

# Welcome



Ash Wednesday  
February 14, 2024  
Fellowship Hall & Online

A close-up photograph of a purple rose, with the petals in various shades of purple and magenta, creating a textured and layered appearance. The lighting is soft, highlighting the delicate edges of the petals.

# Words of Welcome

## Rev. Laraine Waughtal

# **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, have mercy on us. Incarnate Word, redeemer of the world,

**Congregation: have mercy on us.**

Abiding Spirit, giver of light and life, have mercy on us.

For turning away from your presence, for  
disobeying your word and  
commandments,  
**forgive us, Lord.**

For trusting in our own strength instead  
of yours, for betraying your trust and the  
trust of others,  
**forgive us, Lord.**

For resisting your grace and refusing  
your blessings, for holding back from  
proclaiming our faith in you,  
**forgive us, Lord.**

For damaging this earth and exploiting  
its creatures, for neglecting and wasting  
the gifts you have given us,  
**forgive us, Lord.**

For failing to forgive as we have been forgiven, for judging others and bearing grudges,

**forgive us, Lord.**

For skimping on our commitments and relationships, for failing in hospitality,

**forgive us, Lord.**

For tolerating oppression, injustice, and  
wrong, for keeping silent when we should  
have spoken up,  
**forgive us, Lord.**

For turning away when others have offered us  
love, for closing our hearts when others have  
needed compassion,  
**forgive us, Lord.**

For all we have done  
unkindly, unjustly and  
dishonestly, for our careless  
speech and hurtful words,  
**forgive us, Lord.**

Most merciful God,  
we have sinned against you in thought,  
word, and deed, and in what we have  
failed to do: we have not loved you  
with our whole heart; we have not  
loved our neighbours as ourselves;

we repent, and are sorry for all  
our sins. Father, forgive us.  
Strengthen us to love and obey  
you in newness of life; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

With our hearts turned to God in repentance, with the knowledge of our sins laid bare before the cross of Jesus Christ, in the name of the living God, your sins are forgiven.

Receive God's mercy, take hold  
of your forgiveness, and, in the  
power of the Holy Spirit, walk  
in the light of Christ.

**Amen.**

A person wearing a blue shirt is holding a Bible. The Bible cover is visible, showing the words 'HOLY BIBLE' and 'ILLUSTRATED'. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue.

**\*Hymn**

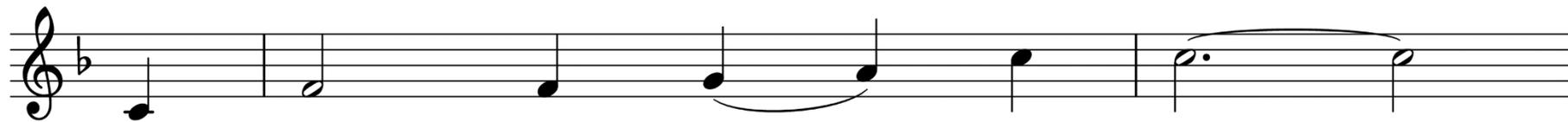
*Lord, Who Throughout  
These Forty Days*

*UMH # 269, V 1-4*

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1. Lord, who through-out these for-ty days



for us didst fast and pray,



teach us with thee to mourn our sins



and close by thee to stay.

WORDS: Claudia F. Hernaman, 1873 (Mt. 4:1-11; Mk. 1:12-13; Lk. 4:1-13)

MUSIC (LAND OF REST, CM): USA folk melody; arr. by Annabel Morris Buchanan, 1938, © 1938, renewed 1966 J. Fischer and Bro. Co.; harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1988, © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House



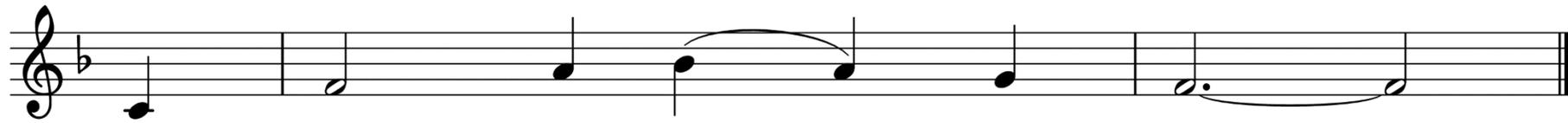
2. As thou with Sa - tan didst con - tend,



