

Ash Wednesday - February 10, 2016

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER

Pastor Mark Voss

Opening Hymn - "Oh, Come, My Soul"

CW 99

Meditation 1 John 1:5-8

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you:

C: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

P: If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in darkness,

C: we lie and do not live by the truth.

P: If we claim to be without sin,

C: we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

All: Father, I have sinned against you and am no longer worthy to be called your child. Yet in mercy you sacrificed your only Son to purge away my guilt. For his sake, O God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and in the joy of your Holy Spirit let me serve you all my days.

P: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Upon this, your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Ash Wednesday Lesson

Scripture Reading - 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:2

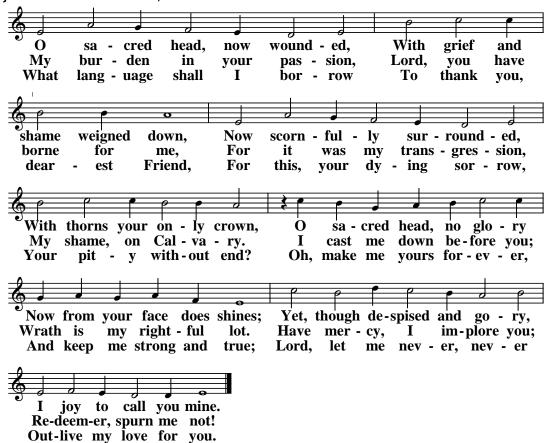
God's Great Exchange - his Son takes our place

We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

P: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

C: By his wounds we are healed.

Hymn - "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"



CW 105 vv 1, 4, 5, Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain

Sermon "This Man Went Home Justified" Luke 18:9-14

⁹To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men--robbers, evildoers, adulterers--or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' ¹³"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' ¹⁴"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

You may now come forward with your family and friends to receive the sign of the cross with ashes on the top of your hand from Pastor.

These ashes symbolize that our sins and death were put on Jesus when he died on the cross. "For dust you are and to dust you will return." Genesis 3:19

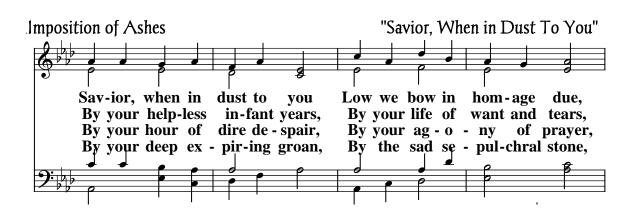
As you are ushered out this evening, you may wash the ashes away at the baptismal font. This symbolizes that in the water of baptism our sins are washed away with the blood of Christ and that no marks of sin remain in us. "What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." Romans 6:1-4

Please participate only if you choose and feel comfortable doing so. During the imposition of the ashes the tone chime choir will play and then we will sing the hymn printed below and on the next page.

Musical Selection Tone Chime Choir

"O Sacred Head"

Tune: PASSION CHORALE Setting" Douglas E. Wagner ©2004 Lorenz Publishing. Used with permission







Prayer

P: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation

C: That we may show forth your glory in the world.

P: By the cross and suffering of your Son, O Lord,

C: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

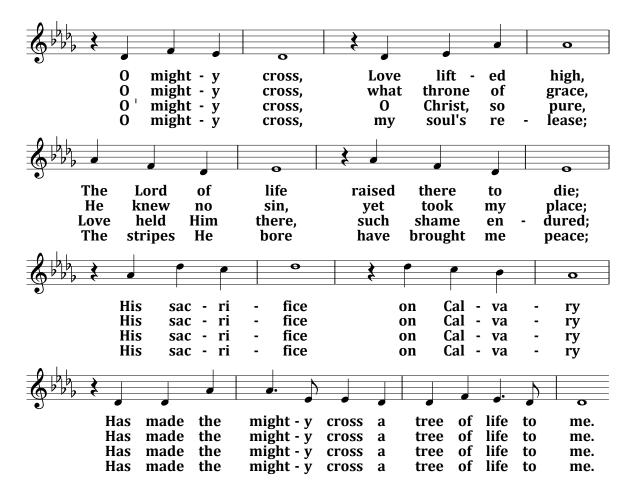
Blessing

P: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn - Dismissal and Washing of the Ashes

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He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:5-7