

*Ash Wednesday*  
*February 17, 2021*



## **THE GOSPEL IN SEVEN WORDS**

**PRESERVICE MUSIC**    “Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless”    (arr. Cherwien)

### **419 SAVIOR, WHEN IN DUST TO THEE**

- 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!

### **INVOCATION**

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

**C**    **Amen.**

### **SALUTATION**

**P**    The Lord be with you.

**C**    **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. Gracious and merciful God and Father, Your mercy calls us to return to You time and time again to be reconciled and receive Your forgiveness.
- C** **As we receive this free reward, lead us to live lives of righteous service in Your name;**
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## EPISTLE

*2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10*

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. <sup>1</sup>Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; <sup>7</sup>by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## CONFESSIONAL ADDRESS

*Joel 2:12*

- P** As we begin this Lenten season, we may not be wearing sackcloth and ashes, but we are heeding our Lord’s call to “return to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” We join in King David’s prayer of confession in Psalm 51.

## PSALM

*Psalm 51:1–13; antiphon v. 17*

- P** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
- C** **a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.**
- P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
- C** **according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**
- P** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
- C** **and cleanse me from my sin!**
- P** For I know my transgressions,
- C** **and my sin is ever before me.**
- P** Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,
- C** **so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.**
- P** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- C** **Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being, and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**
- P** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
- C** **wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**
- P** Let me hear joy and gladness;
- C** **let the bones that You have broken rejoice.**
- P** Hide Your face from my sins,
- C** **and blot out all my iniquities.**

- P** Create in me a clean heart, O God,
- C** **and renew a right spirit within me.**
- P** Cast me not away from Your presence,
- C** **and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.**
- P** Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
- C** **and uphold me with a willing spirit.**
- P** Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will return to You.
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
- C** **a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.**

**ANTHEM** “Speak to Me in Ashes” (Crane/Nolan) Choir Ensemble

## IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*Genesis 3:19*

- P** Almighty and everlasting God, You spoke to Adam and Eve in the garden and said, “You are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Your people of ancient times wore sackcloth and ashes as a sign of repentance. We remember our sinfulness through the ashes and remember the gracious gift of forgiveness through the cross of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C** **Amen.**

*(Those who wish to receive the mark of ashes upon their forehead may come forward. The ashes are an ancient sign of mortality and death, sorrow and forgiveness, used at the beginning of Lent. All may meditate on Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 103, 130, and 143.)*

## ABSOLUTION

- P** Brothers and sisters in Christ, our God has called us to return to Him so that we might be reconciled and receive the reward of His forgiveness. The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>[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. <sup>2</sup>“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. <sup>3</sup>But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>5</sup>“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. <sup>6</sup>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. . . . <sup>16</sup>“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. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where

thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup>but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>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.

## 575 MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS

1 My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. **Refrain**

**Refrain** On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil. **Refrain**

3 His oath, His covenant and blood  
Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay. **Refrain**

4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone,  
Redeemed to stand before His throne! **Refrain**

**SERMON** “The Gospel in Seven Words” 1 Peter 3:15

## NICENE CREED

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### 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.

### PROPER PREFACE

**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, who has called us to return to You through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was without sin yet took on our sin so that we might be reconciled to You through His perfect life, death, and resurrection, in order that we might be brought to You with cleansed hearts and renewed spirits to receive our eternal reward. 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

LSB 195

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, for You called us to return to You to receive Your grace and mercy as it is freely offered through Your only-begotten Son, who bore our sin to be our Savior so that we might be reconciled by His blood. With cleansed and renewed hearts, we receive the salvation won for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and blood—once for all time. Gathered together as Your people and reconciled through the very blood of Christ, 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.

## WORDS OF OUR LORD

### LORD'S PRAYER

### PAX DOMINI

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

## AGNUS DEI

LSB 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

### 610 LORD JESUS, THINK ON ME

- 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.

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

- P** Let us pray. We thank You, almighty God, for calling us to return to You, reconciling us through the sacrifice of Your one and only Son, Jesus Christ, and rewarding us with forgiveness, life, salvation, and Your continual presence. Thank You for nourishing our bodies and souls with Your Son’s body and blood that was given and shed for us. Empower us by Your Spirit to live lives of service to You; 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**

*Numbers 6:24–26*

- P** People of God, who have returned and are reconciled and rewarded, receive the blessing of our Lord.  
 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.

**611 CHIEF OF SINNERS THOUGH I BE**

*sts. 1, 3, 5*

- 1 Chief of sinners though I be,  
 Jesus shed His blood for me,  
 Died that I might live on high,  
 Lives that I might never die.  
 As the branch is to the vine,  
 I am His, and He is mine.
- 3 Only Jesus can impart  
 Balm to heal the wounded heart,  
 Peace that flows from sin forgiv’n,  
 Joy that lifts the soul to heav’n,  
 Faith and hope to walk with God  
 In the way that Enoch trod.
- 5 O my Savior, help afford  
 By Your Spirit and Your Word!  
 When my wayward heart would stray,  
 Keep me in the narrow way;  
 Grace in time of need supply  
 While I live and when I die.

**POSTLUDE** “Go to Dark Gethsemane” (arr. Cherwien)

