



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH ASH WEDNESDAY

*A Service of Holy Communion
& Imposition of Ashes*

Made in God's Image

March 2, 2022

Services: 1:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

**Please stand as you are able*

The Service begins in silence.

INVITATION TO LENT

P: Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' Passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. **C: Amen.**

*INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Most holy and merciful God,

C: We confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

P: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

C: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

P: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

C: Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Almighty and ever-living God,

C: you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

¹Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near— ²a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. ¹⁴Who 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? ¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. ¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

Here ends the First Reading.

PSALM 51:1-17

L: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

C: Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

L: For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

C: Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

L: Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

C: Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.

L: Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

C: Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.

L: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

L: Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

C: Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

L: Let me teach your ways to offenders, and sinners shall be restored to you.

C: Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

L: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

C: For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it. You are not pleased with burnt offering.

L: The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, ‘At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.’

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Here ends the Readings.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Return to the Lord Our God”

pg. 142 ELW

*THE HOLY GOSPEL *according to St. Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21*

¹“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever 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.

¹⁶“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

This is the Word of the Lord, we say: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Elizabeth

*HYMN

"Lord Jesus, Think on Me"

ELW # 599

*THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Petitions end: Merciful God,

Response: **receive our prayer.**

*THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: **And also with you** (Sharing of the Peace)

OFFERING

[Offering plates will be passed to church members in each pew.]
[Children are invited to come forward to place their offering in "Christ's Well".]

*OFFERING PRAYER

P: Extravagant God,

C: **you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

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 our thanks and praise.**

C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*OUR 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.**

COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW #s 592, 525, 528 (3x)

IMPOSITION OF ASHES & HOLY COMMUNION

Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

[As we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, all who believe they receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the form of bread and wine, forgiveness of sin and renewal therein are welcome at this table. It is the meal of all the Baptized. Please follow the direction of the Ushers.]

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.

C: Amen.

***BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

"God Loved the World"

ELW # 323

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Christ has made you free.

C: Thanks be to God.

Special "Thanks" to our Communion Assistants, Ushers, Altar Guild, Worship & Music Team, Vicky Harris, Chris Starr, Chris Davis, Dawn Peterson, Louise Carlson, Connie Duenow, and all others who assisted in our afternoon and evening services.

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Please lift these people up in prayers this week. Is God moving your heart to send a card to a loved one in your own family? Jeanette Nelson, Dalluge Family (Dan Becker's sister's family), Edward Van de Streek (brother of Muriel Wavra and uncle of Roxanne Wavra), Kelly Higgins, Joy Macheel (daughter of Jon and Jodi Braband), Lloyd Duenow (father of Brad Duenow), Bill Heuer, Daniel Paron (son of Sandra Brenhaug), Sherry Graf (friend of Joanne Chrast), Theresia E. Becker (grandmother of Jonathan Becker), Errolan Senske, Becky Peterson, Rolland Kristofferson (brother of Gloria Gustafson), Rosie Nelson, Jeanine Wedin, Marilyn Ueland, Kristen Heldt, Matt Guetzkow (cousin of Darlene Hennessey), Richard Dolezal, Lois Tritz, Brent Lindemann (stepfather of Audrey Howell), LaDonna Oberlin, Dennis Pilger (cousin of Donna Senske), Cassandra DeCasas (daughter of Bill and Deb Heuer), Talyn Mellesmoen, daughter of Hannah Mellesmoen and grand-daughter of Dave and Nancy Mellesmoen), Gary Metag, Charlotte Dittmer, Stanley Butcher (brother of Deb Heuer), Mary Entinger, LuAnn Harms, Dennis Dittmer, Marlys Rehmann, Sandra Brenhaug, Dori Swedberg (mother of Katherine Grant), Lisa Style, Brian Mikolichek, Erik Murray (nephew and Godchild of Gloria Gustafson), Carol Carver, and Gary Brown (friend of Joanne Chrast).

Announcements for this week:

Thursday, March 3rd, Men's Bible Study @ 9:00 a.m.; Pastor Elizabeth has Interim Synod Zoom from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; Pastor Elizabeth has Synod Zoom for Congregational Resource Team from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Friday, March 4th,

Saturday, March 5th, Visitation for Dorothy Lindeman Funeral from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. @ Christ Lutheran; Funeral is @ 12:00 p.m. with interment at a later date.

Sunday, March 6th, Worship Service with Holy Communion @ 9:00 a.m. – Sunday School @ 10:10 a.m.; Adult Education @ 10:15 a.m. in the Conference Room.

Monday, March 7th, Televised Worship Service @ 3:00 on Channel 10; Cub Scout Adult Leaders @ 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 8th, Women's Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 9th, Televised Worship Service @ 2:00 p.m. on Channel 10; no Confirmation; Bells @ 5:15 p.m.; Confirmation Reviews with Pastor Elizabeth in the Fireside Room at 5:00 p.m.; Lenten Soup Supper from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.; Choir @ 6:00 p.m.; Lenten Worship Service @ 7:00 p.m.; Council @ 7:45 p.m.

With Deepest Sympathy

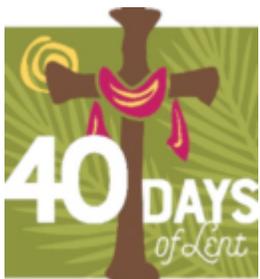


A Memorial Service for Dorothy Lindeman, who passed away in Arizona on Monday, Jan. 24th at the age of 94, will be at Christ Lutheran on Saturday, March 5th at 12:00 p.m. Visitation will be from 11:00 a.m. to noon. Interment will be at a later date in Oak Grove Cemetery in

Brownton. Please keep Dorothy's family in your prayers.

Lenten Soup Suppers and Lenten Worship Schedule

On Wednesday's, March 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th, Lenten Soup Suppers will be served between 5:00 and 6:30 p.m. Join us for a bowl of warm soup, sandwiches, and fellowship before the Wednesday night Lenten Services at 7:00 p.m. The Confirmation students and families will be helping with the cooking, setup, serving, and cleanup of the Lenten Soup Suppers. **Suggested donation per meal is \$5 per person with a cap of \$20 per family.** All proceeds will go toward upcoming youth events.



Wednesday night Lenten Services will continue through April 6th at 7:00 p.m. During Holy Week, Fourth Graders will celebrate their First Communion on Palm Sunday, April 10th. On April 14th, there will be Maundy Thursday Services with Holy Communion at 1:30 and 7:00 p.m., a Good Friday Tenebrae Service on April 15th at 7:00 p.m., and on April 17th, two Easter Sunday Worship Services with Holy Communion at 6:30 and 9:00 a.m.

Morning Bible Studies

Lessons for this week: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; and Luke 4:1-13.