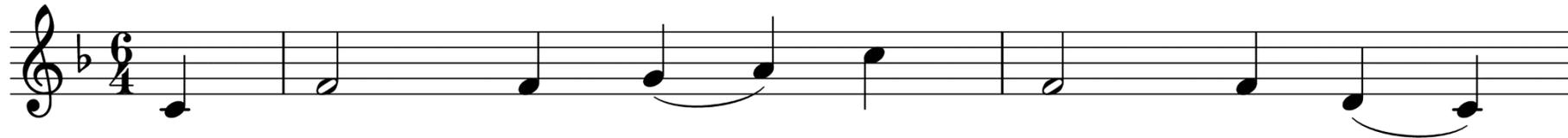
and didst the vic - tory win,



O give us strength in thee to fight,



in thee to con - quer sin.



3. As thou didst hun - ger bear, and thirst,



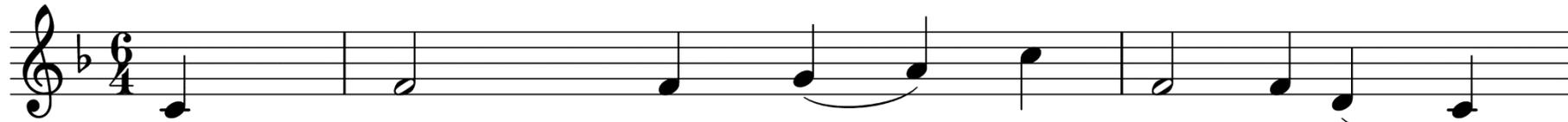
so teach us, gra - cious Lord,



to die to self, and chief - ly live



by thy most ho - ly word.



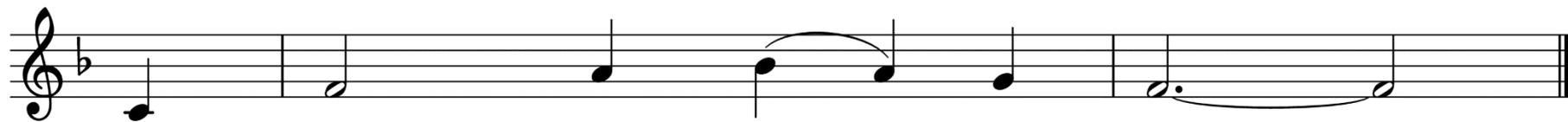
4. And through these days of pen - i - tence,



and through thy pas - sion - tide,



yea, ev - er - more in life and death,



Je - sus, with us a - bide.

# \*Affirmation of Faith

Leader: Brothers and sisters in Christ, what do you believe?

Congregation: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ His only Son, Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried;

the third day he rose from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

A photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer over an open book. The background features stained glass windows, creating a warm, spiritual atmosphere. The text "Pastoral Prayer" is overlaid in the center.

# Pastoral Prayer



Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
sound the alarm on my holy  
hill. Let all who live in the land  
tremble, for the day of  
the LORD is coming. It is close at  
hand

**“Even now,” declares the LORD,  
“return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting and weeping and  
mourning.” Rend your heart and  
not your garments.**

Return to the LORD your God,  
for he is gracious and  
compassionate, slow to anger  
and abounding in love, and he  
relents from sending calamity.

Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing—grain offerings and drink offerings for the LORD your God.

Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a  
holy fast, call a sacred assembly.  
Gather the people, consecrate the  
assembly; bring together the elders,  
gather the children, those nursing at  
the breast. Let the bridegroom leave  
his room and the bride her chamber.

