

ASH WEDNESDAY
March 2, 2022
THE SERVICE OF PREPARATION
PRELUDE
THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

Pastor: As we begin tonight with “The Genesis of Joseph,” we learn of God remembering Rachel as Joseph’s life began. Even as we with ashes remember that we are dust, and to dust we shall return, we are affirmed in hope that God has remembered us in Jesus, His one and only Son.

PREPARATION ✠

(Please stand)

HYMN

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory” *LSB 427 vs 1-3*

**In the cross of Christ I glory
Tow’ring o’er the wrecks of time
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime**

**When the woes of life o’er-take me
Hopes deceive and fears annoy
Never shall the cross forsake me
Lo it glows with peace and joy**

**When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 77:1-6a

Pastor: In this Lenten season, we journey with Joseph in Genesis

People: and come to the cross of Christ on Calvary.

Pastor: Joseph's journey begins with God remembering his mother, Rachel. Our journey also has begun with God remembering us. Amid our sinful and fallen state, as dust we are and to dust we shall return, we come before the Lord with the words of the Psalmist: I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, and He will hear me.

People: In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted.

Pastor: When I remember God, I moan; when I meditate, my spirit faints.

People: You hold my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak.

Pastor: I consider the days of old, the years long ago.

People: I said, "Let me remember my song in the night; let me meditate in my heart."

HYMN

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory” LSB 427 vs 4

**Bane and blessing pain and pleasure
By the cross are sanctified
Peace is there that knows no measure
Joys that through all time abide**

(Please be seated or kneel for the confession)

CONFESSION

Pastor: We are dust, and to dust we shall return. But our God is faithful and just, and He remembers us. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

People: Most merciful God, we confess to You that we have broken Your commandments by our own thoughts, words, and deeds. We have failed to be the people You have called us to be. We have not loved our brothers and sisters as we ought. So often we fail to remember Your promises, Your presence, and Your perfect plan. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, and give us the healing power of Your love that we may walk again in Your ways and live to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Joel 2:12-19 ESV*

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; 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. 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? Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; 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. 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?’” Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people. 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE *Psalm 77:7–9*

Pastor: Will the Lord spurn forever, and never again be favorable?

People: Has His steadfast love forever ceased?

Pastor: Are His promises at an end for all time? Has God forgotten to be gracious?

People: Has He in anger shut up His compassion?"

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Pastor: Ashes symbolize mourning for our sins, for the times we have like sheep gone astray and that we have been guilty of iniquity and transgression. The ashes in the shape of the cross symbolize cleansing and renewal and point to the gift of forgiveness that God gives in Jesus Christ, through whom the Lord has remembered us.

The congregation comes forward for the Imposition of Ashes.

*Those who come forward receive an ashen cross on their foreheads and hear the words: "**Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.**"*

The following hymn will be sung during imposition.

(Please bring bulletin with you during the imposition to sing)

HYMN

"Savior, When in Dust to Thee" LSB 419

**Savior when in dust to Thee
Low we bow the adoring knee
When repentant to the skies
Scarce we lift our weeping eyes
O by all Thy pains and woe**

Suffered once for us below
Bending from Thy throne on high
Hear our penitential cry

By Thy helpless infant years
By Thy life of want and tears
By Thy days of deep distress
In the savage wilderness
By the dread mysterious hour
Of the insulting tempter's pow'r
Turn O turn a fav'ring eye
Hear our penitential cry

By Thine hour of dire despair
By Thine agony of prayer
By the cross the nail the thorn
Piercing spear and torturing scorn
By the gloom that veiled the skies
O'er the dreadful sacrifice
Listen to our humble sigh
Hear our penitential cry

By Thy deep expiring groan
By the sad sepulchral stone
By the vault whose dark abode
Held in vain the rising God
O from earth to heav'n restored
Mighty re-ascended Lord
Bending from Thy throne on high
Hear our penitential cry

RESPONSE *Psalm 77:10–15*

Pastor: Remember that we are dust,

People: (spoken) **and to dust we shall return.**

Pastor: Then I said, “I will appeal to this, to the years of the right hand of the Most High.” I will remember the deeds of the LORD;

People: (spoken) **yes, I will remember Your wonders of old.**

Pastor: I will ponder all Your work, and meditate on Your mighty deeds.

People: (spoken) **Your way, O God, is holy. What god is great like our God?**

Pastor: You are the God who works wonders; You have made known Your might among the peoples.

People: (spoken) **You with Your arm redeemed Your people, the children of Jacob and Joseph.**

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and has remembered us and remembered His promises. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

✠ **WORD** ✠

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

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.

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.

