

A Service for Ash Wednesday
March 6, 2019

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Come to us this night, O God,
Come to us with light.
Speak to us this night, O God,
Speak to us your truth.
Dwell with us this night, O God,
Dwell with us in love.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN “Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness” (insert)

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION & READINGS

Old Testament Readings: Isaiah 58:9-12
Psalms 51:6-7, 10-12, 15
Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20-21
Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:1-6

REFLECTION “The Fruit of the Spirit”
(A time of silence.....)

HYMN “There is a Longing in our Hearts” (insert)

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

LITANY OF CONFESSION (Responsive)

Living God, we confess our faults and admit our frailty;
**We own our brokenness and recognize the ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others, and the life of the world.**
We have not loved you with our whole heart, mind and strength,
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.
Forgive us, and put a new and right spirit within us.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in us a willing spirit.
Accomplish in us the work of your redeeming love,
that we may show forth your glory to the world. Amen.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

CLOSING PRAYER (Unison)

**O God, truly dust we are, and to dust we shall return, yet truly yours
we are, and to you we shall return. May this Lenten journey be a
time of sensing our hunger and thirst for you. May we listen well to
the longing you have placed within us, for the love we can only find
in you. May our longing lead us to set aside time for you, so we may
enjoy rest and refreshment in your presence. In our hungering, may
we be fed on your word, taught by your Son, and follow him to
Jerusalem - to the waving palms of the people’s hope, to their
rejection, to the cross, and to the joy of Him risen from the dead. O
God, may we journey with you. Amen.**

HYMN “Will You Come and Follow Me” (back of bulletin)

SENDING PRAYER (Responsive)

From dust we came,
and to dust we will return
WE BELONG TO GOD
We gather in penitence,
we gather in confidence
WE BELONG TO GOD
At the beginning of Lent,
at every moment of our lives
WE BELONG TO GOD

A BLESSING

A MUSICAL BLESSING

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus)(A)
 Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.



Ash Wednesday

And we are on our way

To your Way.

O Lamb of God

Have mercy upon us and

Keep us from all the smallness of our lives

That would take precedence over

Kneeling in Jerusalem.

Ann Weems

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness 314

Christ, Be Our Light

Em Am7 Bm7 Esus Em

1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
 2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
 3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
 4 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

Am7 Bm7 Esus Em Am7

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

D G C Am Dsus D

your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.

Refrain G C G Em Bm Em

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

Am7 D G Dsus D Em Em7

dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your

C Am7 D G Am7 G

church gath - ered to - day.

By blending biblical images and current vignettes in the present tense, this hymn connects Christ's promise that he is the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) and his charge to his followers to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). This is part of the church's servant calling.

470 There Is a Longing in Our Hearts

Refrain Dm All Gm C F

There is a long-ing in our hearts, O Lord, for

Bb Gm7 A A7

you to re - veal your - self to us.

Dm Gm C F

There is a long-ing in our hearts for love we

Bb Gm7 A7 Dm (hold last time) Fine

on - ly find in you, our God.

Leader or All Dm Gm C7 F Bb Gm

1 For jus - tice, for free - dom, for mer - cy:
 2 For wis - dom, for cour - age, for com - fort:
 3 For heal - ing, for whole-ness, for new life:
 4 Lord save us, take pit - y, Light in our

A A7 Dm Gm7 C7 F

hear our prayer. In sor - row, in grief:
 hear our prayer. In weak - ness, in fear:
 hear our prayer. In sick - ness, in death:
 dark - ness. We call you; we wait:

Bb Gm7 A Dm to Refrain

be near; hear our prayer, O God.

The refrain that frames this sung prayer describes why we pray, and the stanzas indicate what we pray for. These requests are not for possessions but for qualities and conditions we hope for in the world around us, and they emerge from the changing circumstances of our lives.