

February 17, 2021 Noon & 7:00 p.m.

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent with a call to participate in the Lenten journey. The mood of the Ash Wednesday service is one of penitence and reflection upon our faith and life in Christ.

Bells' Call to Worship

Words of Welcome

Organ Prelude

Stand

#### **Address**

P 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 that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

## Litany

- P O Lord,
- **C** have mercy.
- P O Christ,
- C have mercy.
- **P** O Lord,
- **C** have mercy.
- P O Christ,
- C hear us.
- **P** God the Father in heaven,
- **C** have mercy.
- **P** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
- **C** have mercy.
- **P** God the Holy Spirit,
- C have mercy.
- **P** Be gracious to us.
- C Spare us, good Lord.
- **P** Be gracious to us.
- C Help us, good Lord.
- P 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:
- C 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:
- C Help us, good Lord.
- **P** We poor sinners implore You
- C 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 prayers; 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.
- P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
- c we implore You to hear us.
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C have mercy.
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C have mercy.
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- grant us Your peace.

- P O Christ,
- C hear us.
- P O Lord,
- **C** have mercy.
- P O Christ,
- **C** have mercy.
- P O Lord,
- C have mercy. Amen.

Sit

#### Distribution of Reminder Crosses

The pastors will present each worshiper with a wooden pocket cross as a reminder of our sinful human nature and our dependence on Jesus Christ for our salvation. These crosses are made of olive wood from the Holy Land.

Worshipers who wish to receive a cross may come forward, one pew at a time, via the center aisle and return to their pew via the side aisles.

As the pastor gives a cross to the worshiper, the following is said:

- P Remember you are a child of God, saved by Christ's death and resurrection.
- R Amen.

During the distribution of reminder crosses:

#### Organ Medley

Note: The traditional Imposition of Ashes will be available immediately following the service, but the health and safety precautions that must be taken between each party will require patience from the participants. Worshipers who wish to participate in the Imposition of Ashes should remain in their pews following the closing hymn. Because of the ongoing pandemic, it is not feasible to perform the Imposition of Ashes in a way that is both safe and quick.

Stand

#### Confession and Absolution

- People of God, as we consider the meaning of ashes and dust for us as Christians, we now make earnest confession unto the Lord.
- Almighty God, you have always warned your people against trusting in false gods. We are sinful and this nature has given birth to sinful deeds: things we have done and things we have left undone. We are but dust and ash of the ground and we deserve nothing more than to return to the dust. Though we deserve your stern judgment, but for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive and renew us. Amen.
- P You have heard the Word of the Lord, "Repent, and believe the gospel." With these words, Jesus began his ministry and now directs us to make repentance and hear his good news. Therefore, as you have made repentance, now hear the gospel. I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce to you the grace of God. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### Collect

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And with your spirit.
- **P** Let us pray to the Lord.
- P Almighty and everlasting God, because you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent, create in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily repenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission 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.



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# SERVICE OF THE WORD

#### **Old Testament Reading**

Joel 2:12-19

**P** The Old Testament Reading is from Joel, chapter 2.

12"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart,

with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

<sup>13</sup>and rend your hearts and not your garments."

Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,

slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

<sup>14</sup>Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him,

a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God?

<sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast;

call a solemn assembly;

<sup>16</sup>gather the people.

Consecrate the congregation;

assemble the elders;

gather the children,

even nursing infants.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,

and the bride her chamber.

<sup>17</sup>Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep

and say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach,

a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the peoples,

'Where is their God?""

- 18 Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people.
  19 The LORD answered and said to his people, "Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations."
- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

# **Epistle Reading**

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

P The Epistle is from 2 Corinthians, chapter 5.

<sup>20b</sup> 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.

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

Stand

# Gospel Reading

St. Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to 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> [Jesus said:] "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.

#### 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.

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

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Stand

#### **Prayers**

P O Lord, You are not willing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance and come to know You in truth. Look in mercy on all Your people as we begin this holy season and grant us the grace of repentance that by Your life-giving Spirit we might turn from all that is sin and death, be renewed in heart and life, and abound in the good works which are pleasing to You in Your Son.

# **C** Remember in mercy

**P** all pastors and servants of Your Church and enable them to proclaim the wisdom of the cross with the Spirit's power.

# **C** Remember in mercy

**P** all who bear office in our land. Give them wisdom, protect them from danger, and help them serve our people according to Your gracious will. Help us to become a people that protects and guards the rights of the weakest and most vulnerable, especially the unborn.

# C Remember in mercy

**P** all in our armed forces, especially those living far from home and all who work in dangerous places. Send Your angels to protect them and grant them to serve with integrity and honor.

# C Remember in mercy

**P** the many people in our own community who do not know the forgiveness and life that are in Your Son. Give us courage and grace to speak to them the hope of the eternal life, the peace of forgiveness that we enjoy.

# C Remember in mercy

**P** all who work to alleviate human suffering and misery. Through their devoted service, bring healing and hope.

# **C** Remember in mercy

**P** all who are in bondage to sinful and damaging behaviors, and by Your great love and unfailing promises set them free from these vices to enjoy the glorious liberty of the children of God.

# C Remember in mercy

**P** the sick, the suffering, the afflicted, the dying and the mourning. May Christ Himself be their Health in sickness, their Joy in sorrow, and their Life in death.