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

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: (spoken) **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

GRADUAL *Hebrews 12:2*

Pastor: O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder
and perfecter of our faith,

**People: 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 ESV*

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

VERSE *Joel 2:13b*

Pastor: Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

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

People: (sing) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 ESV*

“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. ³ 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. “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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: (sing) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CREED *Nicene Creed*

People: **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 ✕ of the world to come.
Amen.**

(Please be seated)

HYMN **“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”** *LSB 423*

**Jesus, refuge of the weary,
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life’s desert dreary,
Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended,
Gazed upon the sinner’s fall;
Yet upon the cross extended,
You have borne the pain of all.**

**Do we pass that cross unheeding,
Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding,
See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us
Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us
Calms the sinner’s deep distress.**

**Jesus, may our hearts be burning
With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning
To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never
From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever,
Dwell the cross, the Crucified.**

**Through Your Word are faithful servants
Used as instruments by You,
Pointing to Christ's wondrous mission:
Perfect Savior, hope renewed.
As we journey now with Joseph,
Through his life and lessons bless,
Seeing Jesus as fulfillment,
One in whom we find our rest.**

Text: Sts. 1–3: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826–96, alt. Public domain;

Pastor: The Reading serving as the focus for today's message, from Genesis, the thirtieth chapter.

SERMON READING *Genesis 30:22–24*

Then God remembered Rachel, and God listened to her and opened her womb. She conceived and bore a son and said, "God has taken away my reproach." And she called his name Joseph, saying, "May the LORD add to me another son!"

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

+ SERMON +

“The Genesis of Joseph”

Text: Genesis 30:22-24

Outline

1. Do you remember Rachel?
2. God remembered Rachel
3. God has remembered you in Jesus, his Son.

Joseph’s Journey Begins with God’s remembering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the Church, for all in need, and for the whole of God’s creation.

Lord, throughout these forty days of Lent, give to Your people a firm hope in Jesus, our Lord, who leads the way and takes into His body on the cross the sins of the whole world.

People: (spoken) **Remember us, O God.**

Pastor: As dust we are and to dust we shall return, we are reminded of our mortality and the wages of sin. Grant us this season and always to live a repentant life in humility and faith. Give us strength to resist temptation and that we all turn from false gods in wealth, possessions, and worldly success. Point us in our times of guilt and shame to Calvary and to Christ who alone gives the forgiveness of sins, peace, and hope all our days.

Equip us and sustain us that we have the strength and compassion to be agents of Your presence by our love toward our neighbors.

People: (spoken) **Remember us, O God.**

Pastor: We lift up to You all who are broken in spirit, suffering in body, and challenged in the wellbeing of the mind. We bring before You those who request our prayers, . . . For all whose difficulties are known only to You, be their peace and comfort in times of trial that they may be kept in hope and faith.

People: (spoken) **Remember us, O God.**

Pastor: That we, with Jacob, Rachel, Joseph, and all the saints who have been remembered in faith and gone before us, may trust in Your strong name and find eternal joy in You.

People: (spoken) **Remember us, O God.**

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

(Please stand)

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

People: (spoken) **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

People: (spoken) **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalm 136*

People: (spoken) **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: 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 singing:

SANCTUS (Sing) *LSB 195*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth

Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory

Hosanna Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is He

Blessed is He

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord

Hosanna, Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: 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.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: 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 ✠ 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”***

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*)

All: 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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

""I Lay My Sins on Jesus" *LSB 606*

**I lay my sins on Jesus
The spotless Lamb of God
He bears them all and frees us
From the accursed load
I bring my guilt to Jesus
To wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious
Till not a spot remains**

**I lay my wants on Jesus
All fullness dwells in Him
He heals all my diseases
My soul He does redeem
I lay my griefs on Jesus
My burdens and my cares
He from them all releases
He all my sorrows shares**

I rest my soul on Jesus
This weary soul of mine
His right hand me embraces
I on His breast recline
I love the name of Jesus
Immanuel, Christ, the Lord
Like fragrance on the breezes
His name abroad is poured

(Please stand)

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to
life everlasting.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: 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.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

CLOSING PRAYER *Luther's Evening Prayer*

People: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

CLOSING SENTENCES

Pastor: In this Lenten season, we journey with Joseph in Genesis

People: and come to the cross of Christ on Calvary.

Pastor: God remembered Rachel and gave to her Joseph.

People: God has remembered us in Jesus, His Son.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: (spoken) Amen.

HYMN

“Abide With Me” LSB 878 vs 1, 2 & 6

**Abide with me fast falls the eventide
The darkness deepens Lord with me abide
When other helpers fail and comforts flee
Help of the helpless O abide with me**

**I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, o abide with me**

**Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee
In life in death O Lord abide with me**

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor

Marie Brown, Organist

Frank Pignanelli, Elder

Laurie Pignanelli, Reader

Bill Switter, David Brown, & Kathy King, Ushers