

2026-02-18 Meditation for Ash Wednesday is now available  
at: <https://pgimf.org/meditations/>

[The opening theme song with a poetic paraphrase begins:]

*Ich bete an die Macht der Liebe,*  
O Pow'r of love, all else transcending,  
*Die sich in Jesu offenbart;*  
In Jesus present evermore,  
*Ich geb' mich hin dem freien Triebe,*  
I worship thee, in homage bending,

***Emendemus in melius*** (*Cantiones quæ ab argumento sacræ vocantur*, London, 1575, No. 4)

Lyrics: Responsory for Distribution of Ashes on Ash Wednesday

Music: William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)

Artists: The Sixteen, Harry Christophers (dir.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjkKhm5uyD4>

[Responsory]

*Emendemus in melius*

Let us amend, for the better, in those things  
*quæ ignoranter peccavimus;*

In which we have sinned through ignorance:  
*ne subito præoccupati die mortis,*

Lest suddenly overtaken by the day of death,  
*quæramus spatium pœnitentiæ,*

We seek time for repentance,  
*et invenire non possimus.*

And be not able to find it.

*Attende, Domine, et miserere;*

Harken, O Lord, and have mercy:  
*quia peccavimus tibi.*

For we have sinned against Thee. [Baruch 3:2]

[Verse]

*Adjuva nos, Deus salutaris noster,*

Help us, O God, our salvation,  
*et propter honorem nominis tui*

And for the honour of thy name

*libera nos.*

Deliver us. [Psalm 79 :9a]

[Closing words to our theme song:]

*O! dass diess jeder Sünder wüsste,*

O! that every sinner would know this,

*Sein Herz wohl bald dich lieben müsste.*

His heart must soon surely love You.

Evan

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