O God; cre -
cast me not a - way from your pres - ence; 7
store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion; re -

(E) (E7) (Am) (E7) (Am)
A A7 Dm A7 Dm



ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
cast me not a - way from your pres - ence 7 and
store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -

(Dm7) (Em) (G) (C) [(Em)]
Gm7 Am C F [Am]



new a right spir - it with - in me.
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
hold me with your free Spir - it.

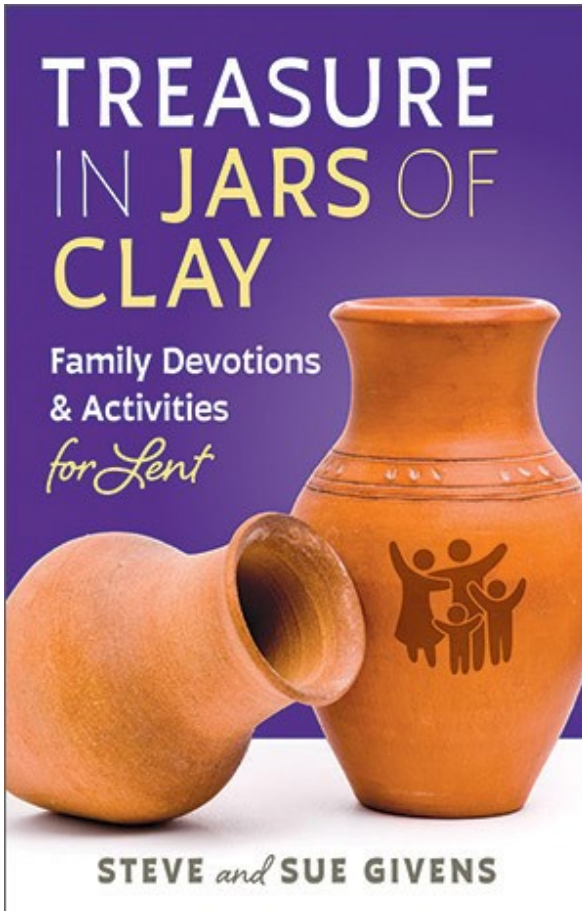
The text here comes from Psalm 51:10-12, three verses that illustrate the pattern of parallels often found in Hebrew poetry. The first verse here centers on positive actions, the second on avoidance of negative actions, and the third on providing an improved spiritual condition.

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS NOW AVAILABLE

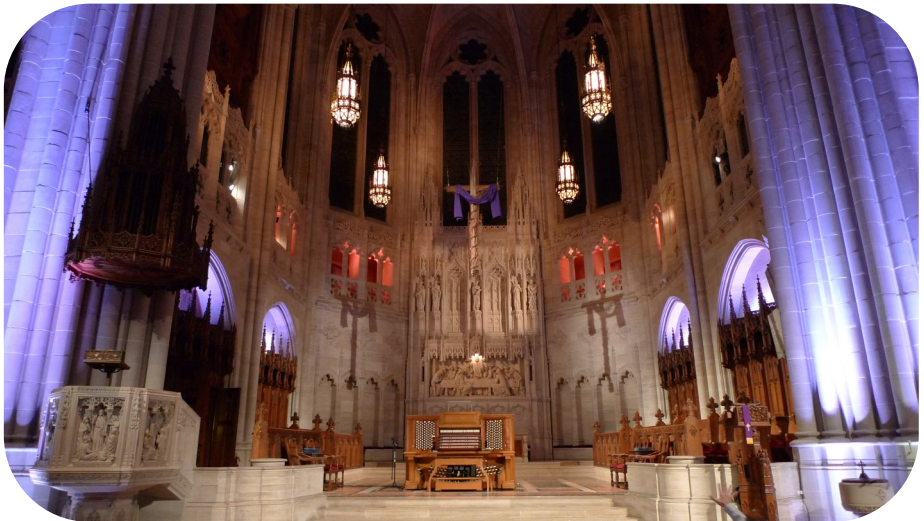
Once more, the Children and Family Ministries Team has purchased devotional materials to encourage you along your Lenten journey.

Treasures in Jars of Clay is a devotional created for families of all ages and configurations, but also can be engaged by individuals looking for a personal prayer practice.

Materials will be available outside of each worship service and on the second floor table. There will be additional “supplies” in the Kids Corner for those who may need assistance gathering the hands-on materials that are a part of the devotional exercises. We ask that you take one booklet per family unit.



Holy Week & Easter Services



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

Wednesday Taizé Stations of the Cross Service, April 8 at 7 pm

Maundy Thursday, April 9 at 7 pm

Good Friday, April 10 at 12 Noon

Good Friday Tenebrae Service, April 10 at 7 pm

Saturday Easter Vigil, April 11 at 7 pm

Easter Sunday, April 12 at 8:45 am and 11 am

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