

St. John Lutheran Church ✝ Bingen

Ash Wednesday

17 February 2021

As We Gather...

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and sets the tone of the season. It is a pointed call to repentance, which means that it is a return to the death and resurrection of Holy Baptism by way of confession and faith in the forgiveness of sins. Thus the imposition of ashes, from which the day receives its name, recalls both the mortality of sinful man and the redemption of Christ into which His followers have been baptized. The context of contrition and repentance, fully and firmly centered in the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ, is the framework within which the Lenten fast is undertaken. In faith, Jesus' Passion (from the Latin *passio* which means "suffering") is approached as the very heart of the Gospel, which the Lord our Savior has accomplished for us and now bestows on us with His Means of Grace.

Prayer Before Worship...

O Lord who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You are our potter; we are all the work of Your hand. Be not so terribly angry, O Lord, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all Your people. As we come to worship in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we all may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ, whom You made to be sin who knew no sin, that we may not receive Your grace in vain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Due to the solemn character of Ash Wednesday, pre-service music and a hymn of invocation are omitted. The pastors enter in silence.

Stand

ASH WEDNESDAY ADDRESS

¶ 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.

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.

LITANY FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

O Lord, **have mercy.**

O Christ, **have mercy.**

O Lord, **have mercy.**

O Christ, **hear us.**

God the Father in heaven, **have mercy.**

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, **have mercy.**

God the Holy Spirit, **have mercy.**

Be gracious to us. **Spare us, good Lord.**

Be gracious to us. **Help us, good Lord.**

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: **Help us, good Lord.**

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment: **Help us, good Lord.**

We poor sinners implore You **to hear us, O Lord.**

To prosper the preaching 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: **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

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 prayer; to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy; and to have mercy on us all: **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

To turn our hearts to You; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers: **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, **we implore You to hear us.**

Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **have mercy.**

Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **have mercy.**

Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **grant us Your peace.**

O Christ, **hear us.**

O Lord, **have mercy.**

O Christ, **have mercy.**

O Lord, **have mercy. Amen.**

COLLECT

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 pastors receive ashes first, followed by the congregation. For those who desire to receive ashes, please form two lines down the center aisle, kneeling at the communion rail one person at a time on each side. Using the right thumb, the pastors place the ashes on the forehead of each person in the sign of the cross, saying: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." After receiving the ashes, each person returns to his place in silence.

7 p.m. Choir – Lamentations on Jeremiah: “The Lord is Righteous” (Jeremiah 1:18)



Hymns for the Imposition of Ashes

Savior, When in Dust to Thee

LSB 419

1 Sav - ior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the a -
 2 By Thy help - less in - fant years, By Thy life of
 3 By Thine hour of dire de - spair, By Thine ag - o -
 4 By Thy deep ex - pir - ing groan, By the sad se -

dor - ing knee; When, re - pen - tant, to the skies
 want and tears, By Thy days of deep dis - tress
 ny of prayer, By the cross, the nail, the thorn,
 pul - chral stone, By the vault whose dark a - bode

Scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes; O, by all Thy
 In the sav - age wil - der - ness, By the dread, mys -
 Pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn, By the gloom that
 Held in vain the ris - ing God, O, from earth to

pains and woe Suf - fered once for us be - low, Bend - ing
 te - rious hour Of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r, Turn, O
 veiled the skies O'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice, Lis - ten
 heav'n re - stored, Might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord, Bend - ing

from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 turn a fa - v'ring eye; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 to our hum - ble sigh; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

LSB 609

1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -

say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their way
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;

And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for
Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these
Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His arms that
Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my

all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

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.

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

LSB 611

1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in

blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
heav'n's a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; All my wants to Him are known,

Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the

to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.

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.

Stand

✚ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✚

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✚ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 ✚

PSALM 51 (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.

**Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight,*
so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your | judgment.**

Behold, I was brought forth in in- | iquity,*
and in sin did my mother con- | ceive me.

**Behold, you delight in truth in the inward | being,*
and you teach me wisdom in the | secret heart.**

Purge me with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;*
wash me, and I shall be whit- | er than snow.

Let me hear joy and | gladness;*
let the bones that you have bro- | ken rejoice.

Hide your face | from my sins,*
and blot out all my in- | iquities.

**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.

Then I will teach transgressors | your ways,*
and sinners will re- | turn to you.

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my sal- | vation,*
and my tongue will sing aloud of your | righteousness.

O Lord, open | my lips,*
and my mouth will de- | clare your praise.

For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would | give it;*
you will not be pleased with a burnt | offering.

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

Do good to Zion in your good | pleasure;*
build up the walls of Je- | rusalem;

then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt | offerings;*
then bulls will be offered on your | altar.

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.*

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

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 AND EPISTLE READINGS *Joel 2:12–19; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10*

After each Reading:

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

7 p.m. Choir (after the Readings) – *Lamentations on Jeremiah*: “From Above He Hath Sent Fire” (Jeremiah 1:13) and “For the Sins of Her Prophets” (Jeremiah 4:13-15)

Stand

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.

After the Reading:

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

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 \ddagger of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY

From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

LSB 607



1 From depths of woe I cry to Thee, In trial and
 2 Thy love and grace a - lone a - vail To blot out
 3 There - fore my hope is in the Lord And not in
 4 And though it tar - ry through the night And till the
 5 Though great our sins, yet great - er still Is God's a -



trib - u - la - tion; Bend down Thy gra - cious
 my trans - gres - sion; The best and ho - liest
 mine own mer - it; It rests up - on His
 morn - ing wak - en, My heart shall nev - er
 bun - dant fa - vor; His hand of mer - cy



ear to me, Lord, hear my sup - pli - ca - tion.
 deeds must fail To break sin's dread op - pres - sion.
 faith - ful Word To them of con - trite spir - it
 doubt His might Nor count it - self for - sak - en.
 nev - er will A - ban - don us, nor wa - ver.



