

OPENING HYMN

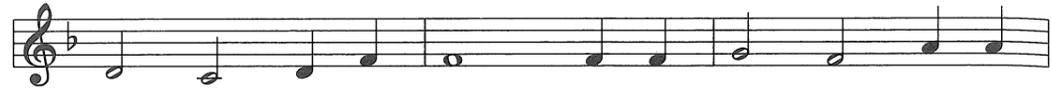
GRACE

REPENTANCE

2138 Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes



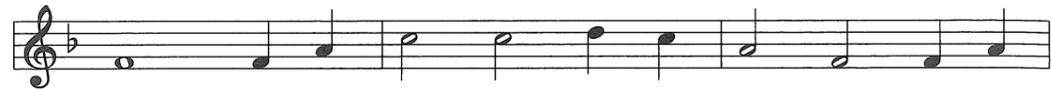
1. *Sun-day's palms are Wednes-day's ash - es as an -
2. We have failed to love our neigh - bors, their of -
3. We are hast - y to judge oth - ers, blind to



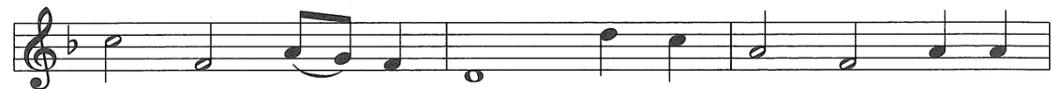
oth - er Lent be - gins; thus we kneel be - fore our
fenc - es to for - give, have not lis - tened to their
proof of hu - man need; and our lack of un - der -



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.*

WORDS: Rae E. Whitney
MUSIC: Attr. to B. F. White

BEACH SPRING
87.87 D

Words © 1991 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.



BUFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Mission of the United Methodist Church

To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World



February 10, 2016

ASH WEDNESDAY



P.O. Box 329 | 285 East Main St. | Buford, Georgia 30515
770-945-7438 (Office) 770-945-4161 (Preschool) | www.bufordfirstumc.org



A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PREPARATION

Ash Wednesday | Liturgical color: Purple

February 10, 2016

7:00 pm

*Please place your electronic devices on silent mode and refrain from flash photography during worship.
†Stand as you are able*

Chiming of the Hour Hank Morgan, Organist

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Prelude "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (*J.S. Bach*) Organist

Welcome Micah Wright

Old Testament Reading Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 Jonathan Lenz

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

†Opening Hymn "Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes" BEACH SPRING
Please see back page

Prayer of Confession Mr. Wright

God, be merciful to us. We are sinners. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. And we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. For these things we ask for your forgiveness and we also ask for your strength. Create in us clean hearts, and put a new and right spirit within us. Grant that we may hereafter live a godly and righteous life to the glory of your name. Amen.

All offer prayers of confession in silence.

Words of Assurance Mr. Wright

Leader: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**All: May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us remission of all our sins,
true repentance, amendment of life,
and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer Mr. Wright

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.

Gathering of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Psalm 139" (*Allen Pote*) Youth & Chancel Choirs

†Doxology for the Season of Lent OLD 100th

***Praise God throughout these forty days. Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.***

†Prayer of Consecration Mr. Wright

†New Testament Reading Matthew 4:1-11 Sarah Farr

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Ashes of Preparation" Mr. Wright

Anthem "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God" (*Carl Mueller*) Chancel Choir

Invitation to Lenten Observance and Thanksgiving over the Ashes Mr. Wright

Imposition of Ashes Mr. Wright

†Closing Hymn No. 286 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" PASSION CHORALE
*The congregation will leave the Sanctuary following the closing hymn and process in silence
to the front steps of the church for the draping of the cross and the benediction.*

†Draping of the Cross Mr. Wright

†Benediction Mr. Wright

Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith. The use of ashes as a sign of mortality and repentance has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship, and the Imposition of Ashes can be a powerful nonverbal and experiential way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation.

Children and Worship

A nursery is provided for children 4 and under. You can find our nursery by going through the door behind the organ console and down one flight of stairs.