

Ash Wednesday

February 17, 2021

7:00 PM

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P In this service for Ash Wednesday, we go to Jerusalem, the place of the Passover, where Jesus gathers with the crowds and sacrifices himself for us. The meaning, history, and spiritual inspiration associated with this location are highlighted. We will learn things we may not have known before as we grow to understand more deeply the hard road our Lord took that the way to heaven might be open to us.

ORGAN: *Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit* Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes. (Matthew 20:18)

Stand

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Let us ever walk with Jesus.

C **To see the depths of his love.**

P To behold the gift of his forgiveness.

C **To gaze upon the heights of his grace.**

P To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.

C **We walk with Jesus to the City of Jerusalem.**

P Because Passover is coming.

C **And the Son of Man will be crucified.**

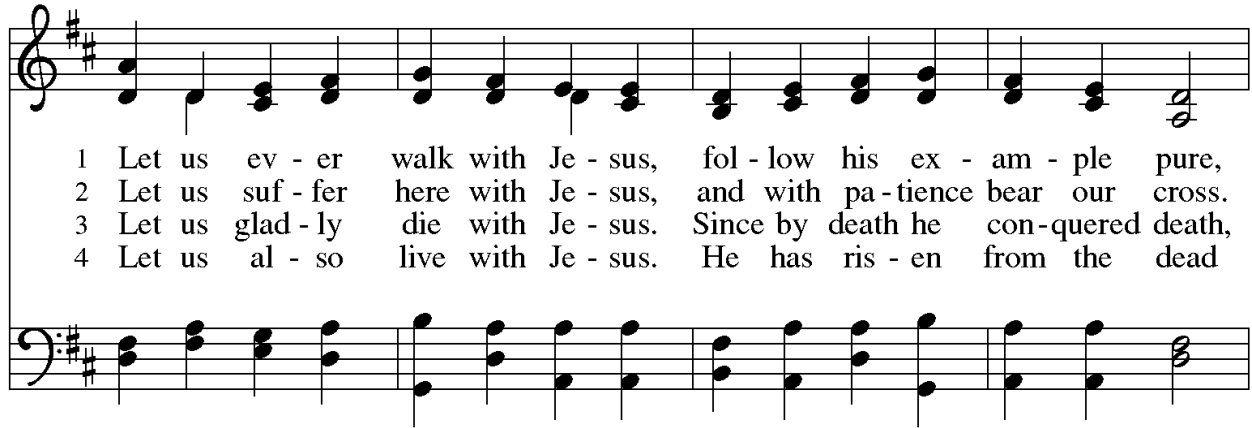
P Faithful Lord, with me abide.

C **I shall follow where you guide!**

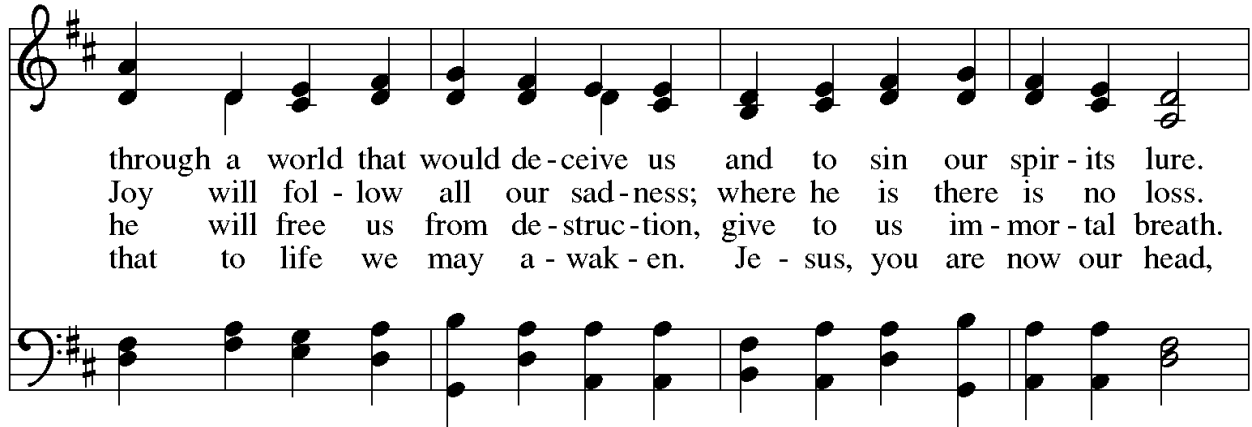
HYMN: *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

