

ASH WEDNESDAY

worship service



February 14, 2024
Noon • Chapel



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

116 South Highland Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412.441.3800

www.ELPC.church

Order Of Worship

Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024 • 12 Noon

* Indicates where to please rise in body or spirit.

PRELUDE

“Audi, benigne conditor”

Gerald Near

*O Kind Creator, bow thine ear to mark the cry, to know the tear
Before thy throne of mercy spent in this thy holy fast of Lent.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

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.

* HYMN (*printed in bulletin*)

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

RESTORATION

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*in unison*)

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

Almighty God, you despise nothing you have made and you forgive the sins of all who trust in you. Create in us new and contrite hearts, that truly repenting of our sins, and acknowledging our brokenness, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12
Luke 4:1-13

Adrianna Cleveland
Carol Chonoska

* HYMN (*printed in bulletin*)

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

GOSPEL READING

Mark 6:30-44

The Rev. Schoenewolf

SERMON

“Fasting and Feeding”

The Rev. Schoenewolf

INVITATION TO OBSERVE A HOLY LENT

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Beloved people of God: Lent is a time to prepare for a celebration of 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 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 meditating on God’s word. Now let us bow before God in a Litany of Penitence, confessing our sin as individuals and as a community of faith.

LITANY OF PENITENCE

The Rev. Woodworth

Please reply: Have mercy on us, O God.

IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

* HYMN DURING THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES (*printed in bulletin*)

PHOENIX

“Sign Us with Ashes”

* CLOSING HYMN (*printed in bulletin*)

O QUANTA QUALIA

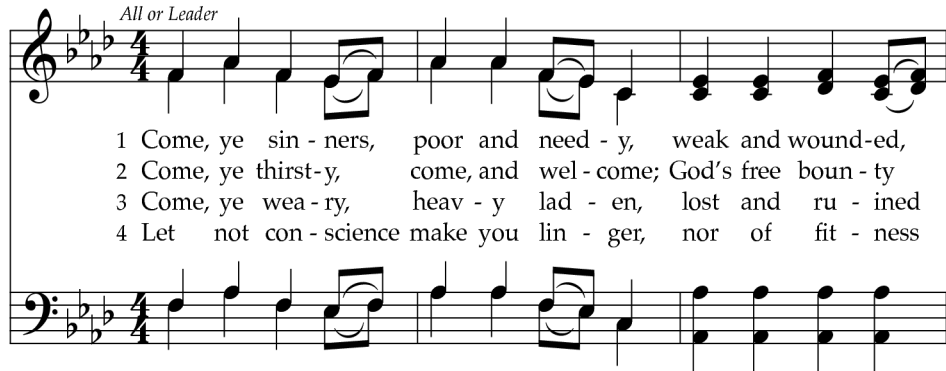
“God of Compassion, In Mercy Befriend Us”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION


The Rev. Schoenewolf

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

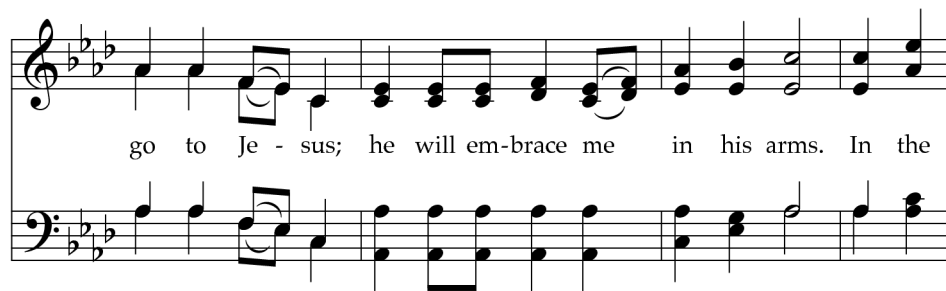


sick and sore; Je - sus read - y stands to save you,
glo - ri - fy, true be - lief and true re - pen - tance,
by the fall; if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,
fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness he re - quir - eth

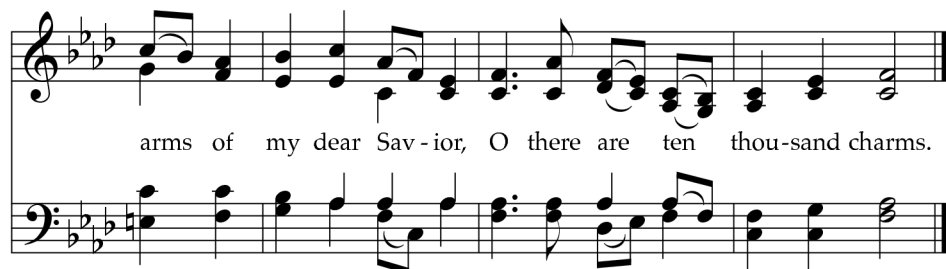
Refrain
All



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



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

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

Capo 1: (D) Refrain

(A7) (Em)

B^b7 Fm

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, for if you

(A) (D) (A7) (D)

B^b E^b B^b7 E^b

lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each

(A7) (B7) (Em) (D) (A7) (D)

B^b7 C7 Fm E^b B^b7 E^b Fine

day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

(D) (B7) (Em) (A7) (Em)

E^b C7 Fm B^b7 Fm

I am weak and I need your strength and power to help me

(A) (D) (D) (D7)

B^b E^b E^b E^b7

o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the dark-ness your

(Em) (D) (A7) (D)

Fm E^b B^b7 E^b to Refrain

face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This African American gospel hymn can well be understood as an updated adaptation of Psalm 5:8, with the "enemies" of the psalm treated as the pressures and temptations of daily life. As with the psalms, the "I" here is understood to express a shared communal experience.

TEXT: Doris Akers, 1953

MUSIC: Doris Akers, 1953; arr. Richard Smallwood

Text and Music © 1953, ren. Doris Akers (admin. Chappell & Co., Inc./Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.)

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

Irregular

CCLI #689547

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
Leader or All

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."

GOD OF COMPASSION, IN MERCY BEFRIEND US

1 God of com - pas - sion, in mer - cy be - friend us,
2 Though we are lost, you have sought us and found us,
3 How shall we stray, with your hand to di - rect us,

giv - er of grace for our needs all - a - vail - ing.
stilled our rude hearts with your word of con - sol - ing.
you who the stars in their cours - es are guid - ing?

Wis - dom and strength for each day ev - er send us,
Wrap now your peace, like a man - tle, a - round us,
What shall we fear, with your power to pro - tect us,

pa - tience un - tir - ing and cour - age un - fail - ing.
guard - ing our thoughts and our pas - sions con - trol - ling.
we who walk forth in your great - ness con - fid - ing?

By ending with questions rather than simple affirmations, this text conveys a strong sense of faith in God's presence and guidance without ignoring how much of the future remains unknown. The confidence of the text is well matched by its sturdy 17th-century French tune.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

- Preaching: **The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf**
Acting Co-Pastor and Pastor for Educational Ministries
- Liturgists: **The Rev. BJ Woodworth**
*Covenant Pastor for Spiritual Life, Taizé,
and Transitional Ministries*
- Carol Chonoska**
Adrianna Cleveland
- Musicians: **Dr. Edward Alan Moore**
Organist/Music Director
- Adrianna Cleveland, Cantor**
Robin Thompson, Cantor
- Sound: **Wayne Gaines**

