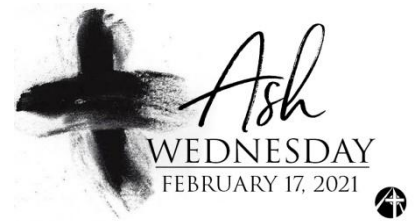




ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
Trinity Presbyterian Church – Pensacola, FL
February 17, 2021 6:30pm



Prelude "Old Rugged Cross"

Call to Worship

One: From dust we came, and to dust we shall return.

ALL: We are here to worship the living God.

One: We have nothing, yet possess everything.

All: We are dying, and yet we are alive!

Opening Prayer

Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.
Cast us not away from your presence; and restore in us the joy of your salvation,
that repenting of our sins, we may receive your mercy, pardon and forgiveness,
through your Son, our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Hymn** "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

ST. FLAVIAN

Invitation to Observe a Holy Lent

UNISON Scripture Reading Psalm 51

Psalm 51:1-19 (NRSV)

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgment.
- ⁵ Indeed, I was born guilty,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
- 11 Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
- 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.
- 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.
- 14 Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.
- 15 O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- 16 For you have no delight in sacrifice;
if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.
- 17 The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
- 18 Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem,
- 19 then you will delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Hymn (SEATED)

“Open My Eyes That I May See”

OPEN MY EYES

A PASTORAL PRAYER FOR LENT: PCUSA Pastor, Jim Lowry, Hugh’s cousin

Adapted from *Prayers for the Lord’s Day: Hope for the Exiles*, James S. Lowry,
Geneva Press, Louisville, Kentucky,

God of mercy and of grace,
you have spoken in a loud voice and in a voice still and small.
Listen now in these days of reflection,
not to the deserving of our voices shouted,
but to the yearning of our hearts as they whisper.

God of wisdom and of grace,
by the Spirit of Christ
your Word echoes in the unity of this scattered people.
As we examine our place in the order of being,
listen not to the logic of our cases argued
but to the hope of our belief that you are listening.

**Bathed in that hope we pray for the church, O God:
In our prayers for the church
we long for the days, more now than a year gone by,
when we could be together,
laugh, pray, and sing together,
smile, hug, and weep together,**

as well as butt our heads together.
Give us grace to reclaim the good of that memory
and wisdom to meet the challenges of this day.
The world is more complex now,
as is the act of living in and as the church.
As a congregation of your scattered people
keep us dreaming.
We want to be
a united voice of truth,
a beacon of justice,
a balm of healing,
a sanctuary of justice,
a people of nurture
where children are seen as signs of your kingdom,
where noble ideas are fostered in the days of youth,
where faithfulness is encouraged among grownups,
where the wisdom of long years is cherished, and
where truth is demanded in high places.
Come, Holy Spirit of Christ,
move among us that in these days
when it is so easy not to be the church
that we might be your brave and faithful people
united in love though separate in space.

Not for the church alone, O God,
but in this day of self examination
we pray for our nation and world as well:
We hear on all sides
voices filled with anger born of fear
and voices of fear born of anger
as sides are chosen in blind rage.
We are grateful, then, for leaders
who long in quiet strength to do your will.
Fill them with grace and right conviction
to foster patience, understanding, healing,
and, above all, truth.

We recognize around the world in pictures we see nightly
people whose lives are shattered by war, famine, and disease,
by natural disaster, corruption, and shameless greed.
Show us ways in which we,
every one of us,
can be signs and means of your healing
even as we speak with the voice of prophets
demanding that our leaders
see and do the healing thing.

And now hear again the prayers we so often speak
for those who grieve

and those who comfort them;
for those who are anxious
and those who steady them;
for those who are lonely
and those who befriend them;
for those who are tired
and those who share their load;
for those who are confused
and those who point the way;
for those who are addicted
and those who love them;
for those who are guilty
and those who forgive them;
and, yes, oh yes a thousand times yes,
in these days of unspeakable disease, we pray
for those who are desperately ill
and those who attend them;
for those who are dying alone
and the nurses who hold their hands;
for those who are quarantined
and those who phone them;
for those who are out of work
and those who feed them;
for those who are not in school
and those who teach them;
for those who tirelessly seek prevention and cure
and for all of us who are grateful to them.