Let the priests, who minister before the LORD, weep between the portico and the altar. Let them say, "Spare your people, LORD. Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

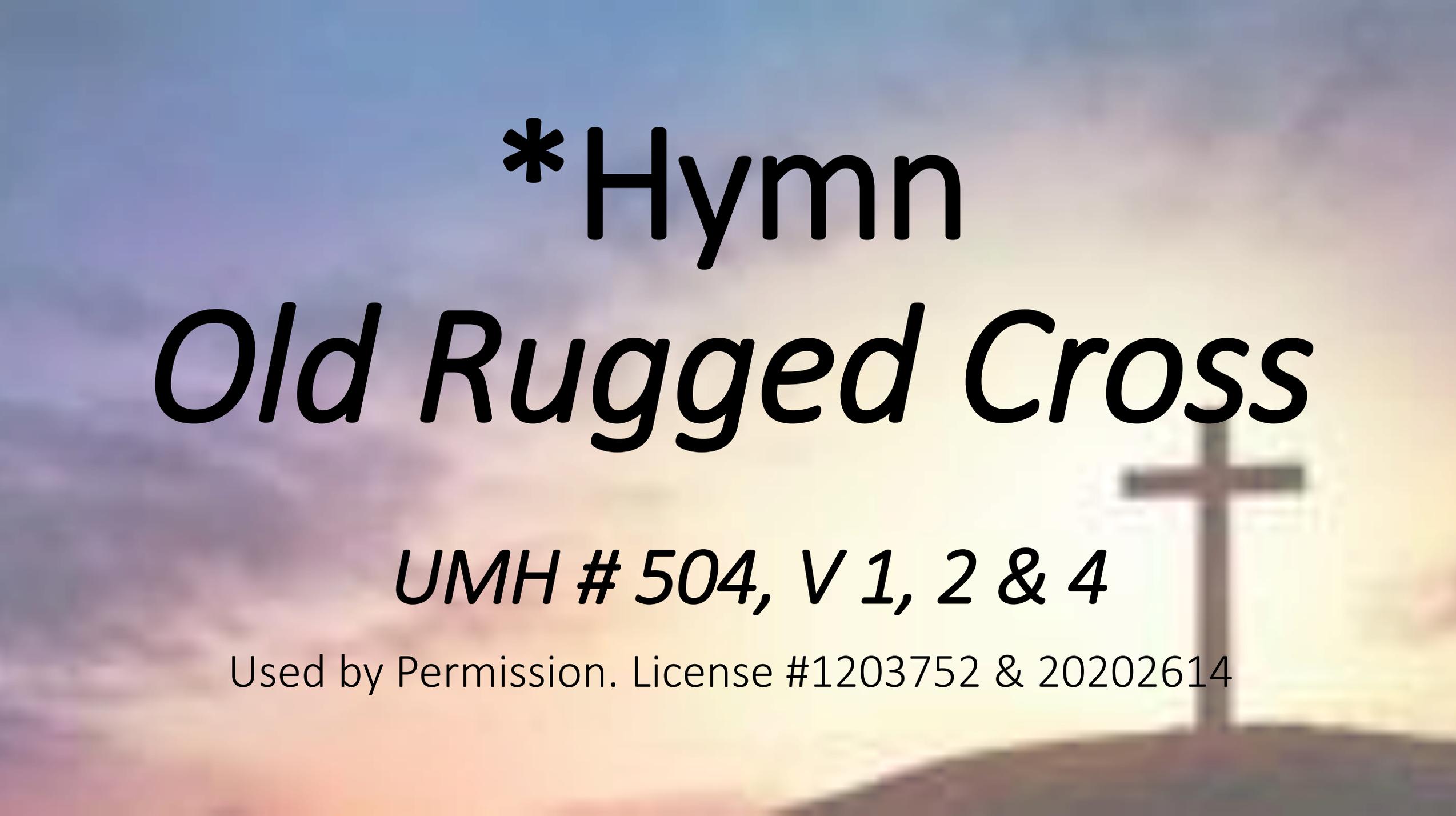
“Rend Your Heart  
and Not Your  
Garments”

Sermon

Rev. Laraine  
Waughtal

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**\*Hymn**  
***Old Rugged Cross***

