

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

LIVING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH welcomes you as you join with us in worship this day. May the Holy Spirit bless you with the message you hear from God's Word, the prayers, the hymns, and the fellowship we share with you. Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services. If you need to step out for a moment with your child, a Family Room is located right outside the Sanctuary doors.
- Changing Tables are located in the Restrooms.
- Please fill out an attendance sheet in the pad on the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. Guests: We promise we will not bombard you with emails or calls, but this information is helpful for staying in touch.
- Please let us know if we can help you in any way.

HOLY COMMUNION: *We are very glad that you have joined us today for this worship service as we hear the Word of God and receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This church is in fellowship with other congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. As such, we believe and practice the biblical teaching that we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament (Matthew 26, Mark 14 and Luke 22). If you have a different understanding of Communion or are still learning about this biblical teaching, we love you enough to ask you not to receive Holy Communion this day (1 Corinthians 11). However, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing at the time of Communion. If later you have questions about this or any other teachings, the pastor would be very pleased to talk with you.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

www.livingsaviortexas.org

Church: (936) 597-8013

Pastor David R. Bailes

(936) 521-9389 (cell)

Vicar Tim Douglas

(713) 515-2003 (cell)

Joshua Pillows

Director of Worship Arts

Cheryl G. Bailes

Director of Christian Educa-

Lindsay Oneto

Church Office Administrator

Ash Wednesday: Mercy in Ashes
February 22, 2023

Pre-Service Music

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Worship

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

C Amen.

P Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Hymn: I Lay My Sins on Jesus LSB 606

**I lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us from the accursed load.**

**I bring my guilt to Jesus to wash my crimson stains
Clean in his blood most precious till not a spot remains.**

**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.**

**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 King David sinned against the Lord, committing adultery and murder. When he was confronted by the prophet Nathan, the king repented of his sins. In the Spirit-inspired words of a psalm, David expressed his sorrow over his sins and his trust in God's mercy: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions." God, in his grace, forgave the repentant king. As we begin our Lenten journey on this Ash Wednesday, we repent of our sins and, using the words of David's psalm, we seek God's amazing grace and ask him to have mercy on us.

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! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight ... Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities” (Psalm 51:1-4, 9).

P Just as He did in the life of his servant David, God has showered us with his grace, his undeserved favor for sinners. God sent his Son into the world to be our Savior. On the cross Jesus took onto himself the penalty of death that we deserved for our sins and now those sins are washed away in his blood. 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 **“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit” (Psalm 51:10-12).**

Prayer of the Day

P Almighty God, you showed grace and mercy to your servant David, granting him forgiveness. According to your perfect plan, David the king became an ancestor of a greater King, the Savior called the Son of David, Jesus the Messiah. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we too know and experience your amazing grace. During this season of Lent, lead us to true repentance and renew your Spirit within us that we might serve you by sharing your love with others and living as witnesses to Jesus’ love. Hear our prayer in Jesus’ name.

C Amen.

Imposition of Ashes

P In repentant humility, the Old Testament figure Job said, “I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes” (Job 42: 6). In ancient times, God’s people often demonstrated sorrow for their sins by putting dust and ashes on their heads, a reminder of the penalty of death decreed in Eden, when God said, “You are dust, and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19). Today on Ash Wednesday,

as we begin our journey to the cross with Jesus, we remember that we are sinners and that we need a Savior. We receive a mark of ashes in the sign of a cross, remembering that, on the cross, Jesus took onto himself the penalty of death for our sins. You are invited to come forward and receive the mark of ashes.

*Participants are invited to come forward
at the direction of the ushers.*

Hymn: Savior, When in Dust to Thee

LSB 419

**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!**

**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!**

**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!**

Old Testament Reading

P And the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds, but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. And he brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children. It used to eat of his morsel and drink from his cup and lie in his arms, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had come

to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity." Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.' Thus says the Lord, 'Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house. And I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun.'" David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." And Nathan said to David, "The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die."

Epistle Reading

P Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."

Gospel Reading

P What woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the

coin that I had lost.” Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

Hymn: To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All

LSB 613

To thee, omniscient Lord of all,
in grief and shame I humbly call;
I see my sins against thee, Lord,
the sins of thought and deed and word.
They press me sore; I cry to thee;
O God, be merciful to me!

Sermon: “Grace for the Humble”

2 Samuel 12:1-13

Apostles’ Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

We Worship God with Our Offerings

Offering Video: “Unending Grace”

Playback Media

Prayer of the Church

P Almighty God, we praise you for the grace displayed in the life of your servant King David. Through David’s descendant and greater Son, Jesus Christ our King, you fulfilled your promise to bring us life and salvation. Gracious Lord,

C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, we pray that you will, by the power of your Spirit, lead us to true repentance. As we follow our Lord on his path to

the cross, help us to see that it was our sins for which Jesus suffered and died. Gracious Lord,

C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, during Lent and beyond this holy season, we pray that, with the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit, we might bear fruit in keeping with repentance. We want to glorify you each day in our thoughts, words and actions. Gracious Lord,

C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, we pray that you would bring help and comfort to those who are ill and suffering in body, mind or spirit. According to your gracious will, grant comfort and healing to them. Help them to find hope and joy in the promises of your Word. Gracious Lord,

C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, by the power of your Spirit, help us to be bold in our witness for our Savior. We pray that through our acts of love and service and through our words of witness that, by your grace, others will come to know and worship Jesus as Lord and Savior. Gracious Lord,

C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer. 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.

Communion

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

Consecration of the Bread and the Wine

Mt 26:26–28; Mk 14:22–24; Lk 22:19–20; 1 Cor 11:23–25

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.”

Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Distribution

Hymn: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent

LSB 621

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descending
Comes our homage to demand.**

**King of kings yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav’nly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light, descending
From the realms of endless day,
Comes the pow’rs of hell to vanquish
As the darkness clears away.**

Benediction

P Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;

C **Blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.**

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.**

Hymn: Amazing Grace

LSB 744

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!**

**I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;**

**How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;**

**'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**