**As always we close our prayer humbly asking
that you give us grace as those who are called
to be answers to these our earnest prayers.
We pray in the name of the one who,
without ceasing,
prays for us...
especially for us...
especially for everyone. Amen.**

Imposition of Ashes

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence, for it is only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Please come forward to receive ashes, maintaining safe social distance.

"Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Prayers of confession

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the God of mercy strengthen in you true repentance, that you may avail yourself of the fullness of divine grace and know the joy of God's salvation unto eternal life, through Christ Jesus the Lord. Amen.

***Hymn**

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God "

TRENTHAM

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 4:16-18; 5:17-21

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Closing Prayer

Pastor: God of compassion, through your son, Jesus Christ, you reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts, and serve one another in holy love.

ALL: May we, at the end of these forty days, come to the foot of the cross prepared to receive the unspeakable gift of sacrifice that shatters the power of death, not by our merit, but by your grace and might, through the intervention of Christ Jesus, in whom we live, through whom we pray,

... Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

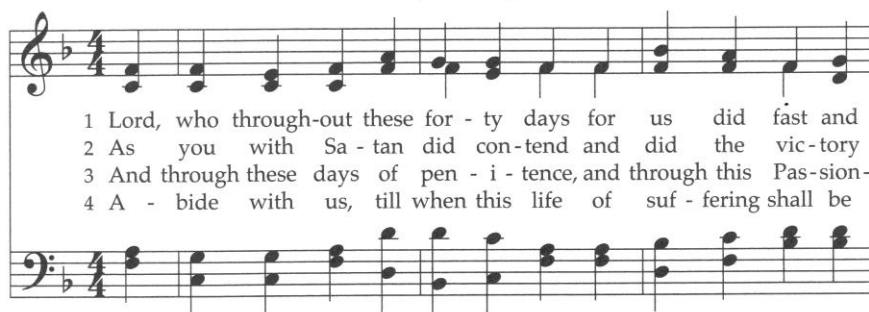
Hymn

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

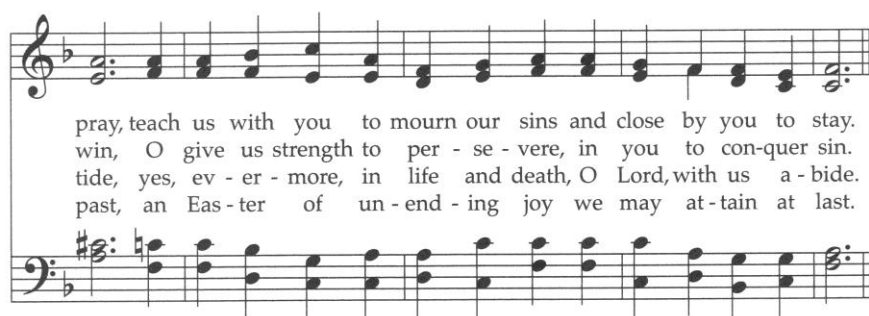
Charge and Blessing

Postlude and Departure to Serve

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days 166



1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and
2 As you with Sa - tan did con-tend and did the vic-tory
3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas-sion-
4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fering shall be



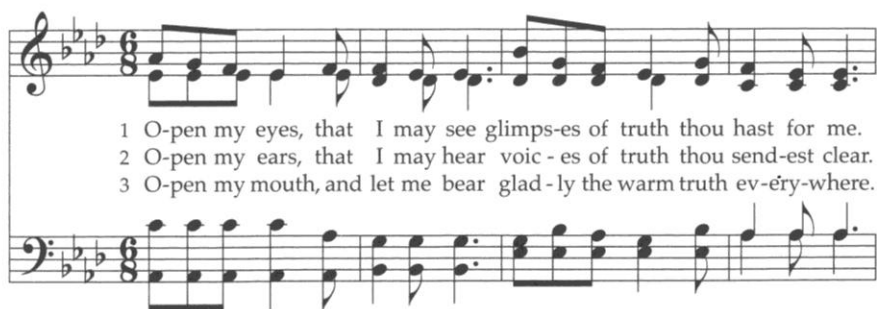
pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
win, O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con-quer sin.
tide, yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.
past, an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at-tain at last.

Like many of this author's hymns, this text was written primarily for children but works equally well in reminding adults how Lent connects us with Christ's temptation in the wilderness and prepares us for Easter. The 16th-century English psalm tune provides sturdy support.