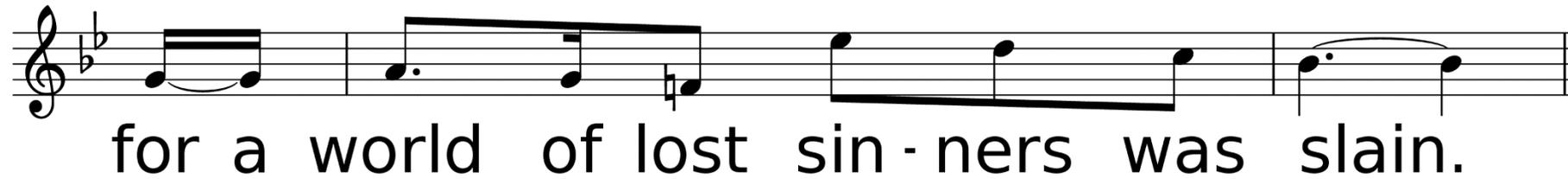
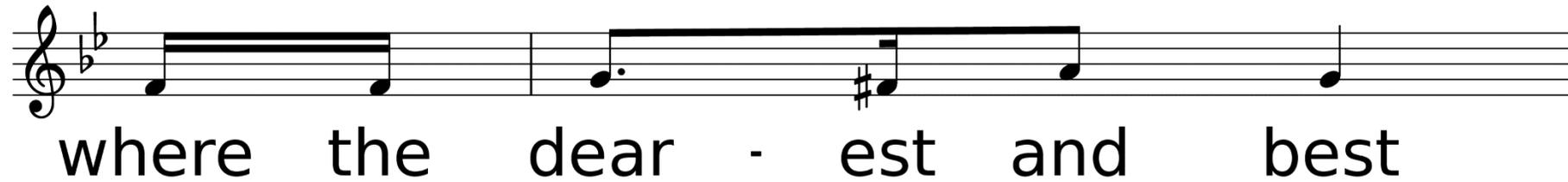
***UMH # 504, V 1, 2 & 4***

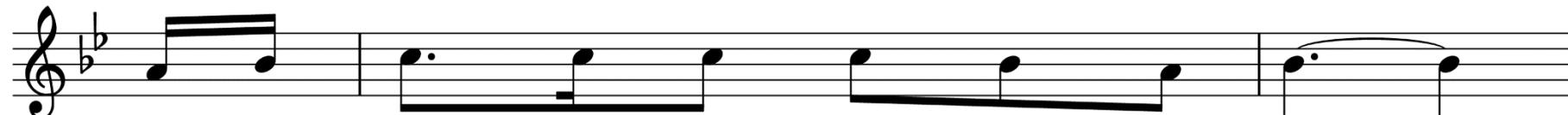
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1. On a hill far a - way  
stood an old rug - ged cross,  
the em - blem of suf - fering and shame;

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "1. On a hill far a - way". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "stood an old rug - ged cross,". The third staff contains the melody for the third line: "the em - blem of suf - fering and shame;". The lyrics are printed below the corresponding musical notes.

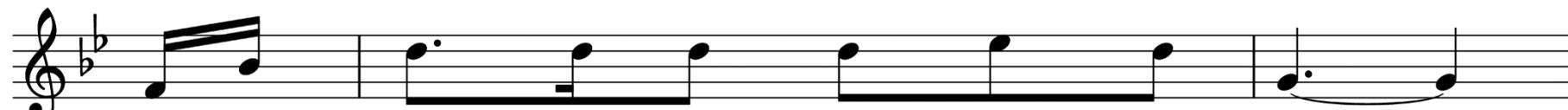




So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross,



till my tro - phies at last I lay down;



