Be Merciful, O Lord/
Create a Clean Heart
Psalm 51
Cyprian Consiglio

Refrain 1
*Be merci-ful, Lord, for we have sinned.

Verse 1
Have mercy, God, in compassion,
and forget that I have defied you.
Wash away all my sin,

Verse 2
You are justified giving sentence,
and without reproach when you judge.
You see me just as I am,

Verse 3
Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,
that the bones you bruised may revive!

Refrain 2
Be merciful, merciful, O Lord.

Refrain 3

Text: Based on Psalm 51:3–6, 6–9, 10–13, 14–17, 18–21.
All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music and verses text © 2000, Cyprian Consiglio, OSB Cam.
Published by OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.
When I sacrifice, you refuse it,
and my holocausts do not please you.
My broken spirit I offer;
you will welcome my humble heart.

In your mercy show favor to Sion,
and rebuild the walls of your city.
Then our holocausts will be pleasing
sacrifices offered in your sight.

Be merciful, Lord, for we have sinned.
Be merciful, merciful, O Lord.

Give me back the joy of salvation,
with a fervent spirit sustain me.
I will show to others your way;
those in sin will return to you.
O rescue me, God, be my helper,
and my tongue shall ring out your goodness.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth will declare your praise.

Create a clean heart in me, O God.
Renew in me a steadfast spirit.