



ASH
Wednesday

Grace Lutheran Church
Wednesday, March 6, 2019
6:30 p.m.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

March 6, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

PRELUDE *O Lamm Gottes unschuldig, BWV 618*.....J. S. Bach

WELCOME TO GRACE

We value your presence with us. If you are in need, the resources of this congregation of faith stand ready to assist you.

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent, the season in which we “put away” our Alleluias and meditate on our Lord’s cross. Ashes remind us of our common mortality and the sign of the cross offers us hope in the midst of human darkness and is a reminder of our baptism. As we put away our Alleluias we look forward to the hope of the resurrection.

↑ HYMN *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*.....ELW #324

PSALM 51 read responsively

L: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness;

C: in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

L: Wash me through and through from my wickedness,

C: and cleanse me from my sin.

L: For I know my transgressions,

C: and my sin is ever before me.

L: Against you only have I sinned

C: and done what is evil in your sight.

L: And so you are justified when you speak

C: and upright in your judgment.

L: Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,

C: a sinner from my mother’s womb.

L: For behold, you look for truth deep within me,

C: and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

L: Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;

C: wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

L: Make me hear of joy and gladness,

C: that the body you have broken may rejoice.

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

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

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

L: Give me the joy of your saving help again,
C: and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

L: I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
C: and sinners shall return to you.

L: Deliver me from death, O God,
**C: and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.**

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

L: Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,
C: but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

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



WE CONFESS OUR SIN (*Please kneel or sit.*)

P: Most Holy and Merciful Father,
C: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned 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, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

We have not listened 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.

We confess to you all of our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy and impatience in our lives; our self-indulgent appetites and our exploitation of other people; our anger at our own limitations and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves, our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work, our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us.

P: Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done, for our blindness to human need and suffering, and for our indifference to injustice and cruelty.

C: Accept our repentance, Lord.

P: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us.

C: Accept our repentance, Lord.

P: Restore us, good Lord, and let your mercy be upon us.

C: Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen.

(Congregation may be seated.)

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Those who desire to receive ashes may come forward when ready. Ashes are applied to the forehead of each person with the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Those who prefer not to receive ashes are invited to meditate in the pew. You may find the prayers printed on pages 72-87 in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal helpful in directing your thoughts.

Psalm 51

sung by Sarah Rodgers, accompanied by Susan Buda, cello



WORD OF ABSOLUTION

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his

authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty and ever-living God, 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 obtain from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

↓ FIRST LESSON.....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?'"

SECOND LESSON.....2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For 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! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

↑ LENTEN VERSE (*sing 2 times*)

**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom,
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**

HOLY GOSPELMatthew 6:1-6, 16-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord. (*spoken*)

[Jesus said to the disciples] 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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

↓ SERMON.....Pastor Schul

↑ HYMN *Chief of Sinners Though I Be*.....ELW #609

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



OFFERTORY *Healer of our every ill*.....Honore



OFFERTORY SONG

ELW #182

C: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

P: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you. (spoken)

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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: *(spoken)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, 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.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

P: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, the meal is ready.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

↓
All are invited to join the congregation in receiving the Savior's Body and Blood in the sacrament. Young people who have not yet been prepared to receive Communion are invited forward for a blessing. Rice wafers and grape juice are available for those who have sensitivities to wheat or alcohol. An acolyte has a special tray with these alternative communion elements.

(spoken)

C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

- ELW #606 *Our Father, We Have Wandered*
- ELW #592 *Just As I Am, without One Plea*
- ELW #321 *Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church*

↑ P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND BLESSING

P: Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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.