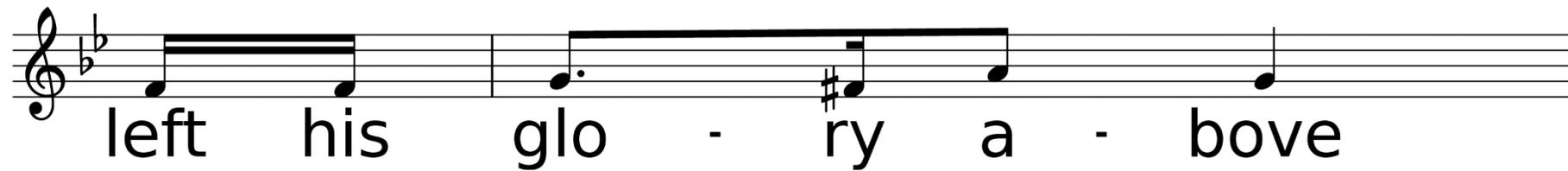
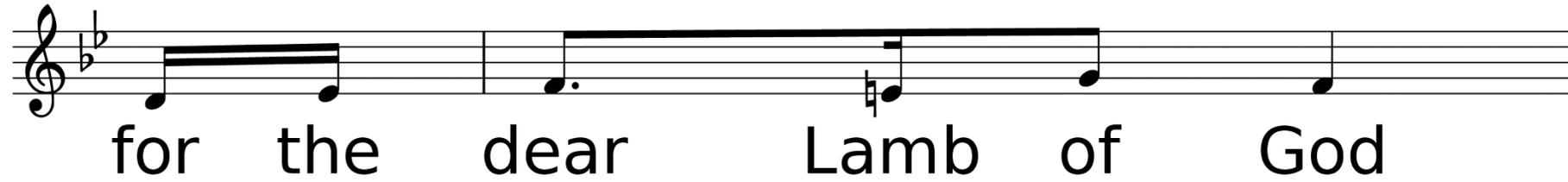
I will cling to the old rug - ged cross,

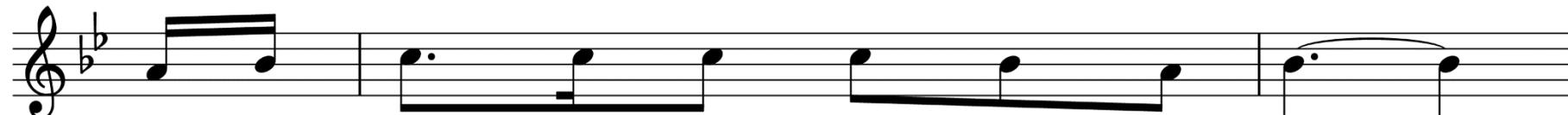


and ex - change it some day for a crown.

2. O that old rug - ged cross,  
so de - spised by the world,  
has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Old Rugged Cross'. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one flat) and 6/8 time. The lyrics are: '2. O that old rug - ged cross, so de - spised by the world, has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;'. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

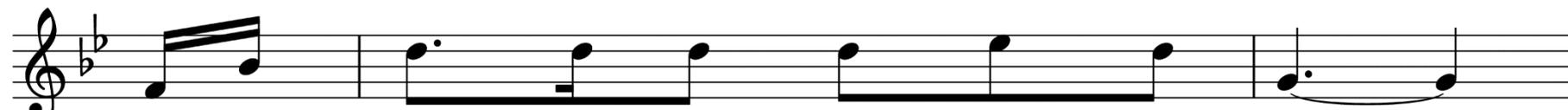




So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross,



till my tro - phies at last I lay down;



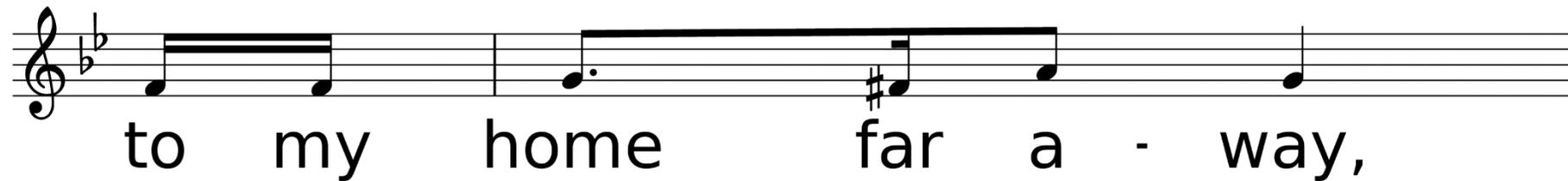
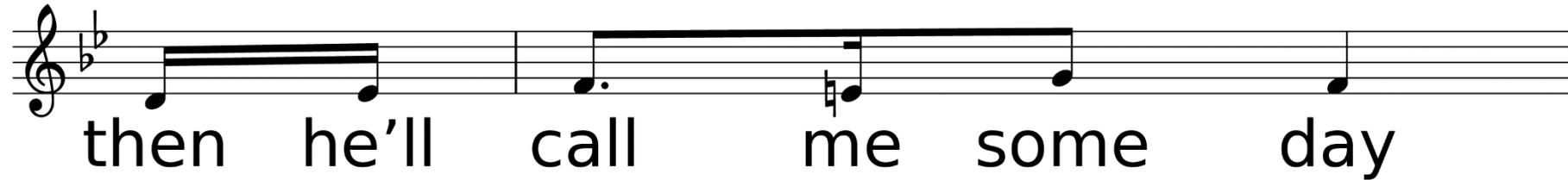
I will cling to the old rug - ged cross,

