

WATER OF LIFE

LUTHERAN CHURCH



Ash

WEDNESDAY

Promised Treasures: Sitting in Dust & Ashes

FEBRUARY 22, 2023 | 7 PM

WATER OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
ASH WEDNESDAY
PROMISED TREASURES: SITTING IN DUST & ASHES

FEBRUARY 22, 2023 | 7 PM

PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL ✝ SEEK THE THIRSTY ✝ TEACH THE WORD

✝ *Welcome!* ✝

IF YOU ARE VISITING TODAY, please fill out a Connection Card so we may get to know you better. Cards may be completed by scanning this QR code.



PRAYER REQUESTS can be submitted via the Connection Card, and WOL members can also update their contact information.

✝ *As We Gather* ✝

Lent begins with ashes. The wearing of ashes on our forehead may seem like an unusual tradition, but it is rich with meaning. From the earliest days, God's children have repented before Him in sackcloth and ashes, a visual reflection of their hearts turning to Him for forgiveness and restoration. Fixing our eyes on Jesus during the forty-day season of Lent, we journey with Him to Calvary's cross where, enduring the "ashes" of our sins and the penalty they deserve, He grants to us the beauty of His forgiveness, full and free. Let us be renewed in our hearts and minds this day as we gather in the Lord's house. His Word will show us our great need for His saving love and deliver to us the treasures He has promised.

✝ *Preparation* ✝

OPENING HYMN

O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

LSB 418



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.

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

2 Cor. 5:21, alt.; Isaiah 53:5

P For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin,

C **So that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.**

P But He was wounded for our transgressions;

C **He was crushed for our iniquities;**

P Upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,

C **And with His stripes we are healed.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Based on Philippians 2:1-11

P Lord Jesus, search our hearts and minds that we may receive Your Word, share in Your Spirit, and be renewed in our relationships with You and with one another.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P With humble hearts, let us pray together:

C **Lord Jesus, the Father's only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, hear us as we pray.**

P You endured the dust and the ashes, the nails, and the spear. By Your suffering and death, You bore in Your body the punishment our deeds deserve.

C **Our rebellion against You in thought, word, and action is why You died for us—**

P To forgive our sins, to redeem our lives, and to cancel the debt we owe to God.

C With hearts that are humble and lives ever grateful, help us to receive Your grace, bow before You in worship, and confess that You alone are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

P Almighty God our heavenly Father shows His mercy to us in the sending of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who endured the "ashes" of Calvary's cross so that we are given remission of all our sins, full and free. 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.

C Amen.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

P We are indeed forgiven in Christ. Still, in this world, we suffer the wages of sin, which is death. We endure pain, disease, and grief. Today we receive the mark of the cross upon us in the form of ashes. These ashes remind us that we are merely dust and ashes, that when we die, our bodies will return to dust and ashes. But the sign of the cross reminds us that dust and ashes are not the end for us. When Jesus returns, He will raise us from the dead, and we will live forever with Him in the new creation.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

(Those who desire to receive the mark of ashes may come forward and stand before the pastor. The pastor applies the ashes in the shape of the cross to the forehead or hand while saying to each person, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The penitent responds, "Amen.")

IMPOSITION HYMN

Savior, When in Dust to Thee

LSB 419



1 Sav - ior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the a -
2 By Thy help - less in - fant years, By Thy life of
3 By Thine hour of dire de - spair, By Thine ag - o -
4 By Thy deep ex - pir - ing groan, By the sad se -



dor - ing knee; When, re - pen - tant, to the skies
want and tears, By Thy days of deep dis - tress
ny of prayer, By the cross, the nail, the thorn,
pul - chral stone, By the vault whose dark a - bode



Scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes; O, by all Thy
 In the sav - age wil - der - ness, By the dread, mys -
 Pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn, By the gloom that
 Held in vain the ris - ing God, O, from earth to



pains and woe Suf - fered once for us be - low, Bend - ing
 te - rious hour Of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r, Turn, O
 veiled the skies O'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice, Lis - ten
 heav'n re - stored, Might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord, Bend - ing



from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 turn a fa - v'ring eye; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 to our hum - ble sigh; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

✠ Service of the Word ✠

KYRIE

P Lord, have mercy.

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

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **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. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Job 30:11-19

- ¹¹Because God has loosed my cord and humbled me,
they have cast off restraint in my presence.
- ¹²On my right hand the rabble rise; they push away my feet;
they cast up against me their ways of destruction.
- ¹³They break up my path; they promote my calamity;
they need no one to help them.
- ¹⁴As through a wide breach they come;
amid the crash they roll on.
- ¹⁵Terrors are turned upon me; my honor is pursued as by the wind,
and my prosperity has passed away like a cloud.
- ¹⁶“And now my soul is poured out within me;
days of affliction have taken hold of me.
- ¹⁷The night racks my bones,
and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest.
- ¹⁸With great force my garment is disfigured;
it binds me about like the collar of my tunic.
- ¹⁹God has cast me into the mire,
and I have become like dust and ashes.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

2 Corinthians 5:16—6:2

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard Him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore 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}Working together with Him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For 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.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Joel 2:13b

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:20-30

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁰Then He began to denounce the cities where most of His mighty works had been done, because they did not repent. ²¹"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²²But I tell you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ²³And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You will be brought down to Hades. For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. ²⁴But I tell you that it will be more tolerable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom than for you."

