

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18, 2026 - 6:30pm



Burke Lutheran Church

Reconnect.

5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718-2761

608-244-8486 / burkelutheran@att.net

www.burkelutheran.org

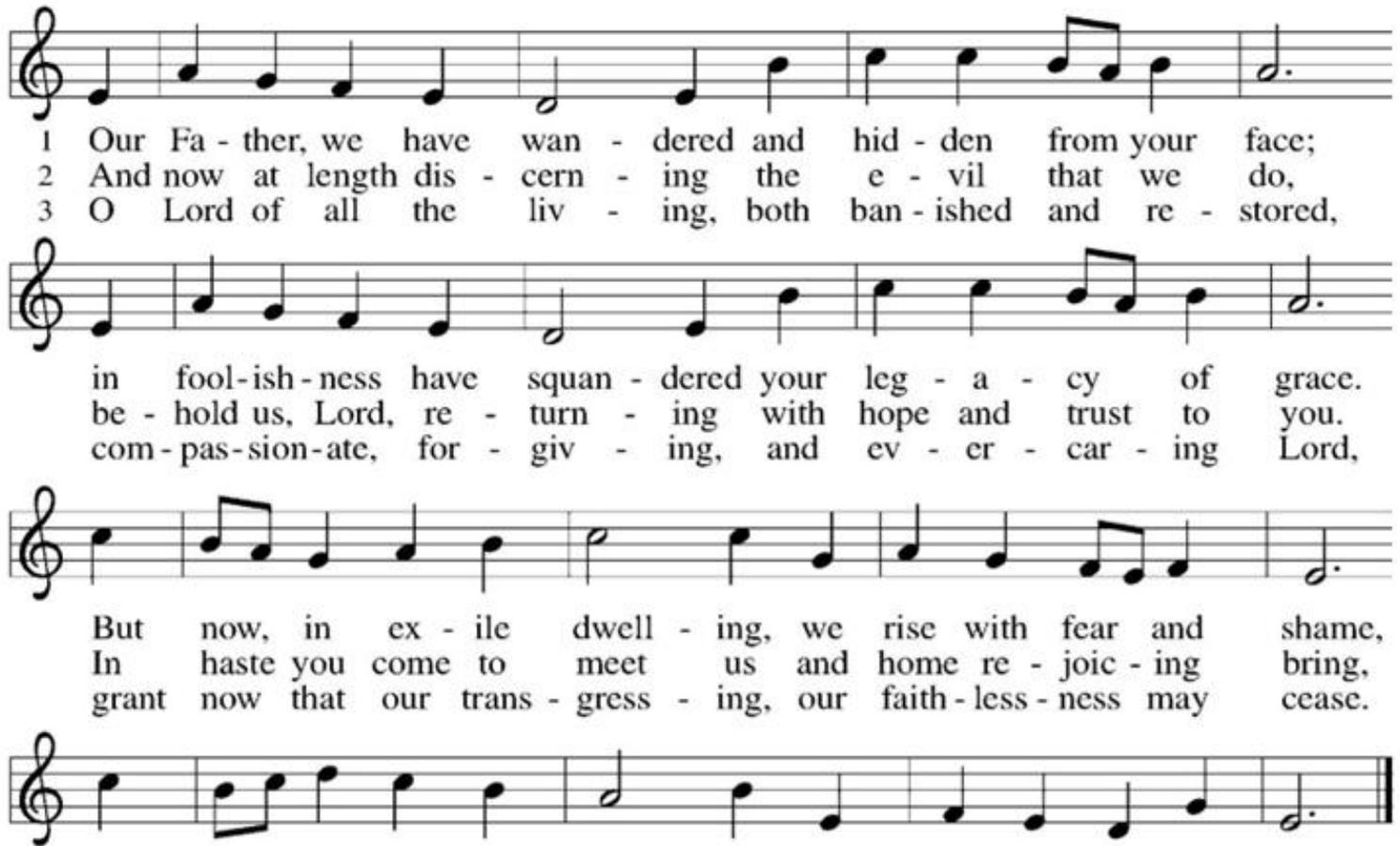
“Preach. Teach. Reach.”

PRELUDE

Please rise.

GATHERING SONG

Our Father, We Have Wandered



1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,
in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,
But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.
as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929-2006
Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612
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GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C **Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Because of the coming Day of the LORD, the prophet Joel calls the people to a community lament. The repentant community reminds God of his gracious character and asks God to spare the people, lest the nations doubt God's power to save.

