February 14, 2024 Ash Wednesday Noon & 7:00 pm



First Lutheran Church

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We, the community of First Lutheran Church of Bothell, proclaim the message that the grace of our Lord is infinitely inclusive and that everyone is welcome. We believe that Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation and as disciples of Christ seeking justice and reconciliation among all peoples, we at First Lutheran Church welcome all into the fullness of God's love. We welcome everyone, without exception and regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or station in life. We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God, and through grace, a child of God.

All are welcome at First Lutheran.

All are welcome to worship, to hear the Good News, to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service. As members of First Lutheran Church, we pledge ourselves and our congregation to exercise our faith in Christ, treasuring one another's similarities while embracing our God-given differences. We pledge that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.

WORSHIP NOTES

- + Please sign the card in the pew rack and place in the offering plate with your offering before Holy Communion.
- + The service is printed in this bulletin. Some hymns are located in the red hymn book.
- + Hearing enhancement receivers, large print bulletins are available. Feel free to ask an usher for assistance.
- Our expectation is that children will be in worship. We understand, though, that there are times when your wiggly ones need a distraction. There is a "Pray Space" under the stairs in the inner narthex with soft toys and books. We also have a nursery with a caregiver available at both worship services. Please ask an usher for assistance.
- + If you would like to have a digital copy of the bulletin, go to our website and download the PDF. www.flcbothell.org
- + Public Wi-Fi: FLC Wireless—Password: MartyLuther

Serving Us In Worship Today Noon Worship

Presiding/ Preaching	Rev. Tor Kristian Berg	Music Director	Lucy Kay Osborne
Organist	Karla Stalwick		
Ushers	Ryan Stute	Communion Assistants	Stephanie Almeida Donna Hillard
Sound Tech	Gary Curtis	Lector	Stephanie Almeida

7:00 pm Worship

Presiding/ Preaching	Rev. Tor Kristian Berg	Music Director	Lucy Kay Osborne
Organist	Martha Freitag	Lector	Jeff Almeida
Ushers	Dan Bormann	Communion Assistants	
Sound Tech	Ann Bormann	Camera Tech	David Osborne

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor

Rev. Tor Kristian Berg tberg@flcbothell.org

Director of REACH Ministries Roger Steinke rsteinke@flcbothell.org Director of Music (Organist/Choir Dir.) Lucy Kay Osborne lkosborne@flcbothell.org

Office Manager Kristin Smith ksmith@flcbothell.org Preschool Director Beth Bowers flcbeth@gmail.com

February 14, 2024 Ash Wednesday 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE: NOON - Lamb Of God (Pachelbel) 7:00 pm - The Glory of These Forty Days ((Pachelbel)

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG: As the Deer Runs to the River (ELW 331)



GREETING The Lord be with you. And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ANTHEM: 7:00 PM - When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (B. Burroughs)

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

PSALM: Psalm 37:23-37

²³Our steps are made firm by the LORD; God delights in faithful ways.

²⁴If we stumble, we shall not fall headlong, for the LORD holds us by the hand.

²⁵I have been young and now I am old, but never have I seen the righteous forsaken, or their children begging bread.

²⁶The righteous are always generous in their lending, and their children shall become a blessing.

²⁷Turn from evil, and do good, and dwell securely forever.

²⁸For the LORD loves justice, and will never forsake those who are faithful; they shall be kept safe forever, but the offspring of the wicked shall be destroyed.

²⁹The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell in it forever.

³⁰The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak justice.

³¹The teaching of their God is in their heart, and their footsteps do not falter.

³²The wicked spy on the righteous and seek occasion to kill them.

³³The LORD will not abandon the righteous to the hand of the wicked, nor let them be found guilty when brought to trial.

³⁴Wait upon the LORD and keep the way of God, who will raise you up to possess the land; and when the wicked are cut off, you will see it.

³⁵I have seen the frightfully wicked flourishing like a tree in native soil.

³⁶Suddenly they vanished and were not there; I searched for them, but they could not be found.

³⁷Mark those who are blameless; observe the upright; for there is a future for people who are at peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Restore in Us, O God (ELW 328)



GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37

³⁰They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.

Word of God. Word of life.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: The Glory of These Forty Days (ELW 320)



INVITATION TO LENT

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 the 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 OF SIN

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

Silence for self Reflection.

Most holy and merciful God,

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.

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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

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. Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you. Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us. Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Come forward as you desire to receive ashes.

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation, that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior, bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

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.

Amen.

MEDITATION SONG: Remember That You Are Dust (ACS 919)



* May be sung in canon



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

You call us to return to you, steadfast God. Renew a right spirit within the church and cleanse the hearts of your people. Strengthen those who proclaim your gospel in word and deed. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

You sustain your creation, generous God. Supply all that is needful for life to flourish. Protect endangered species and fragile habitats. Teach us to live lightly upon the earth and to honor it as our home. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You seek justice and peace, righteous God. Rebuild cities and homelands devastated by war: Ukraine, Palestine, Ethiopia, South Sudan. Provide welcome, help, and safety to refugees. Prosper negotiations that lead to lasting peace among the nations. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

You care for all people, loving God. Heal any who are scarred by violence, addiction, or trauma of any kind. Comfort those who grieve and bring relief to any in pain. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You gather this assembly, abiding God. Unite us in serving our neighbors and working for justice. We pray for caregivers and people who are hospitalized, in treatment, or recovering from illness Roger, Larry and Lucy Kay. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You redeem us from death, faithful God. We give thanks for those who served you in the church. Bring us with all the saints into everlasting joy. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY: Noon— 7:00 pm—An Offertory (George Walker)

OFFERING: Create In Me A Clean Heart



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. We give thanks for the blessing of Jesus who said:

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION: We will receive the body of Christ as bread with these or similar words: The body of Christ, given for you. If you desire, a gluten-free option is available. The blood of Christ will be received as either red wine or white grape juice with these or similar words: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

WHO MAY COMMUNE? All are welcome at the Lord's Table. It is a free gift given to all for the forgiveness of sins. The words "for you" really mean FOR YOU! Children may commune at the discretion of their parents. If you wish to receive a blessing: cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the communion assistants.

DIRECTIONS FOR COMMUNION: Please come forward by the center aisle at the direction of the ushers to receive the sacrament and return to your seat down the side aisle. Please register each person taking communion on a pew card.

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COMMUNION SONG: Lord, Whose Love in Humble service (ELW 712)



PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song (ELW 808)

DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Noon - You Are the Way (Lovelace) 7:00 pm - Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song (Mark Sedio)



SERMON NOTES

What caught my attention:

What did I hear that I am eager to share with another person?

I think the title of the sermon should be:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America