

We come together in Christ's holy name to witness to the faith we hold so dear. His liberating gospel has sufficed to gather throngs to serve him year by year. Keep strong our hope of Christian unity; love be the sign of this community

The ashes, symbol of a fire that's spent, the residue of life consumed by flame, mark for us now the period of Lent, anticipate rejection, anguish, shame. We meditate on Love's supreme design – that sacrifice recalled by bread and wine.

3

So after feasting comes the time of fast, the forty days preceding Jesus' death; we journey with him, knowing that at last, on Calvary he breathes his final breath. So help us God throughout this solemn time to be a mirror of his life sublime.

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