

Hymns ~ Ash Wednesday

Forty days and forty nights thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights tempted still, yet unbeguiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day, chilly dew-drops nightly shed,
prowling beasts about thy way, stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

Let us thy endurance share and from earthly greed abstain
with thee watching unto prayer, with thee strong to suffer pain.

Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear, ever constant by thy side,
that with thee we may appear at the eternal Eastertide.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

‘My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the Altar.
I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that
I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.’ Amen
(based on prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori)

***This is our God, the Servant King, He calls us now to follow Him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering of worship to the Servant King.***

There in the garden of tears my heavy load He chose to bear:
His heart with sorrow was torn, ‘Yet not my will but yours,’ He said.

Come see His hands and His feet, the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space to cruel nails surrendered.

So let us learn how to serve and in our lives enthrone Him,
each other’s needs to prefer, for it is Christ we’re serving. (Graham Kendrick)

Lead us, heav'nly Father, lead us o'er the world's tempestuous sea:
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us, for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing ev'ry blessing if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us, all our weakness thou dost know,
thou didst tread this earth before us, thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary, through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending, fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending, pleasure that can never cloy;
thus provided, pardoned, guided, nothing can our peace destroy.