

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Divine Service

Ash Wednesday

March 2, 2022



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

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Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

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Ash Wednesday

March 2, 2022

7 PM

Prayer for Ash Wednesday

Heavenly Father, in our selfish pride we don't always want to admit our sin. We falsely believe that somehow we can be good enough to satisfy You, and we feel more than satisfied with our own efforts. Today, on Ash Wednesday, prepare us to follow our Savior along the road that led to His suffering and death. Help us to believe that He walked that road **for us**, that in His own body He carried our sins to the cross, and that He suffered the punishment we rightly deserve for our sin and self-satisfied pride. Let us look not to our own efforts but to the mercy and forgiving love found only in Jesus Christ. Hear our prayer for His sake. Amen.



The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Cor. 11:17-34), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to speak with the Pastor prior to communing with us for the first time. We thank you for respecting our belief and practice regarding the Lord's Supper.



Ash Wednesday Divine Service

Ash Wednesday Address

- P** Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope.

We begin our Lenten journey tonight with the prophet Joel by rending our hearts and not our garments by lamenting our sins, but remembering our baptism where we have risen with Christ.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the Feast in sincerity and truth.

Silence for reflection.

435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

Stand

Litany

- P** O Lord,
C have mercy.
P O Christ,
C have mercy.
P O Lord,
C have mercy.

- P** O Christ,
- C** **hear us.**
- P** God the Father in heaven,
- C** **have mercy.**
- P** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
- C** **have mercy.**
- P** God the Holy Spirit,
- C** **have mercy.**
- P** Be gracious to us.
- C** **Spare us, good Lord.**
- P** Be gracious to us.
- C** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; by Your Baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial; by Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:
- C** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:
- C** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** We poor sinners implore You
- C** **to hear us, O Lord.**
- P** To prosper the teaching of Your Word; to bless our prayer and meditation; to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith; and to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:
- C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** To draw all to Yourself; to bless those who are instructed in the faith; to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers; to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy; and to have mercy on us all:
- C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** To turn our hearts to You; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers:
- C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
- C** **we implore You to hear us.**

- P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
C **have mercy.**
- P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
C **have mercy.**
- P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
C **grant us Your peace.**
- P** O Christ,
C **hear us.**
- P** O Lord,
C **have mercy.**
- P** O Christ,
C **have mercy.**
- P** O Lord,
C **have mercy. Amen.**
- P** O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; 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



✠ The Imposition of Ashes ✠

The following hymns will be sung during the imposition of ashes:

431 Not All the Blood of Beasts

606 I Lay My Sins on Jesus

Those who wish to receive ashes should approach the chancel rail. Using the right thumb, the pastor places the ashes on the forehead of each person in the sign of the cross, saying:

"For dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

After receiving the ashes, each person returns to his place.

No statement of dismissal is given.



✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

Stand

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You 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; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**



✠ Service of the Word ✠

Introit

Psalm 51:1–3, 10–12; antiphon: v. 17



The sacrifices of God are a broken | spirit;*
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will | not despise.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;*
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my trans- | gressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,*
and cleanse me | from my sin!

For I know my trans- | gressions,*
and my sin is ever be- | fore me.

Create in me a clean heart, | O God,*
and renew a right spirit with- | in me.

Cast me not away from your | presence,*
and take not your Holy Spirit | from me.

Restore to me the joy of your sal- | vation,*
and uphold me with a willing | spirit.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

The sacrifices of God are a broken | spirit;*,
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will | not despise.

Kyrie

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P 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.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading: Joel 2:12–19

"Yet even now," declares the LORD,
"return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
and 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.

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?

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

Between 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?'"

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

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For 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. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as

punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Verse for Lent

C **Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

Holy Gospel: Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the sixth chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when 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. ...

"And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for

yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

607 From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

Sermon

"Rend Your Hearts and Not Your Garments"

Text: Joel 2:12-19

Stand



Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

He suffered and was buried.

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven**

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,**

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

**who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,**

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

- P** On this occasion, when we especially remember our sin and our mortality, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Merciful Father, Your Son was tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin. Give Your baptized children strength to withstand persecution and temptation. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Father, Your Son heard the devil twist the words of Holy Scripture and yet was not deceived. Give us pastors who will preach and teach Your Word accurately; and give us ears, minds, and hearts to receive that Word for our own defense, endurance, and confession of the true Christian faith; Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Lord God, king of the universe, You have chosen to provide for all people through earthly government and commerce. Give us rulers and business people who conduct all affairs within Your good and gracious law, so that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way, because this is pleasing in Your sight,

and You desire all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, there are many who would gladly extinguish Your Gospel and Your people. Bless our enemies and cause them to live with us in peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Merciful Father, You know the trials and suffering of Your children. We ask You especially to care for our loved ones. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father, Your Son gave His living and life-giving body and blood for us to eat and drink that through it, forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation would crowd out the death that we have inherited. Give us deep and abiding joy even during this penitential season. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, gracious Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

Offering

Stand

Offertory

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation
and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord
now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.



Service of the Sacrament



Please read our Statement on Holy Communion on the inside cover of the bulletin before communing with us.



Preface

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 Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who entered our world in our flesh to withstand temptation all the way to the cross, thereby bearing the sin of the whole world in His body. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the Marriage Feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



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.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

- C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.

Sit

Personal prayer before Communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen



Distribution

Personal prayer of thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

616 Baptismal Waters Cover Me

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

937 Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,
2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,
3 With saints of old, with saints to come,
Your word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -
The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing
To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and
va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.
in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.
Spir - it blest Be hon - or, love, and praise.

Post-Communion Collect

P 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, that we may stand together firmly against the world, the flesh, and the devil, and patiently bear the cross assigned to us in the days of our pilgrimage; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Benediction

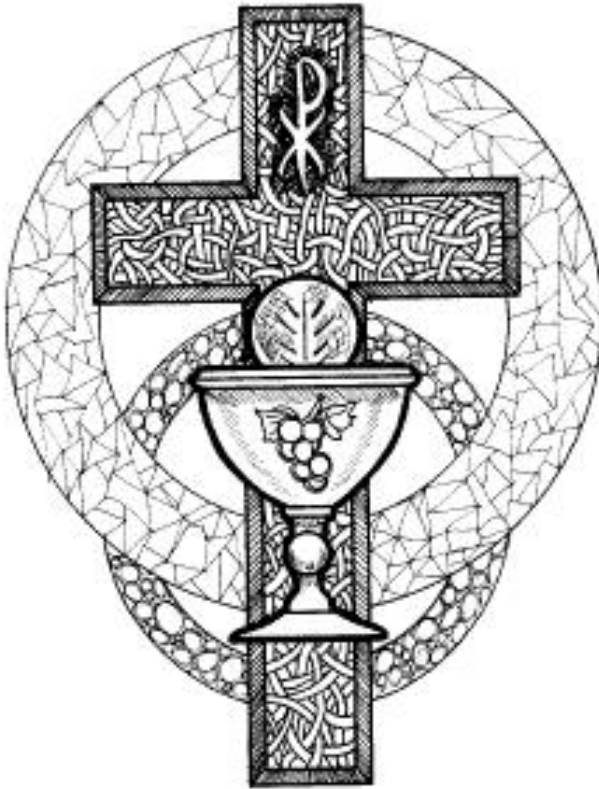
P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

G Amen.

548 Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious



Soli Deo Gloria !

(To God alone be the glory.)

Acknowledgments

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**for you are dust, and to
dust you will return
Genesis 3:19**



Return to the Lord, your
God, for he is gracious and
merciful, slow to anger, and
abounding in steadfast love.

Joel 2:13