R ¹ Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—² a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains, a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. ¹² Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³ rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ¹⁴ 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? ¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶ gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her canopy. ¹⁷ Between the vestibule and the altar, let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep. Let them say, “Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’”

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

- R ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- C ² **Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**
- R ³ For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.
- C ⁴ **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**
- R ⁵ Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.
- C ⁶ **Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**
- R ⁷ Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
- C ⁸ **Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**
- R ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.
- C ¹⁰ **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**
- R ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- C ¹² **Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**
- R ¹³ Let me teach your ways to offenders, and sinners shall be restored to you.
- C ¹⁴ **Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**
- R ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- C ¹⁶ **For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it. You are not pleased with burnt offering.**
- R ¹⁷ The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

The ministry of the gospel endures many challenges and hardships. Through this ministry, God's reconciling activity in the death of Christ reaches into the depths of our lives to bring us into a right relationship with God. In this way, God accepts us into the reality of divine salvation.

R ^{20b} We entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. ^{6:1} As we work together with him, we entreat you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ² For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." Look, now is the acceptable time; look, now is the day of salvation! ³ We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴ but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: in great endurance, afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶ in purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷ truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸ in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors and yet are true, ⁹ as unknown and yet are well known, as dying and look—we are alive, as punished and yet not killed, ¹⁰ as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing everything.

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise.

GOSPEL VERSE



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 6th chapter.

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.

P Jesus said to the disciples: ¹“Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them, for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But whenever 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. ¹⁶“And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Bryan Lagerstam

Please rise.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

INVITATION TO LENT

P Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' Passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed. We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Most holy and merciful God,

C we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

P We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

C Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Please be seated.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Quiet Organ music during Imposition of Ashes

P *People are invited to come forward and kneel or stand to receive the ashes. Minister marks the forehead of each person with ashes, using the following words: **Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.***

After all who desire ashes have received them:

Please rise.

P Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

C that we may show forth your glory in the world.

P By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

C bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

P Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

R Guide your church, O God. Accompany all Christians in this season of repentance, and renew our faith in the riches of grace you give to us in baptism. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

R Heal this earth, O God. Satisfy the needs of every parched place, every diverse ecosystem, every suffering creature. Though all return to dust, grant beauty and purpose to each living thing. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

R Restore the nations, O God. Let your healing spring up quickly across the world. Give all in authority the will to loose the bonds of injustice and let any who are oppressed go free. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

R Bless this assembly, O God. Reconcile us to one another and to you. Strengthen our resolve to fast from evil, open our hands in sharing, and quicken our prayer. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Deliver your people, O God. Comfort any whose hearts are rent by grief, uphold any who are sick, bring food to those who hunger, and give housing to all without shelter. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Hold us forever, O God. We thank you for all who now know their treasure in heaven, and for all who on earth proclaimed your abounding, steadfast love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.** (*Greet one another with God's peace.*)

Please rise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty, . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION & HYMNS

Lord Jesus, Think on Me



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,



from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

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Just As I Am, without One Plea



- 1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
 2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not to rid my soul of one dark blot,
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a con - flict, man - y_a doubt,
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es, heal - ing of the mind,



and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
 fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 yea, all I need in thee to find,

- 5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
 wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
 because thy promise I believe,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6 Just as I am; thy love unknown
 has broken ev'ry barrier down;
 now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliot, 1799-1871
 Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

Please rise.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✠ bless you now and always.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

The Glory of These Forty Days



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in



brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en



things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

The Latin text is from the Roman Missal, 1962, 1967, 68.
Music: © 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025. All rights reserved.
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Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IF YOU ARE VISITING TODAY: Thank you for joining us at Burke for worship and fellowship! Please sign a card in the pew and/or the visitor book in the narthex.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

We teach that Jesus is truly present in the bread and the wine. All are invited to the table to share God's grace. Grape juice is available in the center of the tray for those who desire it, as well as gluten-free wafers.

*Please fill out a communion card
and place it in the offering plate if
you are communing today.*

OUR STAFF

Pastor

Bryan Lagerstam

309-236-7334

Bryan.lagerstam@gmail.com

Administrative Secretary

Laura Steig

608-244-8486

burkelutheran@att.net

Maintenance Engineer

VACANT

PRAYERS & CARES

Our Prayer List: Contact the church office with prayer concerns. Unless otherwise advised, names remain on our list for four weeks.

Lisa Thompson

Bill Schmidt

Richard Riggelman

Mark Gehrke

Paul Fritz

Tom Hughes

Tim Lothe

Shannon Schlimgen

Cindy Sommer