If Thou re - mem - b'rest ev - 'ry sin, Who then could heav - en
 Be - fore Thee none can boast - ing stand, But all must fear Thy
 That He is mer - ci - ful and just; This is my com - fort
 O Is - rael, trust in God your Lord. Born of the Spir - it
 Our shep - herd good and true is He, Who will at last His



ev - er win Or stand be - fore Thy pres - ence?
 strict de - mand And live a - lone by mer - cy.
 and my trust. His help I wait with pa - tience.
 and the Word, Now wait for His ap - pear - ing.
 Is - rael free From all their sin and sor - row.

SERMON

Stand

✚ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✚

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.
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 meet, 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 overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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 ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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.

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 ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, O Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

Communicants at this altar are to be in full confessional fellowship with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

7 p.m. Choir – Lamentations on Jeremiah: “Remember, O Lord” (Jeremiah 5:1, 7, 15, 16)

1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way God's
 2 As His pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre - cious
 3 Je - sus here Him - self is shar - ing; Heed then how you
 4 Praise the Fa - ther, who from heav - en To His own this

wrath for - ev - er; By His bit - ter grief and woe
 food sup - ply - ing, Gives His bod - y with the bread,
 are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be - lieve,
 food has giv - en, Who, to mend what we have done,

He saved us from the e - vil foe.
 And with the wine the blood He shed.
 His judg - ment then you shall re - ceive.
 Gave in - to death His on - ly Son.

- 5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken**
That this food is to be taken
By the sick who are distressed,
By hearts that long for peace and rest.
- 6 Agony and bitter labor**
Were the cost of God's high favor;
Do not come if you suppose
You need not Him who died and rose.
- 7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor,**
And receive My grace and favor:
Those who feel no pain or ill
Need no physician's help or skill.

- 8 "For what purpose was My dying**
If not for your justifying?
And what use this precious food
If you yourself were pure and good?"
- 9 If your heart this truth professes**
And your mouth your sin confesses,
You will be your Savior's guest,
Be at His banquet truly blest.
- 10 Let this food your faith so nourish**
That its fruit of love may flourish
And your neighbor learn from you
How much God's wondrous love can do.

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

1 Come to Cal - vry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
 2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -
 3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -
 4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -

by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
 out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
 tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
 new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er

Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
 From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
 Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
 Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -
 pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
 make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
 will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.
 deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

LSB 563

1 Je - sus, Thy blood and righ - teous - ness My beau - ty
 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and re -
 3 Lord, I be - lieve Thy pre - cious blood, Which at the
 4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more Than sands up -
 are, my glo - rious dress; Midst flam - ing worlds, in
 deemed, no debt to pay; Ful - ly ab - solved through
 mer - cy seat of God Pleads for the cap - tives'
 on the o - cean shore, Thou hast for all a
 these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
 these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
 lib - er - ty, Was al - so shed in love for me.
 ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.

**5 When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea:
Jesus hath lived and died for me.**

**6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.**

Stand

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

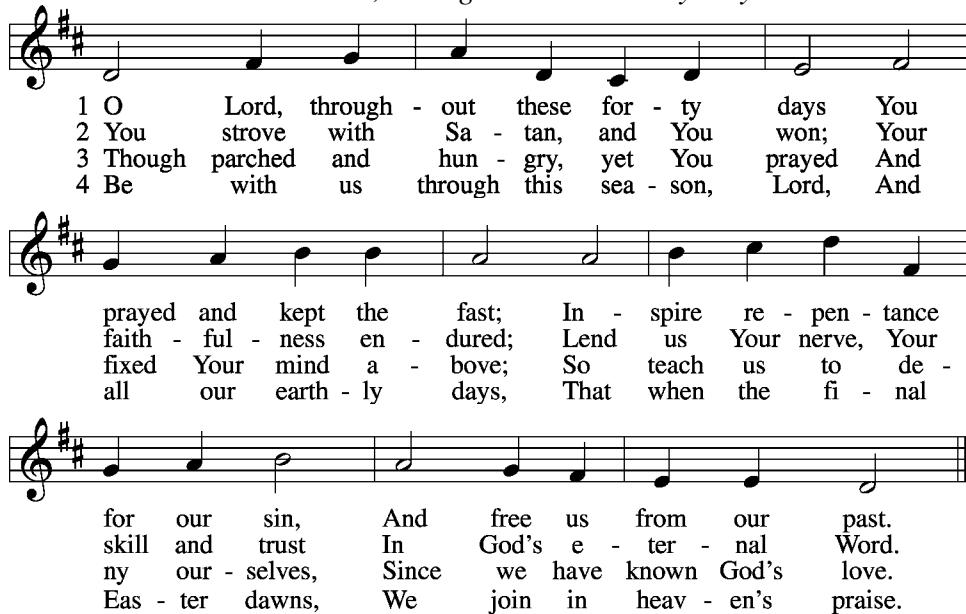
The Lord look upon you with favor and  give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

LSB 418



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days You
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and You won; Your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet You prayed And
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, And

prayed and kept the fast; In - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; Lend us Your nerve, Your
fixed Your mind a - bove; So teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, That when the fi - nal

for our sin, And free us from our past.
skill and trust In God's e - ter - nal Word.
my our - selves, Since we have known God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, We join in heav - en's praise.

