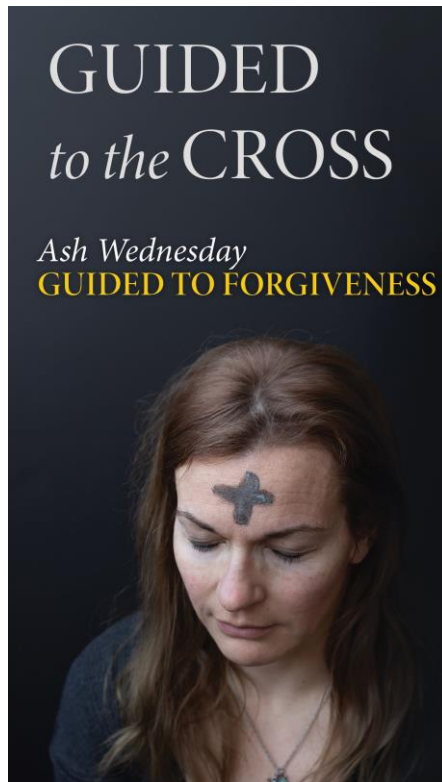


Ash Wednesday
Wednesday, February 14, 2024 – 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, February 14, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.



Welcome!

To our guests and visitors:

We are glad that you are here with us today!

If you have no church home, why don't you consider joining us? Please speak to Pastor Parrish after the service and enjoy a special gift for visiting with us today!

- 1 Savior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the 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!
- 2 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 the insulting tempter's pow'r,
Turn, O turn a fav'ring eye; Hear our penitential cry!
- 3 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!
- 4 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!

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

C: **Amen.**

- P: In ancient times, people might display their sorrow over sin by scattering dust and ashes on their heads, a reminder that in Eden God decreed death as the penalty for sin: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19).

Yet God also promised that a Savior would come to destroy the power of the tempting serpent who had brought sin and death into God's creation. In his suffering, the inspired prophet Job spoke of his trust in the Lord's promise: "I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth" (Job 19:25).

Confident in his Redeemer's love, Job confessed his sins, "I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes" (Job 42:6). Remembering that the promised Savior, Jesus our Redeemer, shed his blood on the cross for us, we take onto ourselves a mark of repentance. You are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive the mark of ashes, a reminder that we, like Job, repent in dust and ashes.

The Imposition of Ashes

Hymn I Lay My Sins on Jesus

LSB 606

- 1 I lay my sins on Jesus,
 The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us
 From the accursèd load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus
 To wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious
 Till not a spot remains.
- 2 I lay my wants on Jesus;
 All fullness dwells in Him;
He heals all my diseases;
 My soul He does redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus,
 My burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases;
 He all my sorrows shares.
- 3 I rest my soul on Jesus,
 This weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces;
 I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus,
 Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes
 His name abroad is poured.

Confession and Absolution:

- P: Having received the symbol of repentance, let us confess our sins to God our Savior, using the words of the psalmist David.
- C: **“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!...Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”**
- P: God has had mercy on us, and for the sake of Christ Jesus our Redeemer, he has forgiven our sins. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- C: **“Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit!”**

Prayer of the Day

- P: Heavenly Father, although we are all too aware of our sins and failures, we repent with humble confidence, knowing that Jesus shed his blood on the cross for us. By your grace, your undeserved favor for sinners, you have brought us out of the domain of sin and transferred us into the kingdom of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we have forgiveness for our sins.

Lead us by your Spirit to walk in love as Jesus walked, and to bear witness to the fact that our Redeemer lives! Hear our prayer and accept our praise in Jesus' holy name.

- C: **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 103:11-14

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.

- C **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading

Colossians 1:9-14

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 23:33-34

And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon Hymn Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing LSB 421:1,2,4

1 Jesus, grant that balm and healing
 In Your holy wounds I find,
Ev'ry hour that I am feeling
 Pains of body and of mind.
Should some evil thought within
Tempt my treach'rous heart to sin,
 Show the peril, and from sinning
 Keep me from its first beginning.

- 2 Should some lust or sharp temptation
 Fascinate my sinful mind,
Draw me to Your cross and passion,
 And new courage I shall find.
Or should Satan press me hard,
Let me then be on my guard,
 Saying, "Christ for me was wounded,"
 That the tempter flee confounded.
- 4 Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me
 By Your wounds, Lord, is made whole;
When I'm faint, Your cross revives me,
 Granting new life to my soul.
Yes, Your comfort renders sweet
Ev'ry bitter cup I meet;
 For Your all-atoning passion
 Has procured my soul's salvation.

Sermon Guided To Forgiveness

Colossians 1:13-14

The Offering

Prayer of the Church

- P Lord and Savior, we begin this season of Lent marked with the ashes of repentance. As we remember your suffering and death for us, we trust in your steadfast love and look to you for mercy and forgiveness. Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C: **Have mercy on us, and hear our prayer.**
- P Lord and Savior, through your death and resurrection, we have been delivered from the domain of sin and death. By grace through faith in your holy name, we have been brought into your kingdom. Our sins are washed away in your blood, and we have forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C **Have mercy on us, and hear our prayer.**

P Lord and Savior, we pray for those who are suffering in ashes of grief and loss, of illness and sorrow. Bring help and healing to *[mention known names of those with health concerns and those who have lost loved ones]* and to those we name in our hearts. Comfort them through the promises of your holy Word, and lead us to encourage them in love. Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C **Have mercy on us, and hear our prayer.**

P Lord and Savior, you prayed for forgiveness for those who nailed you to the cross. As you have forgiven us, lead us by your Spirit to forgive others as we have been forgiven and to walk in love as you did. Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C **Have mercy on us, and hear our prayer.**

P Lord and Savior, through these 40 days, we will remember your suffering and death for us. As we praise you for your saving love, we look forward with joy to the celebration of your resurrection on Easter morning. When you return on the Last Day, we too will be raised as you were raised, and we will receive the crown of life. Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C **Have mercy on us, and hear our prayer. Amen**

Lord's Prayer

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

Pastor: 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

pg 197

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

Agnus Dei

pg 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

LSB 610

- 1 Lord Jesus, think on me
And purge away my sin;
From worldly passions set me free
And make me pure within.
- 2 Lord Jesus, think on me,
By anxious thoughts oppressed;
Let me Your loving servant be
And taste Your promised rest.
- 3 Lord Jesus, think on me
Amid the battle's strife;
In all my pain and misery,
O be my health and life!

4 Lord Jesus, think on me
Nor let me go astray;
Through darkness and perplexity
Point out Your chosen way.

5 Lord Jesus, think on me
That, when this life is past,
I may the eternal brightness see
And share Your joy at last.

Communion Dismissal

P: Now may this true body and blood, strengthen and preserve you in the one true faith until life everlasting. Go in His peace.

C: **Amen**

Post-Communion Collect

P We give thanks to You, gracious Father, that Your grace is timeless and Your mercy is for all people. As we heed the call of Christ and follow, strengthen us 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.

C **Amen.**

Benediction

P: We give thanks to God the Father, “who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

C: **He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”**

P: “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.”
C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

LSB 609:1-2

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.