

## Ash Wednesday

March 5, 2025

**As We Gather** - The season of the Church Year that starts with Ash Wednesday is known by differing terms in various nations. The official term that dates back to the sixth century AD is Quadragesima, from the Latin word for "fortieth." This term is carried forward in Latin-based languages such as Spanish (*cuaresma*) and Italian (*Quaresima*). Central Europeans reflect the self-denial aspect of the Lenten time using the term *Fastenzeit* (fasting time) in Germany and *Nagy-bost* (great fast) in Hungary. That naming tradition is also kept in Arabic-speaking countries, where the term *Sawm al-Kabir* (big fast) is used. Northern Europeans and related countries refer to the season of the year, relating back to the old Anglo-Saxon word *Lengten-tide* (springtime), which described when the days lengthened light-wise. Although the terms for the forty days of Lent may differ, the spiritual importance of "the forty" remains constant and powerful. May keeping this time of penance and prayer with "sincerity and truth" (1 Corinthians 5:8) lead us to observe a blessed and holy Lent!

**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

## Hymn of Invocation:

## What Wondrous Love Is This

LSB 543 sts. 1-2



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my  
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1811, Lynchburg, alt.  
Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

**P** We would prefer to remain on the mountaintop with Jesus, shining in glory. But we know what follows: Lent and Holy Week. We cannot celebrate Easter resurrection without dying to sin, without our faults and failings being forgiven, and without receiving new life by the grace of God for Jesus' sake. We need to hear the accusing Law with its death sentence as well as the invigorating Gospel in which Christ calls us to new and eternal life. We need to hear God's Word in our own ears so that the ashes we receive today are not mere outward symbols but are reflections of our faith in God's grace in becoming one of us in our Savior, His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## Old Testament Reading

*Joel 2:12–17*

**L** “Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

**C** **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.**

**L** 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?

Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; 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. 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?’”

## Confession

*Psalm 51:1–9*

**P** Let us humbly go to God, confessing our sins.

Almighty, eternal, loving Father,

**C** **we confess to You and one another not only that we have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions but that each failing has been a symptom of our sinful condition.**

**We have tried to overlook our faults but realize the truth of our fallenness. We have tried to do better by our own strength but have fallen back into sin again. We are helpless to change by ourselves.**

**P** We mirror the sins of our spiritual ancestor, whom You, gracious God, guided to write in the Psalms:

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;  
according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**C** **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!  
For I know my transgressions, 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** Let us go to our gracious God, asking for mercy.  
**C** **We are not the people You would have us be; we are not what we had hoped  
 for; we throw ourselves on the mercy of Your holy court, asking Your  
 forgiveness and renewal of life for the sake of our Savior, Your Son, Jesus  
 Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### **Imposition of Ashes**

- P** As a sign of your repentance and trust in God's mercy and grace, please come forward as you are directed to receive the sign of the cross on your forehead and to hear the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

*All may come forward to receive ashes.*

### **Absolution**

- P** God does not desire the death of sinners, but that they may live forgiven in His presence. He sent His Son, our Lord Jesus, to take our sins upon Himself and then to rise in our place, drawing people of faith to His eternal realm. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

**L** Then the LORD became jealous for His land and had pity on His people. 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**WORD**

**Hymn:**

**What Wondrous Love Is This**

*LSB 543 sts. 3–4*



3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will  
sing His love for me, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1811, Lynchburg, alt.  
Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven  
Text and tune: Public domain

**Introit for Ash Wednesday**

*Psalm 51:1–3, 10–12; antiphon: v. 17*

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

**P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;  
according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin!  
For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever be- | fore me.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Your presence,  
and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,  
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

**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.**

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

Text: ESV®

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## 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 are penitent.  
**C** **Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging  
our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness;**  
**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

*Colossians 1:9–14*

<sup>9</sup>And 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,  
<sup>10</sup>so 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. <sup>11</sup>May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. <sup>13</sup>He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## **Holy Gospel**

*Luke 7:36–49*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>36</sup>One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. <sup>37</sup>And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, <sup>38</sup>and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. <sup>39</sup>Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." <sup>40</sup>And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."

<sup>41</sup>"A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. <sup>42</sup>When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" <sup>43</sup>Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." <sup>44</sup>Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. <sup>45</sup>You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. <sup>46</sup>You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. <sup>47</sup>Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." <sup>48</sup>And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." <sup>49</sup>Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?"

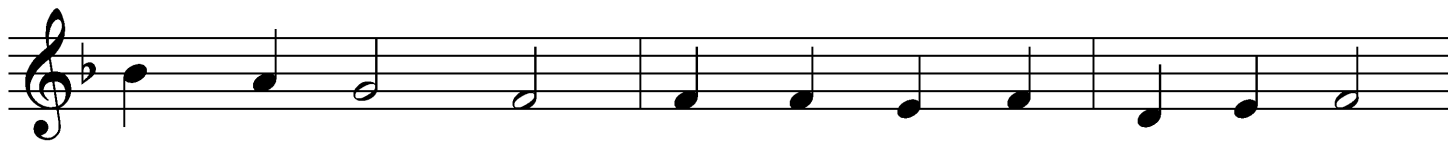
**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Sit*



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.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756

Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt Text and tune: Public domain

**Sermon: "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive – Savior, Servant, Friend"**  
**Luke 7:36-49**

*Stand*

**Creed**

*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.**



## Sanctus

LSB 178



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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."

## 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.**

# Agnus Dei

LSB 180



**Hymn:****Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace**

LSB 937



1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,  
 2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,  
 △ 3 With saints of old, with saints to come,



Your word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -  
 The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing  
 To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and



va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.  
 in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.  
 Spir - it blest Be hon - or, love, and praise.

Text (sts. 1–2): James Quinn, 1919–2010; (st. 3): Henry V. Gerike, 1948

Tune: American

Text (sts. 1–2): © 1969, 1989 OCP Publications; (st. 3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000852

Tune: Public domain

**Post-Communion Thanksgiving**

**P** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, who came into this world of ashes that we might rise to live with You in eternity, we give thanks for the strengthening of our faith received through this Sacrament and pray that You will be with us in the journey ahead until we rejoice together at Your victory over death on our behalf, for You live and reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Benediction**

**P** Having received the Sacrament and bearing ashes, remember God's continued presence with you. You have been baptized into Christ, our Brother!

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:

## What a Friend We Have in Jesus

LSB 770



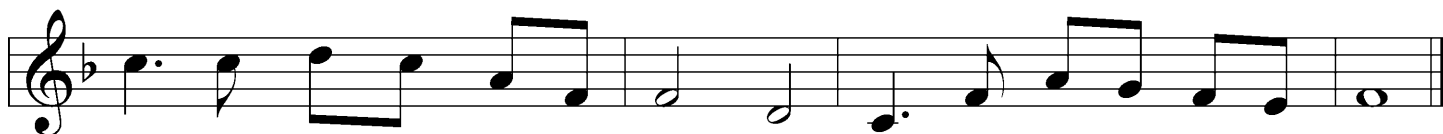
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share?  
Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol-ace there.

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1819–86

Tune: Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

Text and tune: Public domain

## Dismissal

**P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Postlude:

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

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**LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

**Pastor** ..... Pastor Christopher Hazzard

**Organist** ..... Elena Miraztchiyska

**Elder** ..... Carlos Orellana

