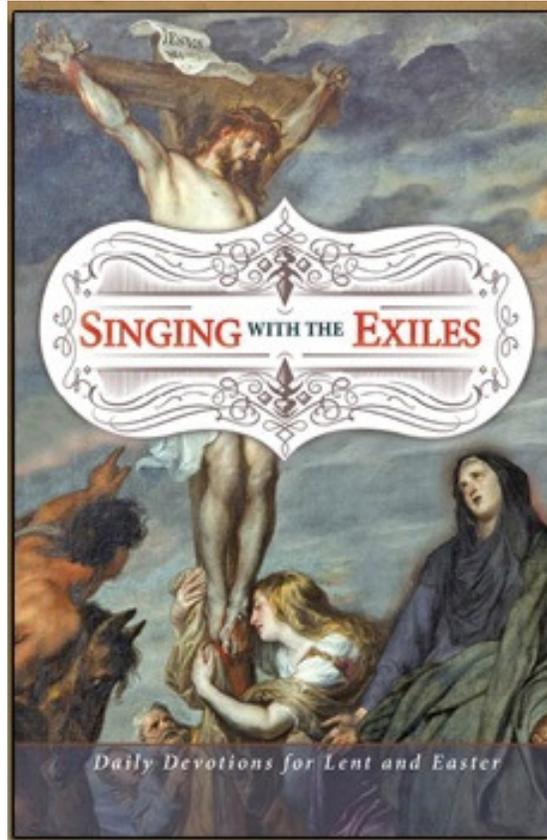


Ash Wednesday



GOD HAS A WORD FOR THAT

“Alas! And did my Savior bleed, And did my sov’rign die? Would He devote that sacred head For such a worm as I?” (*LSB* 437:1) These words of Isaac Watts set the tone for our Ash Wednesday worship. We begin our time in Isaiah 40–55 with a verse where God calls the exilic community in Babylon a worm (41:14). Their hopelessness is epitomized in Psalm 22:1, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” And then in Psalm 22:6 David says, “I am a worm and not a man.” Ash Wednesday is a time to acknowledge who we are in God’s sight and then receive His gracious absolution. Our Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, declares us loved and forgiven. And He goes one step further. In Jesus Christ, our God transforms worms into mountain movers (Isaiah 41:15). There is a word for that—grace!

Invocation

Opening Hymn
without One
570:1-3

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a

“Just as I Am,
Plea” *LSB*

blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd’st me come to
soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each
con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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Confession

Psalm 6

P: O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your anger or discipline me in Your wrath.

C: Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am faint; O LORD, heal me, for my bones are in agony.

P: My soul is in anguish. How long, O LORD, how long?

C: Turn, O LORD, and deliver me; save me because of Your unfailing love.

P: No one remembers You when he is dead. Who praises You from the grave?

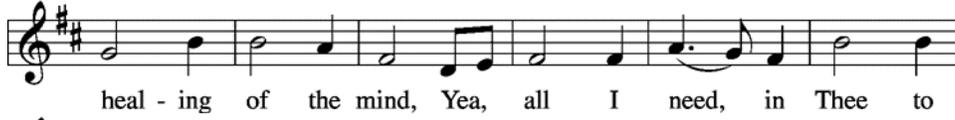
C: I am worn out from groaning; all night long I flood my bed with weeping and drench my couch with tears.

P: My eyes
sorrow;
of all my



grow weak with
they fail because
foes.

**C: Holy God,
merciful
mercy
have lived
do not
we**



4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,

**holy and most
Father, have
upon us. We
as though You
mattered most.**



find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

We have not loved You with our whole heart and we have failed to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Absolution

Response

“Just as I Am, without One Plea”

LSB 570:4-5

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;

Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come. Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Children’s Message: “Worms!”

Today's Scripture lessons have as their theme "God's Transformative Power."

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 41:14-16

¹⁴Fear not, you worm Jacob, you men of Israel! I am the one who helps you, declares the LORD; your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel. ¹⁵Behold, I make of you a threshing sledge, new, sharp, and having teeth; you shall thresh the mountains and crush them, and you shall make the hills like chaff; ¹⁶you shall winnow them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the tempest shall scatter them. And you shall rejoice in the LORD; in the Holy One of Israel you shall glory.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Series Hymn

"Sing We Exiles" (© 2014 Kelly Klages) Tune: Ach, Was Soff Ich Sunder Machen

LSB 559

Sing we exiles in our sadness, though we wander dispossessed; Sing for hope of future rest.

Jesus is our Way, our gladness, straight'ning crooked paths we roam, leading to our Father's home.

Oft we fear to be forgotten, trampled in the dust of sin, lost and broken deep within. Christ, Redeemer, Sole-begotten, raise your kinsmen from the dead; You have crushed the serpent's head.

Sing we exiles in our yearning to be healed from ev'ry wrong; Sing the distant triumph song.

Father, guide us in returning with repentance to Your will, lead us ever homeward still.

Epistle

Hebrews 2:1-9

¹Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. ²For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, ³how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, ⁴while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to His will. ⁵Now it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. ⁶It has been testified somewhere, "What is man, that You are mindful of him, or the son of man, that You care for him? ⁷You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, ⁸putting everything in subjection under his feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to him, He left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. ⁹But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Seeing the crowds, He went up on the mountain, and when He sat down, His disciples came to Him. ²And He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

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.

Sermon
"God Has a

3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide Thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Message:
"Word for That"

Prayers of the

P: Heavenly mountains stand in our believe

Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see,
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Church
Father, the of sin and shame way, but we that,

C: "We will thresh the mountains and reduce the hills to chaff" (Isaiah 41:15).

On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

and crush them, reduce the hills chaff" (Isaiah

P: O God, the hills of

Per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

mountains and addictions and

obsessions threaten to overwhelm us, but we trust that,

C: "We will thresh the mountains and crush them, and reduce the hills to chaff" (Isaiah 41:15).

P: Loving Lord, obstacles standing in our way fill our hearts with fear and anxiety, but we know that,

C: "We will thresh the mountains and crush them, and reduce the hills to chaff" (Isaiah 41:15).

P: Heavenly Father, You have a word for all of this,

C: **Grace, grace, amazing and life-changing grace!**

+ Congregational Prayers +

P: Father, we pray confidently and boldly, because You are

C: "The One who helps us; our Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel" (Isaiah 41:14).

P: In Christ's holy name we pray. 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.**

Words of Institution

Benediction

Closing Hymn

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

LSB 507:3-4