#### **C** Remember in mercy

**P** all who come forward today to receive the Savior's body and blood, that this Eucharist may give strength to our faith, heart to our repentance, and fire to our love.

# **C** Remember in mercy

- P all who have died in saving faith, trusting in the Savior's blood for the forgiveness of all sins, and receive our thanks for their victory. Bring us at the end of our days to join them in standing before the throne and singing the praises of the Lamb once slain.
- P All these things, Father of mercy and God of all comfort, we ask You to grant to us for the sake of Your Son, our only Righteousness, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

# Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.
- P Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, 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.

# 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.

#### Words of Institution

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

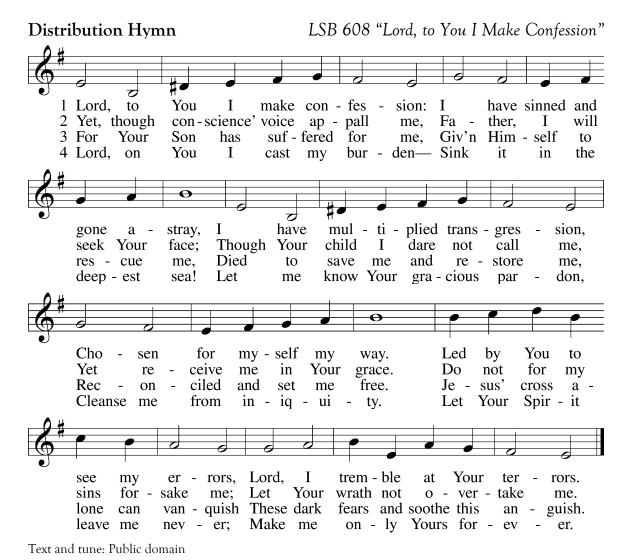
- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Sit

#### Communion Distribution



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Stand

#### Dismissal

- **P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart 

  → in peace.
- C Amen.

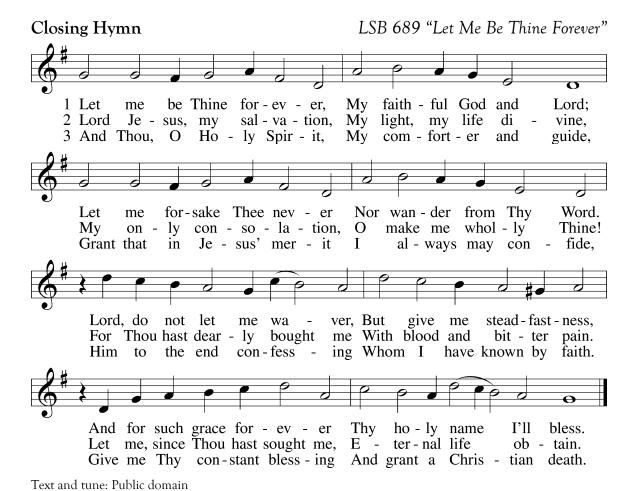
#### **Post-Communion Collect**

- P O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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

- C Amen.





#### Organ Postlude

#### Imposition of Ashes

Those who wish to receive ashes will remain seated in their pews in silent reflection. Stand

- **P** God the Father, in heaven,
- C have mercy.
- **P** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
- C have mercy.
- **P** God the Holy Spirit,
- C have mercy.
- P Gracious Lord, ashes remind us of our human frailty and mortality. You are eternal, but we are limited in our days. Someday we will return to dust and ashes. You remind us of this in Your Word:
- C Dust we are and to dust we shall return.
- Ashes speak of condemnation for sin. When Adam fell into sin, judgment and death came to all. We all are born into sin. We are marked for death and ashes.
- **C** Dust we are and to dust we shall return.
- P Ashes speak of our total dependence upon you, O God. We are but frail human beings who must rely upon you, dear Father. We think we are capable of taking care of ourselves and make our own plans for greatness. However, so often these plans fail and crumble into ashes.
- C Dust we are and to dust we shall return.
- P Ashes speak of our humiliation and repentance. As people in the Bible humbled themselves and expressed their repentance and mourning in the signs of sackcloth and ashes, we also humble ourselves before you, O God, as we ask you to forgive our sins through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Dust we are and to dust we shall return.

Sit

Worshipers will come forward, one pew at a time, via the center aisle and return to their pew or exit the church via the side aisles.

As the pastor applies ashes, the following is said:

- P Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.
- C Amen.

#### Individual Confession and Absolution

Following the service, Individual Confession and Absolution will be available in the Vestry/Library using the rite found on page 292 of the <u>Lutheran Service Book</u>. We invite you to consider availing yourself of this great gift of forgiveness.

# Serving in God's House Today

	12:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.
Preacher:	Rev. Joseph McCalley	Rev. Joseph McCalley
Liturgist:	Rev. Brian Thieme	Rev. Brian Thieme
Altar Guild:	Rev. Jerry & Mary Riggert	Rev. Jerry & Mary Riggert
Elder:	Larry McCoig	John Frerking
Organist:	Joanna McDowell	Carolyn Holste
Video Technician:	Benjamin Asbeck	

# Acknowledgments

Ash Wednesday from Lutheran Service Book

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