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was Your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him. ²⁸Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

NICENE CREED

**ALL 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.**

SERMON HYMN

Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing

LSB 421



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing In Your ho - ly
2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion Fas - ci - nate my
3 If the world my heart en - tic - es With the broad and
4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me By Your wounds, Lord,
5 O my God, my rock and tow - er, Grant that in Your



wounds I find, Ev - 'ry hour that I am feel - ing Pains of
sin - ful mind, Draw me to Your cross and pas - sion, And new
eas - y road, With se - duc - tive, sin - ful vi - ces, Let me
is made whole; When I'm faint, Your cross re - vives me, Grant - ing
death I trust, Know - ing death has lost its pow - er Since You



bod - y and of mind. Should some e - vil thought with - in
cour - age I shall find. Or should Sa - tan press me hard,
weigh the aw - ful load You were will - ing to en - dure.
new life to my soul. Yes, Your com - fort ren - ders sweet
crushed it in the dust. Sav - ior, let Your ag - o - ny



Tempt my treach - 'rous heart to sin, Show the per - il, and from
Let me then be on my guard, Say - ing, "Christ for me was
Help me flee all thoughts im - pure And to mas - ter each temp -
Ev - 'ry bit - ter cup I meet; For Your all - a - ton - ing
Ev - er help and com - fort me; When I die be my pro -



sin - ning Keep me from its first be - gin - ning.
wound - ed," That the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.
ta - tion, Calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.
pas - sion Has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.
tec - tion, Light and life and res - ur - rec - tion.

SERMON

Promised Treasures: Sitting in Dust and Ashes

Rev. Shawn Deterding

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for blessing us with the opportunity to meditate again on the cross of Christ and receive Your promised treasures.

C **Grant that the message of the Lamb of God slain for our salvation bring us the riches of Your pardon and peace.**

P Lead us to see that our sins caused Jesus' great agony in the garden, that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary,

C **That He was forsaken by His Father so that we might never be forsaken, and that He died so that we may live.**

P Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who come to You in repentance and faith.

C **Create in us clean hearts to receive from You the promised treasures of Your mercy and forgiveness.**

P Holy Spirit, lift up troubled souls everywhere. Grant wholeness to those hurting in heart, body, and mind. Work Your healing power in the lives of those in need, and in the lives of all we name before You in our hearts.

C **All glory, honor, and praise be to You, with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Psalm 136

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 hearts cleansed from the ashes of our sin, we might joyfully receive the promised treasures of His body and blood in the feast He has prepared. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

C Holy, holy, holy 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.

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 promised treasure of salvation accomplished for us by the life-giving 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 Holy Spirit. In the fellowship of His Table, we are blessed to receive Christ's forgiveness as He exchanges the ashes of our sin for His perfect righteousness. 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Ensemble

A. Malotte/arr. K. Christopher

Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

C Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the world's sin,
has mercy on us, and grants us His peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION ~ Welcome to the Lord's table.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

LSB 563



1 Je - sus, Thy blood and righ - teous - ness My beau - ty
2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and re -
3 Lord, I be - lieve Thy pre - cious blood, Which at the
4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more Than sands up -



are, my glo - rious dress; Midst flam - ing worlds, in
deemed, no debt to pay; Ful - ly ab - solved through
mer - cy seat of God Pleads for the cap - tives'
on the o - cean shore, Thou hast for all a



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
lib - er - ty, Was al - so shed in love for me.
ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.

5 When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea:
Jesus hath lived and died for me.

6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P O God the Father, who in love and mercy sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that You have given us pardon and peace in this Supper. Grant us the faith to always trust that because of Your Son's death and resurrection, You have taken the ashes of our sin and given us the beauty of Your forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

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 ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

LSB 423



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.



Adapted from Promised Treasures, Creative Worship Service, © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. Scripture quotations, unless noted otherwise, are taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. All rights reserved. Used by permission. "The Lord's Prayer" by Albert May Malotte, arr. By Keith Christopher, © 1935 (Renewed) by G. Schirmer, Inc. Hymns are public domain.

Lenten Worship Schedule ~ Join us each week!

Wednesday, MARCH 1

6 PM – Fellowship Meal (Mexican theme)

7 PM – Promised Treasures – *Salt: The Gift that Sweetens and Preserves*

Wednesday, MARCH 8

6 PM – Fellowship Meal (Sandwiches & Sides)

7 PM – Promised Treasures – *Water Gives You Life*

Wednesday, MARCH 15

6 PM – Fellowship Meal (Italian theme)

7 PM – Promised Treasures – *Light Shining in the Darkness*

Wednesday, MARCH 22

6 PM – Fellowship Meal (Soups & Salads)

7 PM – Promised Treasures – *Bread of Life*

Wednesday, MARCH 29

6 PM – Fellowship Meal (Potluck)

7 PM – Promised Treasures – *Palms & Victory*