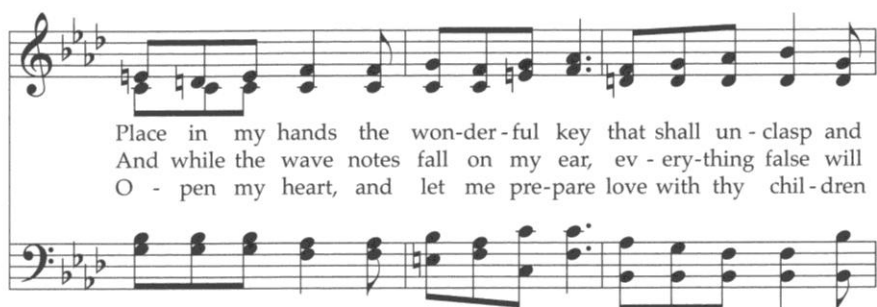
TEXT: Claudia F. I. Hernaman, 1873, alt.
MUSIC: Day's *Psalter*, 1562

ST. FLAVIAN
CM

Open My Eyes, That I May See 451



1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.
 2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic-es of truth thou send-est clear.
 3 O-pen my mouth, and let me bear glad-ly the warm truth ev-éry-where.



Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un-clasp and
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev-ery-thing false will
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren



set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 dis-ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy



will to see. O-pen my eyes; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!
 will to see. O-pen my ears; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!
 will to see. O-pen my heart; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!

The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

Breathe on Me, Breath of God 286

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a - new,
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

The first system of the hymn features a treble and bass staff in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are numbered 1 through 4, corresponding to the four parts of the hymn.

that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
un - til with thee I will one will, to do and to en - dure.
un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are numbered 1 through 4, corresponding to the four parts of the hymn.

In both Hebrew and Greek, the words for "spirit" can equally well be translated as "breath" or "wind," so it is very appropriate to address the Holy Spirit as the "Breath of God." This tune by an English organist has become the customary one in North American hymnals.

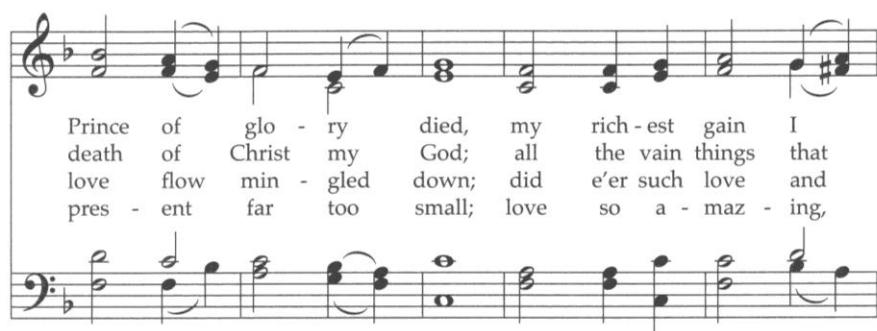
TEXT: Edwin Hatch, 1878
MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1888

TRENTHAM
SM

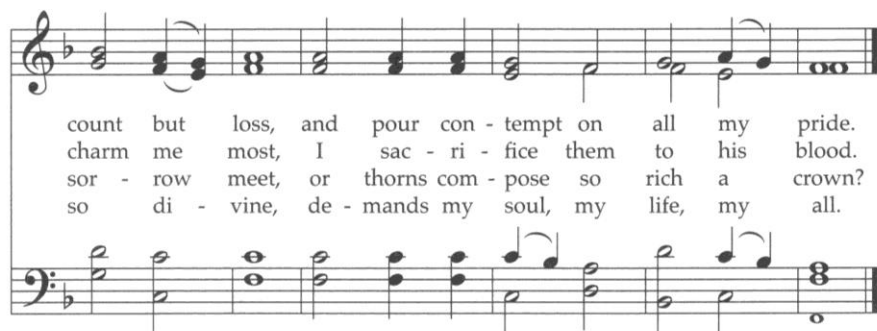
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 223



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

This familiar text from the beginning of the 18th century grew out of Isaac Watts's desire to give Christians the ability to sing about gospel events. It is set here to a very restrained tune from the early 19th century inspired by the patterns of Gregorian chant.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1707
MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1824

HAMBURG
LM
(alternate tune: ROCKINGHAM, 224)