#### THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Out of the Depths Megan Mashburn, soprano Martin Luther, harm. Bach

THE RESPONSE

Leader: Cry, and God will answer.

People: Call, and the Lord will say: "I am here."

Leader: If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word; if you give

your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed;

People: Call, and the Lord will say: "I am here."

Leader: Your light will rise in the darkness and your shadows become like noon. The

Lord will always guide you, giving you relief in desert places.

People: Cry, and God will answer. Call, and the Lord will say: "I am here."

**THE OFFERTORY** Elegy on Psalm 51

Robert J. Powell

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*THE HYMN 81 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

\*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*THE POSTLUDE Fugue in D Minor Felix Mendlessohn



Ash Wednesday Service February 13, 2013 7 p.m.

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# Ash Wednesday Worship

February 13, 2013

**PRELUDE** Chorale on Herzliebster Jesu Johannes Brahms

Charles Redmon, guest organist

CALL TO WORSHIP Drew Stockstill

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

People: As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

Leader: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

People: Hope in God; for we shall again praise him, our help and our God.

- from Psalm 42

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

\*THE HYMN 301 Lord Jesus, Think on Me

A PSALM OF CONFESSION Psalm 51: 1-17

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; in your great

compassion blot out my offenses. Wash me through and through from my

wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.

People: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against

you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight.

Leader: And so you are justified when you speak and upright in your judgment. Indeed,

I have been wicked from my birth, a sinner from my mother's womb. For behold, you look for truth deep within me, and will make me understand

wisdom secretly.

People: Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; wash me, and I shall be

whiter than snow. Make me hear of joy and gladness, that the body

you have broken may rejoice.

Leader: Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean

heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

People: Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit

from me. Give me the joy of your saving help again and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit. I shall teach your ways to the wicked, and sinners

shall return to you.

Leader: Deliver me from death, O God, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God

of my salvation.

People: Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. Had you

desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, but you take no delight in burnt offerings. The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a broken and contrite

heart, O God, you will not despise.

### THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND THE PEACE

Leader: "For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who

are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written:

People: 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the

discerning I will thwart.'

Leader: For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger

than human strength." Believe the promise of the Gospel:

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Leader: The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People:** And also with you. - 1 Corinthians 1:18-19; 25

**THE READING** 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 (page 170 in the pew Bible, NT)

THE HOMILY "Confession" Baron Mullis

## THE THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth; Grant that

these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our

Savior.

All: Amen.