

Ash Wednesday



“All are from the dust,
and to dust all return.”

(Ecclesiastes 3:20 ESVi)

Grace Lutheran Church

Wayne, Nebraska

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LENT--A TIME OF RENEWAL

This day begins the season of Lent, a 40-day preparation for Easter. The word “Lent” comes from a word that means “spring.” In a real sense this is a springtime for the soul--a time of evaluation, planting, and nurture. Christians do this through the disciplines of Lent such as:

Repentance – honestly facing the ways in which our lives have deviated from God’s intent and asking God to cleanse us

Prayer - seeking times for meditation and reflection. Opportunities are given today and each Wednesday in this season take time to listen to God's Word and seek his intention for your life

Self-denial - opposing our attraction to the things of this world so they do not master us and focusing instead on “treasures in heaven”

Works of love - sharing our freedom in God's grace with those around us who need our help

By these Lenten disciplines, our faith and life are renewed. Through him who climbed the Mount on our behalf, we are strengthened to overcome the mountains of daily living. We become better prepared to fully celebrate Christ's triumph over death at Easter. Plan now to participate fully in this Lenten season. We begin Lent with Ash Wednesday, a name which reminds us of our human frailty, our mortality, our sorrow at our sinful nature, our repentance, and our need for grace.

Optional Imposition of Ashes – persons desiring the imposition of ashes are invited to approach the altar area prior to the service.

Order of Service for Ash Wednesday

February 14, 9:00 a.m. & 6:15 p.m.

Due to the solemn nature of this day there will be no preservice music or prelude

RINGING OF THE BELL

Stand

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

C Amen.

PSALM OF REPENTANCE WITH HYMN RESPONSES Psalm 32 LSB

P Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

P When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

C For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

♪**C** Renew me, O eternal Light,
And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace
That issues from your holy face.

P Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

C I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"-- and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

♪**C** Remove the pow'r of sin from me
And cleanse all my impurity
That I may have the strength and will
Temptations of the flesh to still.

P Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found; surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him.

C You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

♪**C** Create in me a new heart, Lord,
That gladly I obey your Word.

**Let what you will be my desire,
And with new life my soul inspire.**

P I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;

C **I will counsel you and watch over you.**

P Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

C **Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him.**

P Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

♪C **Grant that I only you may love
And seek those things which are above
Till I behold you face to face,
O Light eternal, through your grace.**

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

(Silence for self examination)

P Holy and gracious God.

C **I confess that I have sinned against you this day. Some of my sin I know - the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed - but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

P Receive the forgiveness Christ won for you by his Passion, death and resurrection. By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty and everlasting God, because you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent, create in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily repenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness, 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

READING FROM THE PASSION OF OUR LORD: IN THE GARDEN

♪HYMN "Rise My Soul to Watch"

LSB 663

- 1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep awaken!
Be not by the evil day Unawares o’ertaken;
For the foe, Well we know, Is a harvest reaping
While the saints are sleeping.
- 2 Watch against the devil’s snares Lest asleep he find you;
For indeed no pains he spares To deceive and blind you.
Satan’s prey Oft are they Who secure are sleeping
And no watch are keeping.
- 3 Watch! Let not the wicked world With its lies defeat you
Lest with bold deceptions hurled It betray and cheat you.
Watch and see Lest there be Faithless friends to charm you,
Who but seek to harm you.
- 4 Watch against yourself, my soul, Lest with grace you trifle;
Let not self your thoughts control Nor God’s mercy stifle.
Pride and sin Lurk within, All your hopes to shatter;
Heed not when they flatter.
- 5 But while watching, also pray To the Lord unceasing.
God protects you day by day, Strength and faith increasing,
So that still Mind and will Shall unite to serve Him
And forever love Him.

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SERMON “Lenten Questions: Are you Sleeping?”

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Let All Mortal Flesh” Handbell Choir (6:15 p.m.)

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for your Church. Heal its divisions, rid it of hypocrisy in all forms, and restore to fullness its zeal for the Gospel, that in all its doings, your name is glorified. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

P We pray for the nations of this world, especially those which scorn you. Grant to all the wisdom which comes down from above that they may seek treasures in heaven instead of the things of this world. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We remember those with all kinds of needs: the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, the homeless, the oppressed, the lonely and unloved, the aged and the little children, and especially those who do not know you as their Savior or who love you not. Grant to them a special measure of your grace. Empower all of us to share your great love with those less fortunate. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We bring before you those among us whom we now name in our hearts..... where there is disagreement, grant reconciliation; to those who are sick or those who mourn, especially . . . fill with the power of your presence, and strengthen all to a right spirit before you. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lastly we remember before you all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude without number, whose confidence was in your cross, and who now rest with you forevermore. Grant to all of us that same joy which comes from trusting in you until that day when we too are received into glory. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray; trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

♪ **AGNUS DEI HYMN: Lamb of God, Pure and Holy**

LSB 434

- 1 Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!**
- 2 Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!**
- 3 Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus! O Jesus!**

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Sit

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

♪ **“Jesus Sinners Doth Receive”**

LSB 609

- 1 Jesus sinners doth receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live And from God and heaven wander!
Here is hope for all who grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.**
- 2 We deserve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich grace revealing,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim; Here our ills have perfect healing.
Firmly in these words believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.**
- 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;
Weary souls that lost their way Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh
In His arms that they may live: Jesus sinners doth receive.**
- 4 I, a sinner, come to Thee With a penitent confession.
Savior, mercy show to me; Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.**

- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know: Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow By Thy blood and bitter passion;
For these words I now believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 6 Now my conscience is at peace; From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release And my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 7 Jesus sinners doth receive; Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave: Jesus sinners doth receive.

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♪ “Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

LSB 423

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.

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♪ POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE “Nunc Dimittis”

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace
according to Thy word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation:
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us 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.

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.

Sit

♪CLOSING HYMN: “Now the Light Has Gone Away”

LSB 887 sts. 1–5

- 1 Now the light has gone away; Father, listen while I pray,
Asking Thee to watch and keep And to send me quiet sleep.
- 2 Jesus, Savior, wash away All that has been wrong today;
Help me ev’ry day to be Good and gentle, more like Thee.
- 3 Let my near and dear ones be Always near and dear to Thee;
O bring me and all I love To Thy happy home above.
- 4 Now my evening praise I give; Thou didst die that I might live.
All my blessings come from Thee; Oh, how good Thou art to me!
- 5 Thou, my best and kindest Friend, Thou wilt love me to the end.
Let me love Thee more and more, Always better than before.

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