

February 26th, 2020

Ash Wednesday

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Holbrook, NY

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Due to the solemn character of this day, the congregation enters in silence.

Stand

ASH WEDNESDAY ADDRESS

Silence for reflection

ASH WEDNESDAY 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.**
P 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.**

P 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:

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

P 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;

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

P To turn our hearts to You;
to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers;
and to graciously hear our prayers;

C **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,
C **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.**

P O God, you desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their
wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal
nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully
pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are
repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit
THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Having ashes placed on our foreheads reminds us that we are dust and to dust we shall return (Gen 3:19). If you wish to have ashes placed on your forehead, come to the communion rail where the pastor will impose them in the shape of a cross. If you do not desire such a mark, remain seated and follow the hymns below.

On My Heart Imprint Your Image
Christ the Life of All the Living

LSB 422
LSB 420

After receiving the ashes, each person returns to his place in silence.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 51

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



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

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

During Lent, the GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is omitted.

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

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Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Chronicles 21:1–2, 7–19, 26–27

A The Old Testament reading for Ash Wednesday is from First Chronicles, chapter twenty-one.

Then Satan stood against Israel and incited David to number Israel. So David said to Joab and the commanders of the army, “Go, number Israel, from Beersheba to Dan, and bring me a report, that I may know their number...”

But God was displeased with this thing, and he struck Israel. And David said to God, “I have sinned greatly in that I have done this thing. But now, please take away the iniquity of your servant, for I have acted very foolishly.” And the LORD spoke to Gad, David's seer, saying, “Go and say to David, ‘Thus says the LORD, Three things I offer you; choose one of them, that I may do it to you.’” So Gad came to David and said to him, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Choose what you will: either three years of famine, or three months of devastation by your foes while the sword of your enemies overtakes you, or else three days of the sword of the LORD, pestilence on the land, with the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the territory of Israel.’ Now decide what answer I shall return to him who sent me.” Then David said to Gad, “I am in great distress. Let me fall into the hand of the LORD, for his mercy is very great, but do not let me fall into the hand of man.”

So the LORD sent a pestilence on Israel, and 70,000 men of Israel fell. And God sent the angel to Jerusalem to destroy it, but as he was about to destroy it, the Lord saw, and he relented from the calamity. And he said to the angel who was working destruction, “It is enough; now stay your hand.” And the angel of the LORD was standing by the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. And David lifted his eyes and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven, and in his hand a drawn sword stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces. And David said to God, “Was it not I who gave command to number the people? It is I who have sinned and done great evil. But these sheep, what have they done? Please let your hand, O LORD my God, be against me and against my father's house. But do not let the plague be on your people.”

Now the angel of the LORD had commanded Gad to say to David that David should go up and raise an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. So David went up at Gad's word, which he had spoken in the name of the LORD... And David built there an altar to the LORD and presented burnt offerings and peace offerings and called on the LORD, and the LORD answered him with fire from heaven upon the altar of burnt offering. Then the LORD commanded the angel, and he put his sword back into its sheath.

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

**O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,
the founder and perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

A The Epistle is from Second Corinthians, chapters five and six.

We implore 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.

Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. 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. We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

During Lent, the ALLELUIA is omitted.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

“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.

“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. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“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. 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.

“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. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 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.

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

LSB back cover

Sit

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

LSB 915

SERMON

“You Can Count on It”

Stand

OFFERTORY

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Sit

OFFERING: The Lamb

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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Sit

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From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee	<i>LSB 607</i>
I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table	<i>LSB 618</i>

Stand

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BENEDICTION	p.201

Jesus Sinners Doth Receive *LSB 609:1-4*

Postlude

Lent and Holy Week Worship Schedule

March 5—April 2	Lenten Soup Supper	6:30pm (WC)
March 5—April 2	Thursday Lenten Vespers	7:30pm (WC)
April 5	Palm Sunday Divine Service	9am & 11am (BC)
April 9	Maundy Thursday Divine Service	7pm (BC)
April 10	Good Friday Chief Service	3pm (BC)
April 10	Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers	7:30pm (BC)
April 11	Easter Vigil	6pm (BC)
April 12	Easter Sunrise Matins	6:15am (in front of BC)
April 12	Easter Sunday Divine Services	9am & 11am (BC)

Upcoming events

April 5	Palm Sunday Breakfast	8am (SB)
April 12	Easter Egg Hunt	10:15am (lawn)