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Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be

full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
 all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.

Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
 Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
 Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
 Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Magnificent and merciful Father,
 because I walk into dark and dangerous places,
 hear me as I confess my sins.
- C **My feet take me to places of compromise and sinful ambition.**
- P My heart lingers in places of lust and lies.
- C **My words take me to places of anger, rage and hatred.**
- P My ears delight in going to places of gossip, deceit, and ridicule.
- C **My mind takes me to places of selfishness and pride.**
- P My eyes lead me to places of envy and greed.
- C **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

P Hear the good news! Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment, and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane, Gabbatha and Golgotha—for you. That’s why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally.

C **Amen**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty and everlasting God, send forth your Holy Spirit that this Lent we may ever walk with Jesus, follow his example pure, through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

FIRST READING

Exodus 12:1-13

A A reading from Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, “This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers’ houses, a lamb for a household. And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight. “Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord’s Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.”

- A The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

- A A reading from First Corinthians.

Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

- A The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL

Matthew 26:1-5

- P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

- C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said to his disciples, "You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified." Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people."

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Weleck

Stand

HYMN: *O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*

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O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and

prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal

for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Onward in Christ's footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above. Full of faith and hope and love. Let us do the Father's bidding. And so, we pray. Jesus, you will finally deliver us from every storm so we lift our prayers and raise our petitions to you.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A Deliver us from pride and arrogance, lest we fail to acknowledge our sins and confess them.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A Deliver the world from the enemies of peace and from injustice and give us good and faithful leaders to protect the unborn and promote virtue.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A Deliver the erring from their darkness, the doubting from their uncertainty, and the wandering from their ways, and return them to you.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A Deliver us from the terror of death and the grave.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A Deliver us from selfish desire, from the tyranny of things, and from the wasteful use of the resources you have entrusted to our care.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A Deliver us from ingratitude for all your mercies and restore our hearts to hope and joy.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

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.**

BLESSING (BENEDICTION)

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C **Amen.**

HYMN: *The Old Rugged Cross*

On a Hill Far Away *The Old Rugged Cross*



1 On a hill far a - way stood an old rug - ged cross,
2 Oh, that old rug - ged cross so de - spised by the world,
3 In the old rug - ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,
4 To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true,



the em - blem of suf - f'ring and shame;
 has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;
 a won - drous beau - ty I see;
 its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear;



and I love that old cross where the dear - est and best
 for the dear Lamb of God left his glo - ry a - bove,
 for 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died,
 Christ will call me some day to my home far a - way,

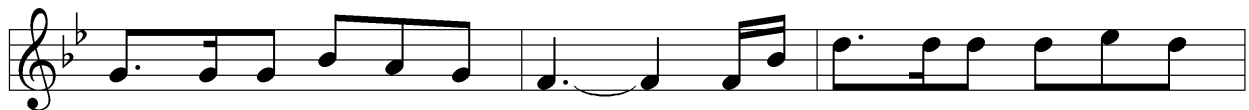


for a world of lost sin - ners was slain.
 to bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.
 to par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.
 where his glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

Refrain



So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross, till my



tro - phies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rug - ged



cross, and ex - change it some day for a crown.

POSTLUDE: *Vater Unser*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

OFFERING

Please remember to send in your weekly offerings so that we can continue to provide both in-person and recorded services.