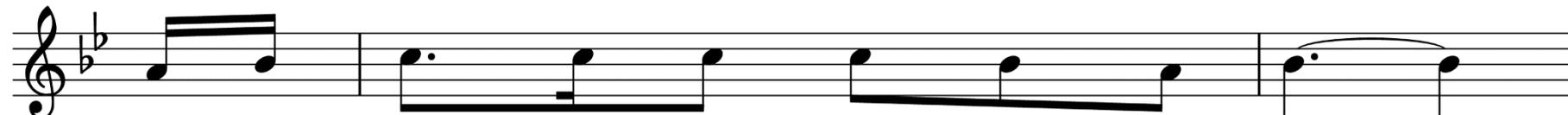


and ex - change it some day for a crown.

4. To the old rug - ged cross  
I will ev - er be true,  
its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear;

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Old Rugged Cross'. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: '4. To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true, its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear;'. The first staff contains the first line of lyrics, the second staff the second line, and the third staff the third line. The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat.

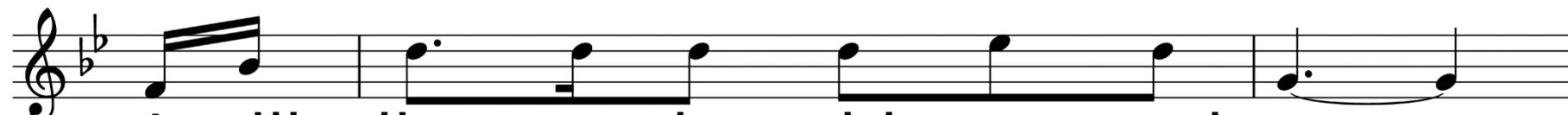




So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross,



till my tro - phies at last I lay down;



I will cling to the old rug - ged cross,



and ex - change it some day for a crown.



*Invitation to  
The Observance  
of  
Lenten Discipline*



## The Blessing of & the Receiving of Ashes

**Blessed are you, God of all creation. You are eternal, we are mortal, formed from the dust of the earth. As we receive these ashes, make them a sign for us of repentance and returning to you. Breathe into us again the breath of life. Blessed be God for ever.**

Imposition of Ashes  
*Repent, and believe in the  
gospel.*

# Confession and Pardon

May the almighty and merciful God, who desires not the death of a sinner but that we turn from wickedness and live, accept our repentance, forgive our sins, and restore us by the Holy Spirit to newness of life.

