Ash Wednesday February 14, 2024 Marked and Redeemed by Christ, the Crucified

As We Gather - Marked. During this special service for the beginning of our Lenten journey, we will be marked—marked with ashes. These ashes stand as a stark reminder of the dust of death, which is the wages of sin—Adam's sin, the world's sin, and our personal sin. But notice the shape in which the ashes are applied to our foreheads: the shape of the cross. "Remember that you are dust," we hear. Powerful words, yes. But may we also have ears to hear the words even more powerful: "Your sins are forgiven!" The Gospel assures us that we have been marked and redeemed by Christ, the Crucified. The One who entered into our world to shape our dust and breathe new life into our death is the One who has named us and claimed us to be His own. He took on the ashes of our death. He became sin for us, "so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Offering and Registry of Worship Cards: Please fill out a Registry of Worship Card found in the pew racks. We ask that you print the names of every person in your family, indicating if they take communion. One side of the card is for members and the other side for guests. As the offering is collected, pass the cards to the center aisle so our ushers can gather them.

About Protecting the Healthy: To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.

Prelude and Meditation: Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

Prelude:

PREPARATION



Stand

Invocation

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

Psalm

Psalm 51:1–3, 10–12; antiphon: v. 17

- P The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
- **G** a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

- P Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
- **G** according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- **P** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
- **G** and cleanse me from my sin!
- **P** For I know my transgressions,
- **G** and my sin is ever before me.
- P Create in me a clean heart, O God,
- **G** and renew a right spirit within me.
- **P** Cast me not away from Your presence,
- **G** and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
- P Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
- **G** and uphold me with a willing spirit.

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;

a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

Imposition of Ashes

The pastor provides a word of explanation and instruction for the imposition of ashes according to the congregation's custom. The pastor may apply ashes to the forehead of each worshiper while speaking to them the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Hymns During the Imposition of Ashes



Text and tune: Public domain



- 5 Behold Him there! The risen Lamb! My perfect, spotless righteousness, The great unchangeable I AM, The King of glory and of grace!
- 6 At one with Him, I cannot die,

My soul is purchased by His blood;

My life is hid with Christ on high,

With Christ, my Savior and my God.

Text: Charitie L. de Chenez, 1841–1923 Tune: Vernon Griffiths, 1894–1985 Text: Public domain Tune: © 1971 Faber Music Ltd. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000852

Stand

Confession and Absolution

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
- The ashes of our sin remind us of the curse of death and our need for Your redemption.
- G For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and renew us. Mark us with Your cross and take our sins from us. Help us to delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy delivered His Son over to the death of the cross to bear the burden of our brokenness, becoming sin for us "so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21). The ashes of your sin have been taken away and you have been marked and redeemed by Christ, the Crucified. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

WORD

Kyrie

- **P** Lord, have mercy upon us.
- **G** Christ, have mercy upon us.
- **P** Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who come to You in repentance and faith.

Cleanse us from the ashes of our sin that we may hold fast to the promise that we have been marked and redeemed by the Christ, the Crucified,

P who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹²as far as the east is from the west,

so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

¹³As a father shows compassion to his children,

so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

¹⁴For he knows our frame;

he remembers that we are dust.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Colossians 1:9–14

⁹And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. ¹¹May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103:11-14

Holy Gospel

Luke 22:33–34

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-second chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

³³Peter said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." ³⁴Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me."

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

Creed

Nicene Creed

G 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.



Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758

Text and tune: Public domain

Choir Anthem: "Touch Me With Ashes" Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings

Registry of Worship Cards - *Please pass your completed cards to the center aisle*

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For the name of the Lord our God to be held sacred in our congregation and throughout the world, that His Word be taught in its truth and purity and we, as the children of God, live holy lives according to it, as those who have been marked and redeemed by Christ, the crucified, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lamb of God, have mercy upon us.

- For the blessing of all who have been named and claimed by Christ and who seek to carry out His Great Commission, that when we face a world that struggles under the curse of sin and in the ashes of death, we may rejoice in the assurance of our Savior's never-failing grace, love, and deliverance, let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lamb of God, have mercy upon us.
- For the well-being of all the world, especially the community, the schools, the workplaces, and the families in our midst, that our creator and provider would supply all that we need and enable us to dwell in peace and security, let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lamb of God, have mercy upon us.
- For the restoration of all who are broken in heart, body, mind, spirit, and relationships, that times of difficulty would lead all who struggle to seek refuge in the support of others and, ultimately, to receive the eternal treasures of the sure mercies of our God, let us pray to the Lord.
- **G** Lamb of God, have mercy upon us.

- For the healing of those who are struggling with medical issues and battling various types of illnesses, [*especially*...], that Jesus, our healer of both body and soul, would hear our prayers and grant mercy to them all, let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lamb of God, have mercy upon us.
- For the answering of these and all other prayers that we boldly bring before the throne of grace, that we take confidence in God as our Father, who has marked us with the cross of His Son and redeemed us by His blood so that the ashes of our sin may be replaced by the beauty of His righteousness, let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lamb of God, have mercy upon us. Answer our prayers in the way that best brings glory to Your holy name. Amen.

SACRAMENT

Preface

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who became sin for us at the cross, taking away the ashes of our death so that we may be redeemed by His blood and marked by His Spirit. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

- 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 perfectly obey Your commands and fully redeem us from sin's curse by becoming a curse for us. In repentance and faith, we receive the salvation He accomplished once and for all by His sacrifice on the cross.
- G Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we ask You, O Lord, to wash away the ashes of our sin and cleanse us as Your marked and redeemed people.
- Grant us faithfully to receive our Savior through His body and blood as He invites us to do in this sacred Meal.
- **G** Hear 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.

The Words of Our Lord

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."

Proclamation of Christ

- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **G** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Pax Domini

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



Sit

Distribution Hymns

LSB 563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness LSB 627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior Stand



Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

O Jesus, Lamb of God, we thank You for refreshing us yet again through Your Word and Sacrament.

- Assure us by Your Spirit that we have been marked and redeemed by You, the One who was crucified for us;
- **P** for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Closing Sentences

- P Create in me a clean heart, O God,
- **G** and renew a right spirit within me.

Psalm 51:10-12

- P Cast me not away from Your presence,
- **G** and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
- P Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
- **G** and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Benediction

- 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.



Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–98; para. Gilbert E. Doan, 1930 Tune: The Psalmes of David in Prose and Meeter, 1635, Edinburgh Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000852 Tune: Public domain

Postlude:

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.

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