

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR ASH WEDNESDAY
February 13, 1991

Prelude

Greeting: (Responsively)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures for ever.

Opening Prayer for Ash Wednesday: (In Unison)

O God, maker of every thing and judge of all that you have made, from the dust of the earth you have formed us and from the dust of death you would raise us up. By the redemptive power of the cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit, that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of your calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn: #269 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 58:1-12

Epistle Lesson: II Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Anthem: "Hospodi Pomilui"

Alexis von Lvov

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

Thanksgiving over the Ashes

*Imposition of Ashes

(During the imposition of ashes, the congregation is invited to sing "Seek the Lord, Whose Willing Presence" which is printed on the reverse page.)

Prayer of Confession: (In Unison)

Almighty God, who sees that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all temptations to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Prayer of Thanksgiving: (In Unison)

All things come from you, O God, and with gratitude we return to you what is yours. You created all that is, and with love formed us in your image. When our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior. All that we are, and all that we have, is a trust

from you. And so, in gratitude for all your gifts, we offer you ourselves, and all that we have, in union with Christ's offering for us. By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

*Hymn: #417 "O For a Heart to Praise My God"

*Dismissal

Postlude

Lector: Roger Vest
Liturgists: David Woody
 Arnetta Beverly
 Marguerite Kohn
Choir Director: Rodney Wynkoop
Organist: David Arcus

SEEK THE LORD, WHOSE WILLING PRESENCE

87.87

REFRAIN: *Seek the Lord, whose willing presence
 moves your heart to make appeal.
 Turn from wickedness and evil;
 God will pardon, cleanse, and heal.*

1 "For my thoughts are not like your thoughts,"
 says the Lord, "nor your ways mine.
 Farther still than earth from heaven
 are things human from divine."

REFRAIN

2 "As the life-charged dew of heaven
 births the seed and stirs the mill,
 so my word goes forth with power
 to perfect my gracious will."

REFRAIN

—Carl P Daw, Jr.

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Be Merciful, Be Merciful, O God

1 Be mer ci ful, be mer - ci ful, O God. Ac - cord - ing
 2 You want me truth - ful in my in - most heart; you teach me
 3 Cre ate in me, O God, a new, clean heart and make my
 4 De liv - er me from guilt of blood, O God. O God, you
 5 Be good to Zi on; LORD, in mer - cy hear. The walls a -

to your stead fast love, have mer - cy. Blot out my
 in my se cret heart your wis - dom. To wash me
 ▶ spir - it pure and right with - in me. O do not
 are the God of my sal - va - tion. My tongue will
 round Je ru sa lem lie bro - ken. Re - build the

sin in your a bun - dant mer - cy. Wash all my
 clean a - gain, purge me with hys - sop and make me
 ▶ cast me help - less from your pres - ence. Your Ho - ly
 sing then that I am de - liv - ered. O pen my
 walls, LORD: help us to re - build them. Be good to

sin a way and make me clean. I know my sin; it
 whit - er than new - fall en snow. Fill me with joy and
 ▶ Spir - it must not go from me. Re - store to me the
 lips, O Lord, to sing your praise. For you take no de -
 Zi - on; LORD, in mer - cy hear. Then you will take de -

will not leave my mind. A - gainst you, on ly you, I
 glad - ness, make me sing, and let the bones you broke be -
 ▶ joy of be - ing yours. Up - hold me with a free and
 light in sac ri - fice. You take no plea - sure in the
 light in us a - gain, in gifts we bring to lay up -

have been sin - ning. So you are just in judg - ing what I
 gin their danc - ing. O hide your face from sins that cause me
 ▶ will - ing spir - it. Then I will teach trans - gres - sors of your
 gifts I of - fer. A bro - ken spir - it is ac - cept - a -
 on your al - tar. Then you will take de - light in us a -

did. E - ven be - fore my birth my life was taint ed.
 shame. Blot out the stain of all my foul trans - gres - sions.
 ▶ ways. Then sin - ners will re - turn a - gain to serve you.
 ble. You will not scorn a heart con trite and bro - ken.
 gain, in prop - er sac - ri - fice and right - eous ser - vice.

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