

ASH WEDNESDAY

SERVICE NOTES & COPYRIGHT COMPLIANCE

Ash Wednesday sets the tone for Lent. This order of service includes the option for worshipers to utilize *The Imposition of Ashes*. If your congregation has never used ashes before, consider publishing the “explanation” the Sunday before in your bulletin. You might even allow for some time after worship for people to have questions. Best would be to have a one Sunday Bible study on the use of ashes as a sign of repentance.

GENERAL NOTES

Fonts

The sans serif fonts in this worship folder are all from the Eras family. Most Microsoft products from the past decade contain these fonts. If you do not have it, you can substitute other sans serif fonts.

The serif font is variations on Times New Roman.

Artwork

All artwork in this worship folder comes from *Clipart for Year A* by Steve Erspamer. [You can order it HERE](#). If you do not order this art collection, then you must delete the artwork.

Another source of excellent artwork is Paramentics.com. [HERE is the page for the artwork for Year A](#). Going with this option would let you buy music for \$2 per week instead of purchasing a \$30 book.

Music copyright license

We will not what is necessary to be in copyright compliance page by page.

PAGE-BY-PAGE NOTES

Page 2

Here is where you can insert information about your church, as well as information that guests might need. Do you have a staffed nursery? Where are your bathrooms or a cry room located? How do you contact someone if you want more information? Those types of questions.

Page 3

When symbols aren't explained, they are pointless. And thus, this page explains things like the meaning of purpose on the altar. It explains the artwork on the cover, which might otherwise be perceived as jarring.

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Savior When In Dust to You is in public domain.

Page 8

The song used during the imposition of ashes is titled *Merciful God: A Ritual Song for Lent* by Tony Alonzo. [You can listen to a sample of it and order the music HERE.](#) It is a very simple, beautiful piece of music. Especially nice is the fact it comes with multiple refrains. There is one – seen in this worship folder – that can be used for Ash Wednesday. But then there is a refrain with the same melody, different words, that can be used for the other midweek services of Lent. There is even a refrain intended to be sung as a distribution song during Holy Communion.

This is a wonderful song to be sung by a small group. Or have several soloists split up the verses. The congregation is only singing the refrain, which is easy to remember. Thus, they can participate even if they are walking forward to receive the imposition of ashes.

If you purchase enough copies of the music for use by the musicians in your church – accompanist, instrumentalist, cantor and/or choir, etc. – you can use it as it is printed in this worship folder. You do NOT need to purchase any additional license.

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This version of Psalm 51 is haunting, and comes from *Psalms for the Church Year, Volume 1* written by Marty Haugen and David Haas. [You can order it HERE.](#) The *Psalms for the Church Year* series is a great way to add liturgical variety to your worship. Have the church sing the refrain and either the presiding minister or a cantor sing the verses. If you purchase the collection, which includes many other wonderful psalms, you are allowed to reprint it in your worship folder. You do NOT need to purchase any additional license.

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The Verse of the Day for Ash Wednesday and the Sunday in Lent are identical. It comes from the *Mass of Light* by David Haas. [You can order it HERE.](#) Note that the *Mass of Light* contains other very nice canticles, especially the *Gloria*, which you could use in other services.

You can also find this Verse of the Day as #333 in the GIA hymnal called *Ritual Song*. But ordering that music would be more expensive than the option above.

To use this Verse of the Day, you will need to have a OneLicense.net license.

Another option is to read the Verse of the Day throughout Lent. This underscores the solemnity of the season.

Still another option is to read the Verse of the Day, and then have the congregation respond with a single hymn verse that captures the same thought. *Christian Worship Handbook* contains a reference at the back where you can look up Bible verses and then find hymn verses that contain the same concept.

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In Adam We Have All Been One is under copyright. The image file we have in this worship folder is from *Christian Worship: Electronic Pew Edition*. You would also need to have a OneLicense.net license.

The other option, if you have hymnals in the pews, is simply to list the hymn number and have people use the hymnal.

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This “Lenten Confession of Faith” has been circulating for about 30 years. Written by a WELS pastor, it does do a good job of focusing us specifically on the meaning of Lent. Pastoral judgment will need to be exercised. Is it wise in your location to use a confession of faith apart from the three Ecumenical Creeds? If you think it would be confusing, simply cut this confession out and substitute either one of the Creeds, or perhaps the second article with meaning from the Catechism.

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Abide with Me is in public domain.

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Where necessary, we have indicated that you would need a OneLicense.net license. You would put your congregation’s license number on this page, above the listing of music.