**Amen.**



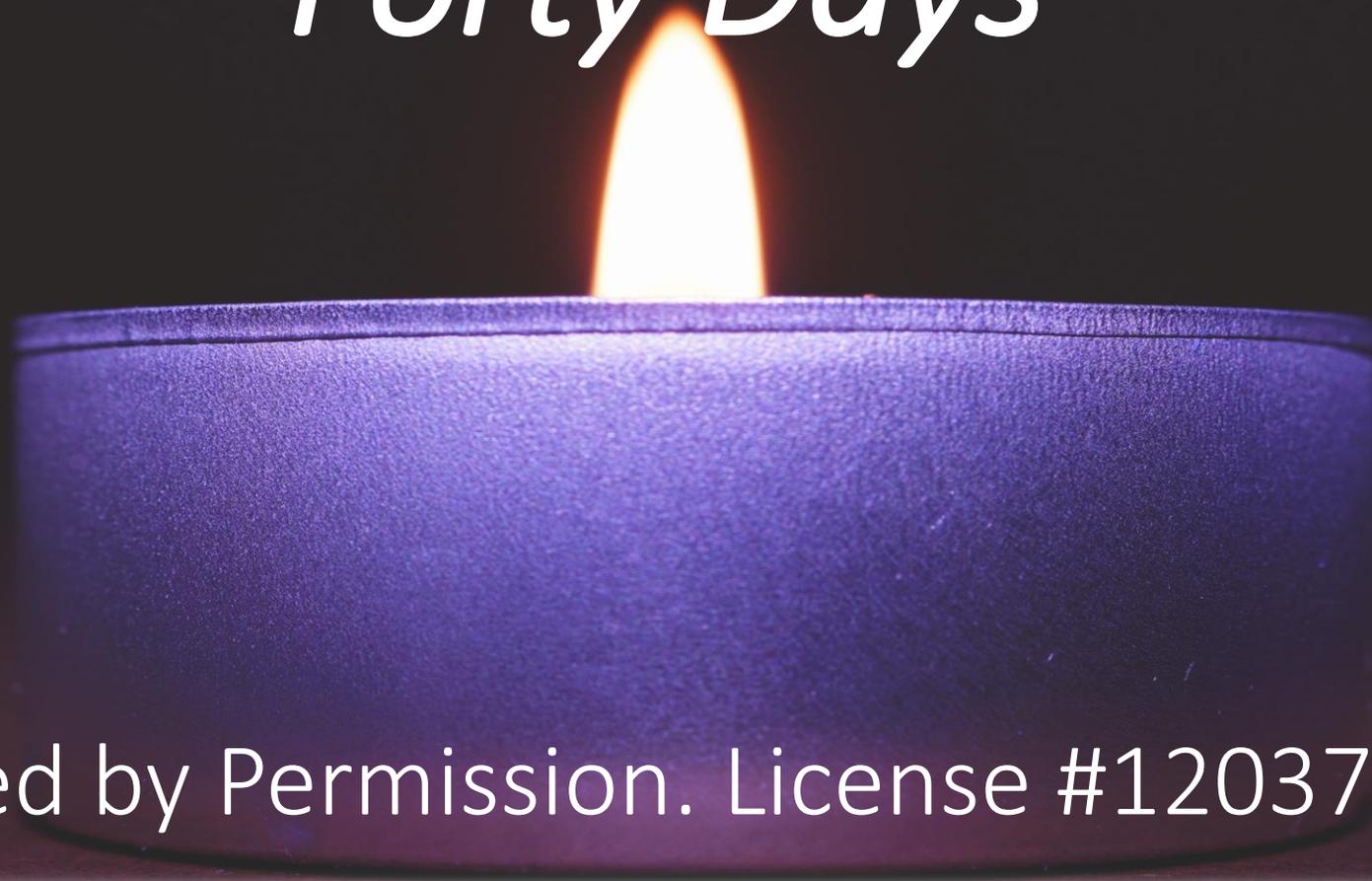
# The Lord's Prayer

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 trespassed against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

A close-up photograph of a shallow, circular wooden bowl. The bowl is filled with dark, rich soil. In the center of the soil, a small, simple wooden cross is placed. The cross is made of two thin, light-colored wooden sticks. The bowl's interior shows some texture and a slight blueish-grey stain. The background is filled with vibrant green leaves, some of which are out of focus, creating a natural and serene atmosphere.

**\*Benediction**

Sending Forth  
*Lord, Who Throughout These  
Forty Days*



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A person wearing a purple robe is shown from the waist down, performing a ritual. They are holding a small flame in their hands, which is casting a purple glow on the floor. The background is dark, and the overall atmosphere is solemn and spiritual.

*Thank you for attending our Ash Wednesday Service. Please continue to keep friends & families listed on our prayer list in mind as you pray throughout the week. Thank you.*