



March 2, 2022

Ash Wednesday

Rev. Ken Bersche

Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary

As We Gather

Genesis 30:22–24

Opening Hymn

“O Lord, throughout These Forty Days”

- ♪ O Lord, throughout these forty days You prayed and kept the fast;
Inspire repentance for our sin, And free us from our past.
- ♪ You strove with Satan, and You won; Your faithfulness endured;
Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust In God’s eternal Word.
- ♪ Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed And fixed Your mind above;
So teach us to deny ourselves, Since we have known God’s love.
- ♪ Be with us through this season, Lord, And all our earthly days,
That when the final Easter dawns, We join in heaven’s praise.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 418-Text: based on Claudius F. Hernaman 1838-98; para. Gilbert E. Doan b.1930;
©1978 Lutheran Book of Worship; Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Invocation

In this Lenten season, we journey with Joseph of Genesis

And come to the cross of Christ on Calvary.

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

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Confession of Sins

I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, and He will hear me.

In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted.

When I remember God, I moan; when I meditate, my spirit faints.

You hold my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak.

I consider the days of old, the years long ago.

I said, “Let me remember my song in the night; let me meditate in my heart.” *Ps. 77:1–6a*

We are dust, and to dust we shall return. But our God is faithful and just, and He remembers us.

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

Most merciful God, we confess to You that we have broken Your commandments by our own thoughts, words, and deeds. We have failed to be the people You have called us to be. We have not loved our brothers and sisters as we ought. So often we fail to remember Your promises, Your presence, and Your perfect plan. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, and give us the healing power of Your love that we may walk again in Your ways and live to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Joel 2:12–19

¹²“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

¹³and 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.

¹⁴Who 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?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly;

¹⁶gather 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.

¹⁷Between 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?’”

¹⁸Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people.

¹⁹The 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.

Imposition of Ashes

Ashes symbolize mourning for our sins, for the times we have like sheep gone astray and that we have been guilty of iniquity and transgression. The ashes in the shape of the cross symbolize cleansing and renewal and point to the gift of forgiveness that God gives in Jesus Christ, through whom the Lord has remembered us.

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

Genesis 3:19

You are invited to come forward to receive ashes in the shape of the cross upon your forehead or forehead.

The Response

Remember that we are dust,

And to dust we shall return.

Then I said, “I will appeal to this, to the years of the right hand of the Most High.” I will
remember the deeds of the LORD;

Yes, I will remember Your wonders of old.

I will ponder all Your work, and meditate on Your mighty deeds.

Your way, O God, is holy. What god is great like our God?

You are the God who works wonders; You have made known Your might among the peoples.

You with Your arm redeemed Your people, the children of Jacob and Joseph.

Psalm 77:10–15

Hymn of Confession *Please Stand*

“Savior, When in Dust to Thee”

♪ Savior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow th’ adoring knee;

When, repentant, to the skies Scarce we lift our weeping eyes; O, by all Thy pains and woe
Suffered once for us below, Bending from Thy throne on high, Hear our penitential cry!

♪ By Thy helpless infant years, By Thy life of want and tears, By Thy days of deep distress
In the savage wilderness, By the dread, mysterious hour Of th’ insulting tempter’s pow’r,
Turn, O turn a fav’ring eye; Hear our penitential cry!

- ♪ By Thine hour of dire despair, By Thine agony of prayer, By the cross, the nail, the thorn,
Piercing spear, and torturing scorn, By the gloom that veiled the skies
O'er the dreadful sacrifice, Listen to our humble sigh; Hear our penitential cry!
- ♪ By Thy deep expiring groan, By the sad sepulchral stone, By the vault whose dark abode
Held in vain the rising God, O, from earth to heav'n restored, Mighty, reascended Lord,
Bending from Thy throne on high, Hear our penitential cry!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 419; Music: The Lutheran Hymnal, Hymn 166 -Text: Robert Grant 1779-1838;
Tune: Spanish c.1600; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

The Absolution

God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and has remembered us and remembered His promises. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Epistle *Please Be Seated*

2 Corinthians 5:20–6:10

²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For 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. ³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

Holy Gospel

Luke 22:1–23

¹Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the Passover. ²And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to put him to death, for they feared the people.

³Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve. ⁴He went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers how he might betray him to them. ⁵And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. ⁶So he consented and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of a crowd.

⁷Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it.” ⁹They said to him, “Where will you have us prepare it?” ¹⁰He said to them, “Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters ¹¹and tell the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ ¹²And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there.” ¹³And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁴And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” ¹⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” ¹⁹And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁰And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. ²¹But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. ²²For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!” ²³And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

The Hymn

“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary” (*With Additional Verse*)

- ♪ Jesus, refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life’s desert dreary, Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended, Gazed upon the sinner’s fall;
Yet upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.
- ♪ Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding, See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us Calms the sinner’s deep distress.
- ♪ Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior’s side,
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified.
- ♪ Through Your Word are faithful servants Used as instruments by You,
Pointing to Christ’s wondrous mission: Perfect Savior, hope renewed.
As we journey now with Joseph, Through his life and lessons bless,
Seeing Jesus as fulfillment, One in whom we find our rest.

Proclamation of the Word

“The LORD Adds: The Birth of Joseph”

Genesis 30:22–24

Nicene Creed *Please Stand*

Prayer of the Church

Admonition to Communicants

Lord’s Prayer

Words of Our Lord

Distribution Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

- ♪ Jesus, I will ponder now On Your holy passion;
With Your Spirit me endow For such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish
Of Your suff’ring, pain, and death That I may not perish.
- ♪ Make me see Your great distress, Anguish, and affliction,
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness And Your crucifixion;
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
- ♪ Yet, O Lord, not thus alone Make me see Your passion,
But its cause to me make known And its termination.
Ah! I also and my sin Wrought Your deep affliction;
This indeed the cause has been Of Your crucifixion.
- ♪ Grant that I Your passion view With repentant grieving.
Let me not bring shame to You By unholy living.
How could I refuse to shun Ev’ry sinful pleasure
Since for me God’s only Son Suffered without measure?
- ♪ If my sins give me alarm And my conscience grieve me,
Let Your cross my fear disarm; Peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won By Your holy passion.
If for me He slays His Son, God must have compassion!
- ♪ Graciously my faith renew; Help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from You, Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav’n above Sing Your praise forever.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 440 -Text: Sigismund von Birken 1626-81; tr. August Crull 1845-1923;
Tune: Melchior Vulpius c.1570-1615; Setting: Lutheran Book of Worship 1978; Public Domain.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same

in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Closing Prayer

Benediction

In this Lenten season, we journey with Joseph of Genesis

And come to the cross of Christ on Calvary.

God remembered Rachel and gave to her Joseph.

God has remembered us in Jesus, His Son.

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.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Closing Hymn

“Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow”

♪ Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow, Where the blood of Christ was shed,
Perfect Man on thee did suffer, Perfect God on thee has bled!

♪ Here the King of all the ages, Throned in light ere worlds could be,
Robed in mortal flesh is dying, Crucified by sin for me.

♪ O mysterious condescending! O abandonment sublime!
Very God Himself is bearing All the sufferings of time!

♪ Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow, Where the blood of Christ was shed,
Perfect Man on thee did suffer, Perfect God on thee has bled!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 428 -Text: William J. Sparrow Simpson 1860-1952
Tune: John Stainer 1840-1901; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Postlude

Door Offering *You may place your offering in the plate at the door as you leave.*