HYMN *Savior, When in Dust to You*.....ELW #601

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

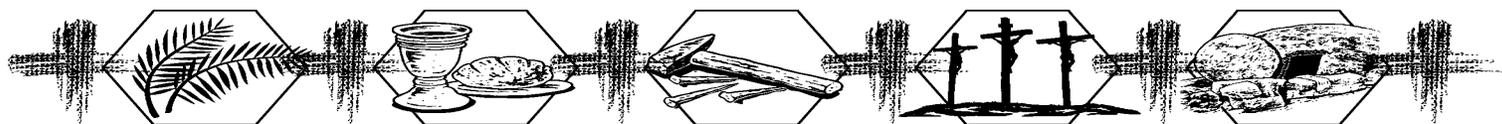
POSTLUDE *Christe, du Lamm Gottes, BWV 619*.....J.S. Bach



The Rev. Scott E. Schul, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick, Associate Pastor

- - - Worship Volunteers - - -

Greeters.....Bob & Alice Griffin, & Helen Brenneman
Lector.....Barbara Vogler
Ushers.....Don Coine, Anne Rohrbach, Bonnie & Don Burris
Deacons.....John & Brenda Palmgren
Music and Arts Ministry Coordinator.....Laurel Sanders
Organist.....Erik Clayton
Choir Director.....Jayne Glocke
Pastor Emeritus.....The Rev. P. Stevens Lynn



Lent 2019

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is a penitential season of forty days (not counting Sundays), designed to prepare us for the joys of Easter. Grace will offer extra worship opportunities during Lent. Our schedule will be as follows:

12:15 p.m. Wednesday Lunchtime Lenten Worship (until 12:45 p.m.)

With weekly celebration of Holy Communion, this short service should fit into a working lunch hour as well as allow worshippers the opportunity to attend weekday worship without nighttime travel.

6:30 p.m. Wednesday Lenten Evening Prayer

This mid-week evening service is designed around the Church's traditional practices of evening prayer, but includes intentional space for the inclusion of families and children. It is an inspiring and accessible 50 minute worship experience.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN WORSHIP: Sermon series on Psalm 34

March 13 - Worship at 12:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
March 20 – Worship at 12:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
March 27 – Worship at 12:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
April 3 – Worship at 12:15 p.m.; Ecumenical Concert 7:00p.m.
April 10 – Worship at 12:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
April 17 – Worship at 12:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

2019 Lenten/Easter Special Events and Services

Wednesday, March 13—A Bible study on Epiphanies in Luke's Gospel, 11:00 AM

Wednesday, March 13—Worship at 12:15 PM and 6:30 PM

Wednesday, March 20—A Bible study on Sunday's Gospel, 11:00 AM

Wednesday, March 20—Worship at 12:15 PM and 6:30 PM

Wednesday, March 27—A Bible study on Sunday's Gospel, 11:00 AM

Wednesday, March 27—Worship at 12:15 PM and 6:30 PM

Wednesday, April 3—A Bible study on Seven Last Words of Christ, 11:00 AM

Wednesday, April 3—Worship at 12:15 PM

Wednesday April 3—5:00 PM Community fellowship meal

6:15 PM Pre-Concert talk by Rev. Carolyn Hetrick

6:50 PM Prelude music by The Bells of Grace

7:00 PM Free Concert with choir, orchestra and hand bells

Wednesday, April 10 —A Bible study on Sunday's Gospel, 11:00 AM

Wednesday, April 10—Worship at 12:15 PM and 6:30 PM

Sunday, April 14 - **Palm Sunday**, 8:00, 9:00 and 10:30 AM services

6:00 PM Contemporary Worship

Wednesday, April 17—A Bible study on Sunday's Gospel 11:00 AM

Wednesday, April 17—Worship at 12:15 PM and 6:30 PM

Thursday, April 18—**Maundy Thursday Worship**, 6:30 PM

Friday, April 19—**Community Good Friday Worship**,

12—3:00 PM, Grace Lutheran Church

Friday, April 19—**Good Friday Worship** at 6:30 PM

Sunday, April 21— **Easter Sunday**

6:30 AM—Sunrise Service

7:30 AM—Easter Breakfast, Harkins Hall

8:00, 9:00 and 10:30 AM—Worship Services

6:00 PM—Contemporary Worship