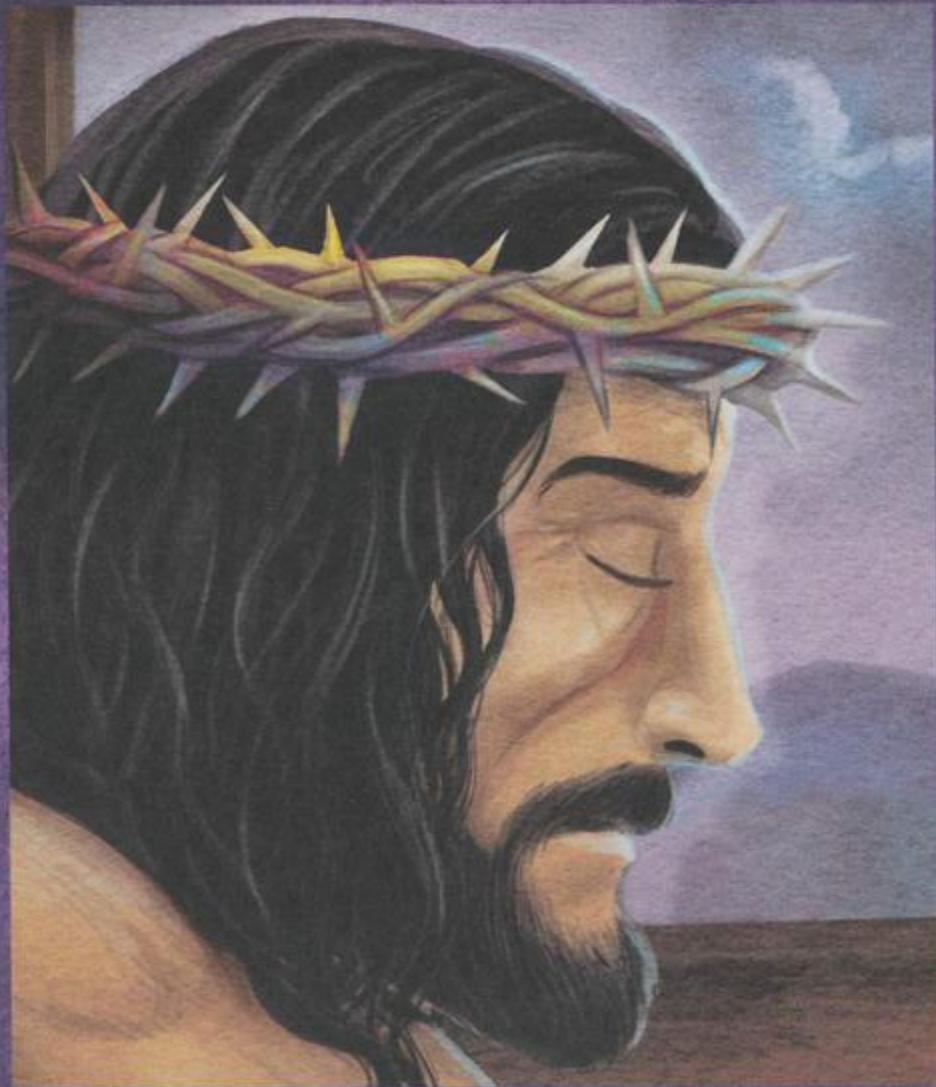


# FOR US

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# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. James Harris, Pastor

## ASH WEDNESDAY

**1:00 p.m. February 18, 2026**

### Thoughts as we gather

**“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”**

This Ash Wednesday, we introduce our Lent sermon series, which is based on the ancient hymn “O Love, How Deep” (LSB 544). This hymn, written in the fifteenth century, contemplates the love of God in becoming man, taking on our life, dying our death, and rising again, all for us. But for us to understand and appreciate this love, we must first examine ourselves and our lives to see how we have failed in thought, word, and deed. While we may try to get credit for our so-called good works, we all still die with nothing to show for them. But God’s love is not like our love. Our love is self-centered and fickle. God’s love is steady, deep, and beyond all understanding (Ephesians 3:14–19). This love of God will have no end.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

*Stand*

¶ Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection.*

**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 graciously to 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 pastor and assistants receive ashes first, followed by the congregation. Using the right thumb, the pastor or an assistant places the ashes on the forehead of each person in the sign of the cross, saying:*

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

After receiving the ashes, each person returns to his place in silence. There is no statement of dismissal.

