



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

"This is where I belong!"

1200 N. Campbell Ave

Tucson, AZ 85719

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www.lutherantucson.org

Ash Wednesday

February 17, 2021

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in today's readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent, the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

Worship Leader – Pastor Martha Neff Stum

Greeting

Pastor: *Blessed be God,
who brings us out of captivity into freedom,
out of the wilderness into the promised land,
out of death into life.*

People: *Amen.*

*Gathering Hymn *Hymn ~ ELW Hymn #606


"Our Father, We Have Wandered"

HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN

1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,

in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
com-pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,

But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: *Let us pray;
Gracious God, out of your love and mercy
you breathed into dust the breath of life,
creating us to serve you and our neighbors.
Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness,
and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence
in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.*

People: **Amen**

Invitation to Lent

Pastor: *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 renewed.*

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy.

We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil, and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent – self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love – strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Confession

Pastor: *Whether sung in a 500 year old hymn, read from a book, or spoken through our heart, we confess our sin before God as we seek God's grace and a forgiven soul.*

(Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.)

People: *Out of the depths I cry to you:
O Lord God, hear me calling.
Incline your ear to my distress
in spite of my rebelling.
Do not regard my sinful deeds.
Send me the grace my spirit needs.
Without it I am nothing.
Amen.*

Pastor: *In God alone, in God we hope,
and not in our own merit.
We hope as Israel in the Lord,
who sends redemption through the + Word.
Praise God for grace and mercy!*

People: *Amen.*

Pastor: *Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,*

People: *that we may show forth your glory in the world.*

Pastor: *By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,*

People: *bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection!*

WORD[†]

First Reading

A reading from 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?'"

Lector: *The Word of God for the people of God.*

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 51:1-17

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.**

³For I know | my offenses,
and my sin is ev- | er before me.

⁴**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. R**

⁵Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my | mother's womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.

- ⁸**Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice. R**
- ⁹Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰**Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me.**
- ¹¹Cast me not away | from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.
- ¹²**Restore to me the joy of | your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit. R**
- ¹³Let me teach your ways | to offenders,
and sinners shall be re- | stored to you.
- ¹⁴**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of | my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing | of your righteousness.**
- ¹⁵O Lord, o- | pen my lips,
and my mouth shall pro- | claim your praise.
- ¹⁶**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or | I would give it.
You are not pleased | with burnt offering.**
- ¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a | troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will | not despise. R

Second Reading

A reading from 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.

Lector: *The Word of God for the people of God.*

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Acclamation

Pastor: *Return to the | Lord, your God,* who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in | steadfast love. (Joel 2:13)*

The Gospel Reading

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

[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.”

Lector: *The Holy Gospel of the Lord,*

People: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

The Sermon ~ Pastor Martha Neff Stum

***Hymn of the Day ~ *Hymn ~ ELW Hymn #780**

"Shepherd Me, O God"

SHEPHERD ME

Refrain
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from
death in - to life. *to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5* *to stanza 4*

Leader or All

1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I
rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
lead me by path-ways of righ - teous-ness and truth, my
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain

walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All

4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

Refrain

ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All

5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Pastor: *God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.*

The Apostles' Creed

*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 People**

After each petition of the prayers:

Lector: *Lord, in your mercy.*
People: *Hear our prayer.*

***Offertory Prayer**

Pastor: *God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone,
but with words of grace and life.
Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive
from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.*
People: *Amen.*

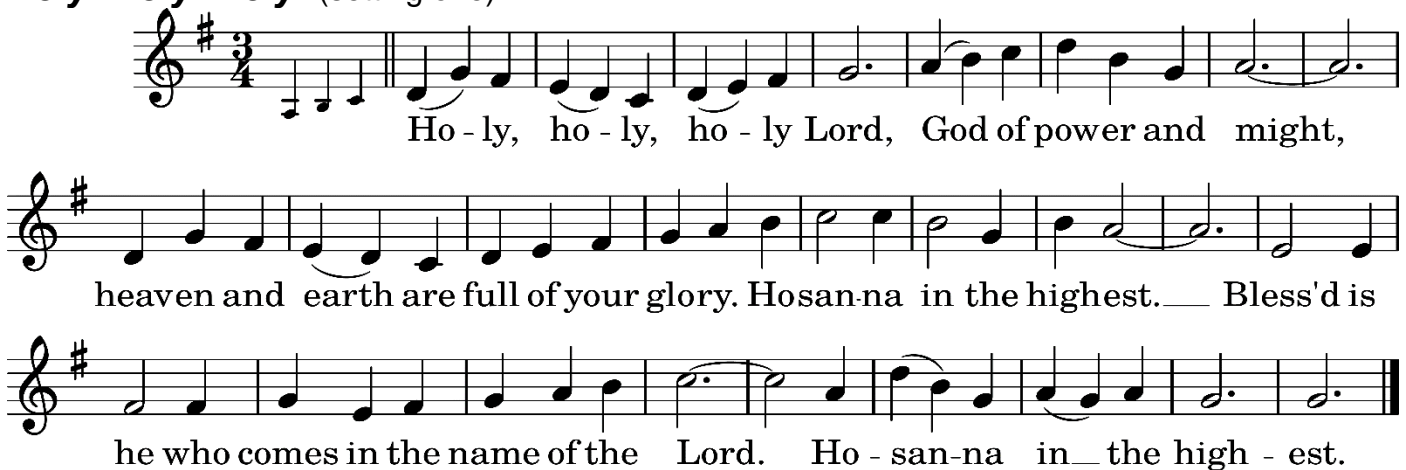
***Prayer of Thanksgiving at the Table**

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

*Preface

Pastor: *It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

Holy! Holy! Holy! (setting one)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosan-na in the highest. — Bless'd is
he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Pastor: *You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.
We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.
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 for the 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.
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

People: *Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.*

Pastor: *Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.*

*To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.*

People: *Amen.*

Pastor: *Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us.*

***The 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.

Invitation to Communion

Pastor: *Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus.
Come and be fed.*

Distribution Special Music Hymn ~ ELW Hymn #592

"Just As I Am, without One Plea"

Elizabeth Seal

***Post-Communion Prayer**

Pastor: *Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage:
may our fasting be hunger for justice,
our alms, a making of peace,
and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts;
through Christ our Lord.*

People: ***Amen***

***Blessing**

Pastor: *The blessing of God Almighty,
the wisdom and power + of Christ Jesus,
and the light of the Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you always.*

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

***Dismissal**

Pastor: *Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage;
hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the
fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and
serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.*

People: ***Thanks be to God!***

Our worship gatherings will be posted on YouTube at...

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLC7bdt-eCGNxURxFef-NSGadlffLHnDxG>

And they are linked to the church website.

www.lutherantucson.org

Most small group meetings have resumed online. Please contact your individual leader. If you have questions call the church office, which will remain closed till further notice, however staff will still be taking care of essential tasks and available when needed. Contact them by email or phone.

(520) 327-6521

For all of our community, please wash hands frequently, refrain from shaking hands, and honor the boundaries of others to stay safe.

Thank you for your understanding and care in this unprecedented time. Please watch for further communication.

Please add to your prayer list:

Mert Ingvaldstad

Sonja Dunn

Kathryn Barrera at the birth of her daughter, Christine, on 1/22/2021

The family of Theresa Lehrling at the recent death of her father.

All those whom we hold in our hearts.



Sunday, February 21, 2021

Lent 1

Genesis 9:8-17, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15

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