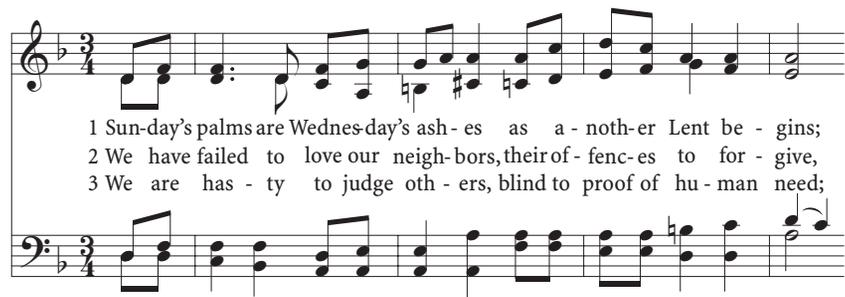


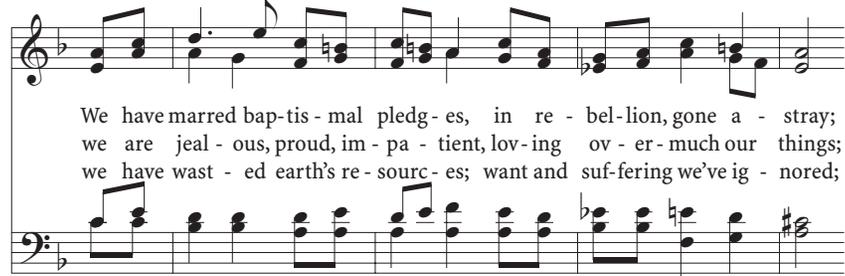
Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes



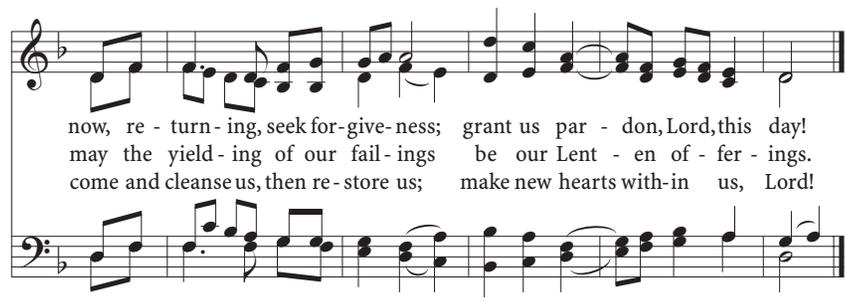
1 Sun-day's palms are Wednes-day's ash-es as a-noth-er Lent be-gins;
 2 We have failed to love our neigh-bors, their of-fenc-es to for-give,
 3 We are has-ty to judge oth-ers, blind to proof of hu-man need;



thus we kneel be-fore our Ma-ker in con-tri-tion for our sins.
 have not lis-tened to their trou-bles, nor have cared just how they live;
 and our lack of un-der-stand-ing dem-on-strates our in-ner greed;



We have marred bap-tis-mal pledg-es, in re-bel-lion, gone a-stray;
 we are jeal-ous, proud, im-pa-tient, lov-ing ov-er-much our things;
 we have wast-ed earth's re-sourc-es; want and suf-fering we've ig-nored;



now, re-turn-ing, seek for-give-ness; grant us par-don, Lord, this day!
 may the yield-ing of our fail-ings be our Lent-en of-fer-ings.
 come and cleanse us, then re-store us; make new hearts with-in us, Lord!

Text: Rae E. Whitney, 1982.
 Music: Betty Carr Pulkingham.
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 EAST END



Generic
 BAPTIST CHURCH

Ash Wednesday 2018

Prelude *Church Organist*

Tolling of the Hour *Church Carillonist*

Call to Community *Senior Pastor*

Friends and neighbors, in the middle of our busy week, we pause to observe Ash Wednesday together as a faith community.

We remember that God made us from fragile, blessed dust, and breathes through us the breath of life and love.

From dust we are created in God's image and to God's good dust we shall return.

With dust and oil we claim the mark of God's beloved creature.

Today we begin our 40-day Lenten journey to discover who we are created to be as God's beloved.

In daily practices of prayer and service we will embark upon this Lenten journey.

We follow Jesus, God's Beloved Child, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh in whom we see God's image most clearly.

So come, let us pray for strength and imagination to follow Jesus wherever he will lead us this Lent.

+ **Hymn of Preparation no. 572**

Take Time to be Holy

Hebrew Scripture Reading *Church Member*

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Return to the Lord;
For God is Merciful

Meditation 1 - Being *Clergy 1*

+ **Hymn of Anticipation no. 214**

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Hebrew Scripture Reading *Church Member*

Isaiah 58:1-12

Loose the bonds of injustice!
Then God's light shall break forth

Meditation 2 - Leaving Behind *Clergy 2*

+ **Hymn of Confession no. 339**

Just As I Am, Without One Plea

Psalter Reading *Church Member*

Psalms 51:1-17

Create in me a clean heart!
Create in us a clean heart!

Meditation 3 - Frailty and Forgiveness *Clergy 3*

+ **Hymn of Redemption no. 546**

Amazing Grace

New Testament Reading *Church Member*

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

We urge you, be reconciled to God!

Amen

Meditation 4 - The Possibilities of Dust *Senior Pastor*

+ **Gospel Reading** *Senior Pastor*

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Gospel According to Saint Matthew
According to you, Oh God

+ **Prayers of the People** *Church Member*

God be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to God!

+ **Hymn of Ashes**

*Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes
Music Printed on Back Panel*

The Imposition of Ashes

Benediction *Senior Pastor*