

Risen Savior Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod - Basehor, Kansas



ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 17, 2021



Welcome to all who are with us this first day in Lent, Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday derives its name from the ancient practice of Ashes placed upon worshippers foreheads. "For dust you are and to dust you shall return" (Gen. 3:19). This is of course what God spoke to Adam and Eve after they eaten of the forbidden fruit and fallen into sin. These words indicated to our first parents the bitterest fruit of their sin, namely death. Christians focus intensely on their utter and complete sinfulness and the necessity of Christ's suffering and death to earn their salvation. In addition, as early as 1600 years ago, the Christian's Lenten journey has begun with a reminder of our mortality and a call to repentance through the placing of ashes on one's head (Genesis 18:27, Job 42:6, Jeremiah 6:26, Matthew 11:21). Ashes are referred to many times in Holy Scripture as a sign of sorrow, mourning, repentance, and mortality (2 Sam. 13; Esther 4; Num. 19; Jer. 6). The ashes are a strong reminder of the need for God's mercy, forgiveness, and the redeeming grace of Christ. Indeed, we remember well the words from the Christian burial service: "...earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust...;" words that will someday be spoken over us all. In ancient Christian tradition, palms from Palm Sunday are used for ashes, marked in a cross upon the penitent's forehead. It is also reminiscent of our baptism cross/mark placed upon us unites us to Christ's passion (Rom. 6). The cross reminds each penitent of the good news that through Jesus Christ crucified there is forgiveness for all sins, all guilt, and all punishment. **The Lord bless this Divine Service.**

Lent is the Christian's forty-day journey with the Lord to the cross and tomb, preparing for the joyous celebration of Christ's Resurrection. The forty days are reminiscent of several biblical events: Moses' stay on Mt. Sinai at the giving of the law, Elijah's fast on his way to the mountain of God, and Jesus' forty-day fast at the beginning of His ministry, among others. The forty days are counted backward from Resurrection Sunday. Since all regular Sunday worship services are an observance of Christ's resurrection, and thus occasions for reverent joy, the Sundays during this period are not counted in the forty days of more somber remembrance of Christ's Passion. This also explains why this season begins on a Wednesday. Crosses are veiled or draped during this season, until we see them anew on Easter morn. As well, alleluias and festival hymns cease from the Church until we commemorate the Resurrection of our Lord.

We celebrate the Lord's Supper today, in the confession and confidence that, as Jesus says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread, wine but His very real, true body, blood to eat, drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him, and with one another. According to Scripture, Holy Communion is a public confession of faith, sharing a unity in doctrinal belief; also those who eat, drink our Lord's body, blood unworthily or without discernment do so to their harm. **Therefore, in love and pastoral concern for guests, if you are not a member of this congregation or the LCMS and desire to receive the Sacrament, please speak with the pastor first.**

PASCHAL CANDLE REMOVED

VEILING OF THE CRUCIFIX

ADDRESS OF ASH WEDNESDAY

- ☐ Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord. From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently in His Word and draws from it life and hope. Let us pray that our Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

Kneel/Stand

LITANY

Silence for reflection

- ☐ O Lord, ☑ **have mercy.**
☐ O Christ, ☑ **hear us.**
☐ God the Father in heaven, ☑ **have mercy.**
☐ God the Son, Redeemer of the world, ☑ **have mercy.**
☐ God the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, ☑ **have mercy.**
☐ Be gracious to us. ☑ **Help us, good Lord.**
☐ By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and Passion; by Your precious death and burial; by Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:
☑ **Help us, good Lord.**
☐ In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:
☑ **Help us, good Lord.**
☐ We poor sinners implore You,
☑ **to hear us, O Lord.**
☐ To prosper the preaching of Your Word; to bless our prayer and meditation; to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith; to give heart to our sorrow, strength to our repentance:
☑ **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
☐ To draw all to Yourself; to bless those who are instructed in the faith; to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers; to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy; and to have mercy on us all:
☑ **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

