

Ash Wednesday

We recite together the words of the Introit:

**Lord, you are merciful to all, and hate nothing you have created.
You overlook our sins to bring us to repentance.
You are the Lord our God.**

The Priest reads the Opening Prayer, then all are seated for the Readings .

Responsorial Psalm

Acclamation of the Gospel

186 Glory and praise to you, Lord! You are the Word of Life.

After the Homily the ashes are blessed and imposed. Anyone may receive the ashes as a sign of sorrow for sin, of willingness to change and of longing for rebirth. We sing from the following hymns:

204 Lord Jesus, think on me **955** O God our help in ages past

At the end of the imposition of ashes we join in this Responsory:

Priest: Direct our hearts to better things, O Lord, heal our sin and ignorance;
Lord, do not face us suddenly with death, but give us time to repent.

People: **Turn to us with mercy, Lord: we have sinned against you.**

Priest: Help us, God our Saviour: rescue us for the honour of your name.

People: **Turn to us with mercy, Lord: we have sinned against you.**

Preparation of the Gifts

872 My God, accept my heart this day

Sanctus

574 Paul Inwood

Memorial Acclamation

491 Marty Haugen

Communion

212 All ye who seek a comfort sure

Recessional

303 Come down, O Love divine