The hymn "Savior, When in Dust to Thee" (419) or other appropriate hymns, or one or more of the penitential psalms (6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143) may be sung during the imposition of ashes.

After all have received the ashes, the service continues with the Service of Confession and Absolution in the Divine Service or with the rite of Corporate Confession and Absolution.

## CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTiON

### 419 Savior, When in Dust to Thee



Text: Robert Grant, 1779-1838, alt.

Tune: Joseph Parry, 1841-1903

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You 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; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **☩** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### INTROIT

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

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.

**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.

## KYRIE

*LSB 152*

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



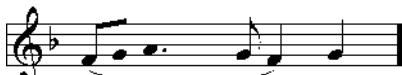
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**C** A - men.

# THIS IS THE FEAST

LSB 155

*Refrain*

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose strength, and  
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and  
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and  
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



*Sit*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Joel 2:12–19*

<sup>12</sup>“Yet even now,” declares the LORD,  
“return to Me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
<sup>13</sup>and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

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.

<sup>14</sup>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?

<sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
consecrate a fast;  
call a solemn assembly;

<sup>16</sup>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.

<sup>17</sup>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?’”

<sup>18</sup>Then the LORD became jealous for His land  
    and had pity on His people.

<sup>19</sup>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.”

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

## PSALM

*Psalm 51:1–13; antiphon: v. 17*

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God,  
    according to Your steadfast love;  
**according to Your abundant mercy**  
**blot out my transgressions.**

<sup>2</sup>Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
    and cleanse me from my sin!

<sup>3</sup>**For I know my transgressions,**  
**and my sin is ever before me.**

<sup>4</sup>Against You, You only, have I sinned  
    and done what is evil in Your sight,  
**so that You may be justified in Your words**  
**and blameless in Your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,  
    and in sin did my mother conceive me.

<sup>6</sup>**Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,**  
**and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

<sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
    wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear joy and gladness;**  
**let the bones that You have broken rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide Your face from my sins,  
    and blot out all my iniquities.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean heart, O God,**  
**and renew a right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from Your presence,  
and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

**<sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,  
and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

<sup>13</sup>Then I will teach transgressors Your ways,  
and sinners will return to You.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10*

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>1</sup>Working together with Him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; <sup>7</sup>by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>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.

*Stand*

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE (Lent)

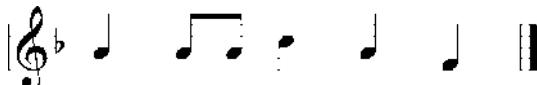
*LSB 157*

**C** Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in  
steadfast love.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

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



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “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.

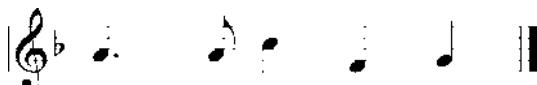
<sup>2</sup>“Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup>“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. <sup>6</sup>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. . . .

<sup>16</sup>“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. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>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.

<sup>19</sup>“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup>but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

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



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

*Sit*

## 544 O Love, How Deep

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, race, bore taught;  
 2 He sent no an - gel to our He;  
 3 For us bap - tized, for us He;  
 4 For us He prayed; for us He.

Be - yond all thought and fan - ta - sy, place, sore; wrought.  
 Of high - er or of low - er  
 His ho - ly fast and hun - gered  
 For us His dai - ly works He.

That God, the Son of God, should take frame, knew; thus.  
 But wore the robe of hu - man sharp He.  
 For us temp - ta - tion and ac - tions.  
 By words and signs and ac - tions.

Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!  
 And to this world Him - self He came.  
 For us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
 Still seek - ing not Him - self but us.

- 5 For us by wickedness betrayed,  
 For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,  
 He bore the shameful cross and death;  
 For us He gave His dying breath.
- 6 For us He rose from death again;  
 For us He went on high to reign;  
 For us He sent His Spirit here  
 To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

△ 7 All glory to our Lord and God  
 For love so deep, so high, so broad;  
 The Trinity whom we adore  
 Forever and forevermore.

Text: attr. Thomas à Kempis, 1380–1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819–85, alt.  
 Tune: English, 15th cent.  
 Text: Public domain

*Sit*

## SERMON

*Stand*

### NICENE CREED

**C** 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

### OFFERING

**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
 me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
 call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
 va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
 vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For honorable and pure lives before God that abhor all gluttony, greed and hypocrisy; and for our fasting, that it might be a blessed chastening that reminds us that a broken and contrite spirit the Lord will not despise, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all pastors who implore us on Christ's behalf to be reconciled to God, that they would be sustained in faith and granted strength and diligence in their work; and that the earthly needs of their families may be well provided for, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the families of our congregation, that God would defend His holy estate of marriage against every enemy that would divide; that He would strengthen parents for their duties, especially bringing up their children in the fear and instruction of the Lord; and that all may be preserved faithful to the end, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all who bear office in our land, that God would give them wisdom, protect them from danger and lead them to serve others according to His gracious will, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our nation, that we may become a people that guards the rights of the weakest and most vulnerable among us, especially the unborn, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For comfort for God's people in their many and various afflictions, *[especially]*, that they may be granted healing, peace and recovery according to His will and given sure confidence that in Christ's wounds we are healed, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who receive the Lord's Supper this day, that by God's grace and power they would return to the Lord and forsake sinful ways and thoughts; and that in receiving Christ's body and blood they would taste with joy God's abundant pardon, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the grieving and sorrowful, that they might have patience in tribulation and the joy of God's salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** We pray all these things in the name of our crucified and risen Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an Elder.

## PREFACE

LSB 160

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so 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 Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
 Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
 san-na. 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.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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.**

## 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  $\ddagger$  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  $\ddagger$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



## AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit*

## DISTRIBUTION

## 609 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

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

## 627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

sts. 1-4

1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way God's  
 2 As His pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre - cious  
 3 Je - sus here Him - self is shar - ing; Heed then how you  
 4 Praise the Fa - ther, who from heav - en To His own this

wrath for - ev - er; By His bit - ter grief and woe  
 food sup - ply - ing, Gives His bod - y with the bread,  
 are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be - lieve,  
 food has giv - en, Who, to mend what we have done,

He saved us from the e - vil foe.  
 And with the wine the blood He shed.  
 His judg - ment then you shall re - ceive.  
 Gave in - to death His on - ly Son.

Text: John Hus, c. 1369-1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483-1546; (sts. 1-2, 4): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006  
 Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1533, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug, alt.  
 Text (st. 3): © 1980 and 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000276  
 Text (sts. 1-2, 4) and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

**C** Amen.

## NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let to Your ser - vant De -  
 2 All glo - ry to the the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the the  
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the be - Gen - tiles, Un -  
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Un -

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## BENEDICTION

*LSB 166*

**P** 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  $\text{\texttildelow}$  give you peace.



*Sit*

## 418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days You  
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and You won; Your  
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet You prayed And  
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, And

prayed and kept the fast; In - spire re - pen - tance  
faith - ful - ness en - dured; Lend us Your nerve, Your  
fixed Your mind a - bove; So teach us to de -  
all our earth - ly days. That when the fi - nal

for our sin, And free us from our past.  
skill and trust In God's e - ter - nal Word.  
ny our - selves, Since we have known God's love.  
Eas - ter dawns, We join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838-98; para. Gilbert E. Doan, 1930-2024

Tune: The Psalms of David in Prose and Meeter, 1635, Edinburgh

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000276

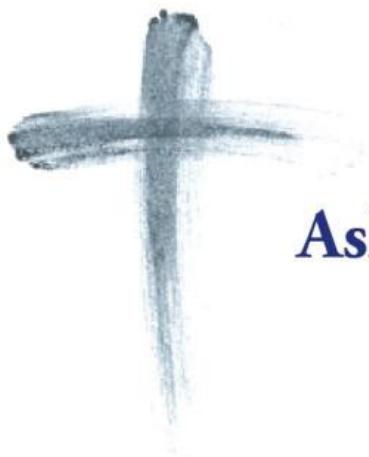
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## Ash Wednesday

— Lent Begins

## THE DEATH OF JESUS

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Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is calling Elijah." And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to Him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him." And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up His spirit.

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

\*\*\*

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

—Matthew 27:45–54, 57–61

Scripture: ESV®.

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