P To turn our hearts to You; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers:

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C **we implore You to hear us.**

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C **grant us Your peace.**

P O Lord,

C **have mercy. Amen.**

P O God, You desire not the death of sinners but that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

RITE OF IMPOSITION OF ASHES - *Ushers will dismiss those who wish to come forward and receive the ashes.*

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Genesis 3

Kneel/Stand

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

from the Compline Service, p.253

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

C **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

John 20

C **Amen.**

Stand

INTROIT

Psalms 51, 103

L The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

C **Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

L Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

C **For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.**

L Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,

C **Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.**

L Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

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

L Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

C **Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

L The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great goodness.

C **He has not dealt with us according to our sins; nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**

L For as the heavens are high above the earth

C **so great is His mercy over those that fear Him;**

L As a father is tender towards his children so is the Lord tender to those that fear Him.

C **For He knows of what we are made, he remembers that we are but dust.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with your spirit.**

P Let us pray. Almighty, everlasting God, because You hate nothing You have made and You forgive the sins of all those who are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain from You, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness, through Jesus Christ, You Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT

Joel 2:12-19 *Repent, return to the Lord, who has pity*

"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'" Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people. The LORD answered and said to his people, "Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

1 John 2, Romans 4

L We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus is the propitiation for our sins.

C **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

EPISTLE READING **2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10** *Reconciliation with God*

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you. "Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL **Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21** *Living repentant lives*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the sixth chapter

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said] Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY **607** From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L Now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people that, through repentance and reception of the Lord's Gospel and Sacraments, He may draw us close to Himself.

Gracious Lord, as Your Church once more enters the Lenten season to meditate upon Your passion, by which we have been eternally redeemed, draw us to Your wounded side and cleanse us with Your precious blood. By Your Spirit's work through the means of grace, give us daily repentance, create in us clean hearts, make our souls steadfast in Christ, and enliven us to willing service.

C Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Your unfailing love.

L Lord God, heavenly Father, in Your mercy You abundantly supply our needs of body and soul. Put in us the mind of Christ, that in humility and generosity—considering not only our own interests, but also the interests of others—we would be merciful to those in need around us. Direct our efforts to help the poor, lonely, troubled, and ill.

C Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Your unfailing love.

L Lord God, heavenly Father, look with favor upon those among us sick, injured, and recovering people. If it be Your will deliver them from their infirmities. Let them hear of Your unfailing love.

C Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Your unfailing love.

L Lord God, heavenly Father, in Holy Baptism You made us Your own eternal children through Christ's death and resurrection. Now prepare those who will eat Christ's body and drink His blood that they may recognize Him, receive Him in repentance and faith, confess the faith delivered to the saints, and taste and see that You are good.

C Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Your unfailing love.

L Lord God, heavenly Father, we praise You that You have delivered the saints who have gone before us from this world of dust and ashes to paradise. As their prayers continually ascend before Your throne, join ours with theirs as fragrant incense before Your throne. Hear us for the sake of Him who was crucified for us and always intercedes on our behalf, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

✠ THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR ✠

PREFACE AND SANCTUS

2 Timothy 4, Colossians 3, Psalm 136, Isaiah 6, Matthew 21

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good right and salutary, that we should at all times and places, give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by Whose grace we are able to triumph

over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto Him who died for us and rose again. Who bids His faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by His Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which You have prepared for those who love You. Therefore, with angels and with archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your holy name, evermore praising You and saying:

- C Holy, Holy, Holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of Your glory! Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!**

Kneel/Stand

LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created, and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom as You have taught us to pray.

Matthew 6

- C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22; 1 Corinthians 11

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

PEACE OF THE LORD, AGNUS DEI

John 20, John 1

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.
P Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
C Have mercy on us.

Sit

- DISTRIBUTION HYMNS 613** To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All
634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord
445 When You Woke That Thursday Morning

Stand

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11, Revelation 22

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink,
- C** **You lead us to confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** We pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

Numbers 6

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

Sit

CLOSING HYMN **454** Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle