



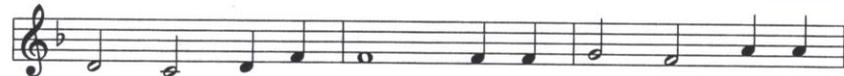
GRACE

REPENTANCE

2138 Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes



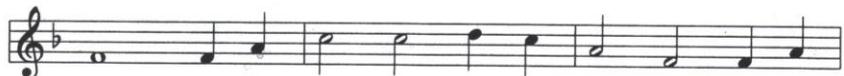
1. *Sun-day's palms are Wednes-day's ash - es as an -
 2. We have failed to love our neigh - bors, their of -
 3. We are hast - y to judge oth - ers, blind to



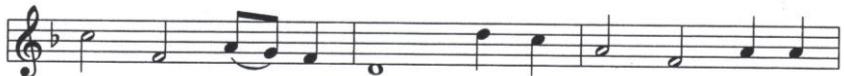
oth - er Lent be - gins; thus we kneel be - fore our
 fenc - es to for - give, have not lis - tened to their
 proof of hu - man need; and our lack of un - der -



Mak - er in con - tri - tion for our
 trou - bles, nor have cared just how they
 stand - ing dem - on - strates our in - ner



sins. We have marred bap - tis - mal pledg - es, in re -
 live, we are jeal - ous, proud, im - pa - tient, lov - ing
 greed; we have wast - ed earth's re - sourc - es; want and



bel - lion gone a - stray; now, re - turn - ing, seek for -
 o - ver - much our things; may the yield - ing of our
 suf - fering we've ig - nored; come and cleanse us, then re -



give - ness; grant us par - don, God, this day!
 fail - ings be our Len - ten of - fer - ings.
 store us; make new hearts with - in us, Lord!

*The first line of the hymn recalls the custom of burning remaining palm leaves of the previous year to form the ashes for this observance.

PRELUDE

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Hopson

WELCOME

Dr. William Hoyle

INTROIT

Call to Lent

Williams

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
 To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.*

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
 To lay aside his crown for my soul.*

*When I survey the wondrous cross
 On which the Prince of Glory died,
 My richest gain I count but loss,
 And pour contempt on all my pride.*

*See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
 Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
 Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
 Or thorns compose so rich a crown, for my soul.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

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.

INVOCATION

Rev. Patrick McElwaine

*HYMN #2138 (on reverse)

Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Joel 2:1-2, 12-14, Psalm 51:1-17

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

MEDITATION

LITANY OF PENITENCE

Leader: Let us pray.

People: Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and what we have left undone.

Leader: We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

People: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us.

We have not been true to the mind of Christ.

We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

People: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness:

the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives.

People: we confess to you, O God.

Leader: Our self-indulgent appetite and ways,

and our exploitation of other people,

People: we confess to you, O God.

Leader: Our anger at our own frustration

and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

People: we confess to you, O God.

Leader: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,

and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

People: we confess to you, O God.

Leader: Our negligence in prayer and worship,

and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

People: we confess to you, O God.

HYMN #437 (Choir sings first time; Congregation joins second time) *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy*

Leader: Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done.

For our neglect of human need and suffering

and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

People: accept our repentance, O God.

Leader: For all false judgments, for uncharitable

thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice

and contempt toward those who differ from us,

People: accept our repentance, O God.

Leader: For our waste and pollution of your creation

and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

People: accept our repentance, O God.

Leader: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

People: Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND PRAYER

People are invited to come forward to receive the ashes.

“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will return.” Genesis 3:19

Leader: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

People: that we may show forth your glory in the world.

Leader: By the cross and passion of our Savior,

People: bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ’s resurrection.

PRAYER (unison)

God of compassion, through your Son, Jesus Christ, you reconcile your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer, fasting, and self-denial, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN #417

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

Walther

*All who are able may stand

Lent—Preparation for Easter— Just as Advent was a time to prepare for celebrating Jesus’ birth, so Lent is a time to prepare for celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus. But the road to Resurrection goes by the way of the Cross. Without death there is no resurrection. Jesus walked the way of the cross – beginning with his temptations; moving through misunderstandings, prejudice, hatred and crucifixion – “He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried.” Beginning with Ash Wednesday and on through the forty days of Lent, we too, as followers of Jesus, are called to contemplate our own way of the Cross: to examine ourselves and see if there is any wicked way in us, to ask for and accept the forgiveness for which Jesus died, to explore and expand opportunities to give ourselves in love – the love which is symbolized by the cross. Today, we begin with contrition; on Easter, we join our Lord in triumph!