

Wondrous Love

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

*What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.*

*When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, O my soul!*

*When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.*

*To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.*

*To God and to the Lamb who is the great "I AM,"
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.*

--Traditional Hymn

Author Unknown

Love Song:



An Ash Wednesday Valentine

*Phippsburg Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
February 14th, 2018*

Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC
Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!
Please silence all electronic devices. Thank you!

WORDS OF WELCOME Rev. Holly S. Morrison

PRELUDE William Gilman

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 51)*

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit in me.

**Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take
your holy spirit from me.**

Restore the joy of your salvation & sustain in me a willing spirit.

**Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will
return to you.**

Deliver me from violence, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will
sing aloud of your deliverance.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

A LOVER'S CONFESSION *(From Pilgrim Hymnal #169, adapted)*

**My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake, Love should take frail flesh and die?
He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow,
But we made strange, pretending not to know--
Oh, never with greater love, nor greater grief, has anyone cried!**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**O Holy Friend, love's promise you did bring,
Forgiving and embracing. Let us sing!**

HYMN: Jesus, Lover of My Soul Pilgrim Hymnal 210

Love Letter: A Prophecy of Broken Hearts Restored Isaiah 58:1-12

HYMN: Immortal Love, Forever Full (vs. 1-4) Pilgrim Hymnal 230

Love Letter: An Invitation to Reconciliation 1 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

HYMN: O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High (vs. 1-3) PH 150

A FEAST OF LOVE: The Sacrament of Communion

*(Come forward and take bread from the plate. [There is GF bread in
the small container on the plate.] Dip bread in the cup of juice, eat it,
then return to your seat.)*

Love Letter: Directions for the Treasure Hunt: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

HYMN: Come Down O Love Divine (vs.1-2) Pilgrim Hymnal 239

INVITATION TO ASHES

We are people of the earth:

the grey blowing grit of it,

the shoe-sucking mud of it,

the rich fertile muck of it.

Our bodies are the soil where dreams decay

and seeds of new hope spring up.

In our bones sleep the ashes of ancestors, stuff of old stars.

We are mountains tumbling into sand.

We are crushed stone.

Wait. Be not resentful, nor ashamed by earthiness:

Even dust rides on the breath of the Spirit.

Even the darkest rot is God's fertile ground.

So, Beloved, come: feel the gentle touch.

Accept the ashes.

Wear the dark smudge with quiet joy:

a holy sign that we are never far from Creation's embrace,

and a promise that not even fire can destroy

the startling traces of God's abiding love.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES *(Please come forward as you feel moved. Your
forehead will be marked with a cross of ashes & a blessing will be said)*

HYMN: Breathe On Me, Breath of God (vs. 1-3) Pilgrim Hymnal 234

WORDS OF SENDING