



The First Baptist Church
Henderson, North Carolina
At Worship

WEDNESDAY EVENING

MARCH 6, 2019

SIX THIRTY O'CLOCK

ASH WEDNESDAY

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Please use these moments for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Christopher Adams

LEADER: Come, you that toil, who are bound-up;

ALL: Come, Liberating God, hear our cries for mercy!

LEADER: Come, you that are lost, who are hopeless;

ALL: Come, Redeeming Christ, turn us to your light!

LEADER: Come if you are angry or hurting;

ALL: Come, Cleansing Spirit, enter into our hearts!

LEADER: Come for confession, forgiveness, and restoration.

ALL: Come, O Holy One, free us, heal us, bless us!

THE HYMN 68

Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes

BEACH SPRING

THE PROPHETIC LESSON: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 (OT p800)

David Westbrook

THE MUSIC FOR WORSHIP

Jesus Paid It All

John T. Grape, arr. Mark Hayes

*I hear the Savior say, "Thy strength indeed is small, Child of weakness,
watch and pray, find in me thine all in all."*

*And when, before the throne, I stand in him complete, "Jesus died, my soul
to save," My lips shall still repeat.*

*Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe; sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it
white as snow.*

-Elvina M. Hall

THE EPISTLE LESSON: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 (OT p160)

Trinity Ayscue

THE HOMILY

Counting Days

Ronald Cava

THE HYMN OF PREPARATION 69 *Savior, When in Dust to You*

ABERYSTWYTH

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASHES AND AN INVITATION TO REPENTANCE

Tammy Hight

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

David Cole

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

LEADER: Righteous God, you know our transgressions. We have done evil in your sight and have not been as faithful as we could be, but we do not know how to escape from our sin.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

LEADER: We pass judgment on others, forgetting that judgment is your job, not ours. Do not cast us away from you.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

LEADER: God of mercy and love, wipe away our wrongdoings. Hide your face from our transgressions. Create in us a clean heart; put a new and right spirit within us.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

LEADER: Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain willing spirits in us. Our sacrifices will not appease you; it is our genuine selves that you desire.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

LEADER: God of our salvation, deliver us from bloodshed, and let us sing aloud of your deliverance!

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

LEADER: Then we will become an example of faithfulness, and will help others return to your ways.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Ronald Cava

...from dust you came, and to dust you shall return...

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Come, Let Us Reason

Ken Medema, arr. Sheldon Curry

“Come, let us reason together.” That’s what God says. “Come, let us reason together,” says the Lord. “Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. Though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”

-based on Isaiah 1:18

A PRAYER FOR THE LENTEN JOURNEY

Amy Russell

THE HYMN 270

Wherever He Leads I’ll Go

FALLS CREEK

THE SENDING FORTH

Ronald Cava

THE POSTLUDE

The Old Rugged Cross

George Bennard, arr. Fred Bock

Assisting with worship this evening are David Westbrook and Trinity Ayscue.

The ashes for this evening were made from palms saved from our 2018 Palm Sunday service. Children in Godly Play II burned the palms this past week to learn of the significance and symbolism of Ash Wednesday and of the coming Lenten season.

Music for this evening’s service is offered by the Youth Choir.

The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession were written by Rev. Mary Nelson Abbott, adapted and used with permission.

Lenten Poem

Lent is a time to take time to let the power
Of our faith story take hold of us,
A time to let the events get up
And walk around in us,
A time to intensify our living unto Christ,
A time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts,
A time to place our feet in the streets of
Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and
Listen to his Word,
A time to touch his robe
And feel the healing surge through us,
A time to ponder and a time to wonder...
Lent is a time to allow
A fresh new taste of God!
Perhaps we're afraid to have time to thin,
For thoughts come unbidden.
Perhaps we're afraid to face our future
Knowing our past.
Give us courage, O God,
To hear your word
And to read our living into it.
Give us the trust to know we're forgiven
And give us the faith
To take up our lives and walk.

-Ann Weems