

For the Worship of Almighty God

Ash Wednesday

February 26, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Please enter and find your quiet peace as we anticipate a solemn occasion of worship.

Prelude *I Want Jesus to walk With Me* arr. Sewell
Baxter Jennings, pianist
Welcome Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer

*Call to Worship

Minister: The season of Lent calls us to journey along the edge, to anticipate that final trip to Jerusalem.

Congregation: Lent calls us to the cutting edge, where the wheat falls to the ground, and new life comes forth.

Minister: Lent calls us to self-reflection, and invites us to participate in the mystery of God-with-us.

Congregation: By God' grace, may we be called from grief into gladness, despair into hope, estrangement into right relationships, with each other and the earth God created.

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

*Hymn 200 *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* LAND OF REST

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 51:1-17 (pg. 492) John Collins
The Word of the Lord; Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Lesson Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21 (pg.839)
The Gospel of our Lord: Praise be to you, O Christ.

*Please stand as you are able.

Solo	<i>Refiner's Fire</i>	Mohr/Dennis
There burns a fire with sacred heat White hot with holy flame And all who dare pass through its blaze Will not emerge the same Some as bronze, and some as silver Some as gold, then with great skill All are hammered by their sufferings On the anvil of His will <i>Refrain</i>	I'm learning now to trust His touch To crave the fire's embrace For though my past with sin was etched His mercies did erase Each time his purging cleanses deeper I'm not sure that I'll survive Yet the strength in growing weaker Keeps my hungry soul alive <i>Refrain</i>	<i>Refrain</i> <i>The Refiner's fire</i> <i>Has now become my souls desire</i> <i>Purged and cleansed and purified</i> <i>That the Lord be glorified</i> <i>He is consuming my soul</i> <i>Refining me, making me whole</i> <i>No matter what I may lose</i> <i>I choose the Refiner's fire</i>

Meditation Dr. Grammer

Prayer of Confession Psalm 51: 1-1

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that
you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.
Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.
You desire truth in the inward being; therefore, teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.
Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.
Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.
O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.
For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering,
you would not be pleased.
The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Assurance of Pardon Dr. Grammer

Thanksgiving over the Ashes

Imposition of Ashes

Those who wish to receive ashes may now come forward.

The minister will impose ashes upon your forehead or on the back of your hand.

Prayer of Response

*Hymn 212

What Wondrous Love is This

WONDROUS LOVE

Celebration of Communion

Dr. Grammer

*Litany of Benediction

Minister: Marked by a cross, cherished and forgiven.

Congregation: We are traveling home.

Minister: Called to be holy, called to be changed,

Congregation: We are traveling home.

Minister: Across deserts, over mountains,

Congregation: We are traveling home.

Minister: God in our hearts, God in our lives,

Congregation: We are traveling home.

Postlude

All We Like Sheep Have Gone Astray

Handel

Please leave the chapel in solemn silence and remembrance.

First Baptist Church



*Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent,
the season of spiritual renewal leading up to Easter.
The focus in Lent is upon repentance for sin
and preparation for sharing in the death
and resurrection of Christ.*