



*Ash Wednesday*  
*March 2, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.*  
*Lutheran Book of Worship*

***Prelude***

***Welcome and Notices***

***Psalm 51:1-17 (Read responsively)***

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

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through from my  
wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

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

<sup>4</sup>**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.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

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

<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 sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

<sup>13</sup>Let me teach your ways to offenders,  
and sinners shall be restored to you.

**<sup>14</sup>Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**<sup>16</sup>For you take no delight in sacrifice or I would give it. You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;  
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise

### ***Prayer of the Day***

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **The Reading of God's Word**

#### ***First Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 (Read by Worship Assistant)***

<sup>1</sup>Blow 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—  
<sup>2</sup>a 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.

<sup>12</sup>Yet even now, says the LORD,  
return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
<sup>13</sup>rend 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.

<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;  
sanctify a fast;  
call a solemn assembly;  
<sup>16</sup>gather 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.

<sup>17</sup>Between 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?'"

*Word of God, Word of Life*  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10 (read by Worship Assistant)**

<sup>20b</sup>We entreat 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>6:1</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For 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! <sup>3</sup>We are putting 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 have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

*Word of God, Word of Life*  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**Gospel Reading**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.



Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“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.

<sup>2</sup>“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. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup>“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. <sup>6</sup>But 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.

<sup>16</sup>“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. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>so 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.

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

(At the conclusion of the reading, the minister says: **The Gospel of the Lord.**)



(Please be seated.)

## Sermon

### Hymn “O Lord throughout these Forty Days”

LBW # 99

- 1 O Lord, throughout these forty days  
you prayed and kept the fast;  
inspire repentance for our sin,  
and free us from our past.
- 2 You strove with Satan, and you won;  
your faithfulness endured;  
lend us your nerve, your skill and trust  
in God’s eternal word.
- 3 Though parched and hungry, yet you prayed  
and fixed your mind above;  
so teach us to deny ourselves  
that we may know God’s love.
- 4 Be with us through this season, Lord,  
and all our earthly days,  
that when the final Easter dawns,  
we join in heaven’s praise.

### ***Invitation to Lent***

Brothers & sisters: God created us to experience joy in communion with God, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all of God's creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. Also, by our sin we grieve God, who does not desire us to come under judgment, but to turn to God and live.

As disciples of the Lord Jesus we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love – the discipline of Lent – help us to wage our spiritual warfare. I invite you, therefore, to commit yourselves to this struggle and confess your sins, asking God for strength to persevere in your Lenten discipline.

**Amen.**

### ***Confession of Sin***

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

Most holy and merciful God,

**we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, 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, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

*(Please be seated)*

***Imposition of Ashes***

All are invited to come forward and receive ashes. Pastor will mark your forehead.

“Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return”

**Hymn: “My Song Is Love Unknown”**

**LBW #94**

- 1 My song is love unknown,  
my Savior’s love to me,  
love to the loveless shown,  
that they might lovely be.  
Oh, who am I, that for my sake  
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?  
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?
- 2 He came from his blest throne,  
salvation to bestow;  
but men made strange, and none  
the longed-for Christ would know.  
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed,  
who at my need his life did spend;  
who at my need his life did spend!
- 3 Sometimes they strew his way  
and his sweet praises sing;  
resounding all the day  
hosannas to their King.  
Then “Crucify!” is all their breath,  
and for his death they thirst and cry,  
and for his death they thirst and cry.
- 4 Why, what hath my Lord done?  
What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run,  
he gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these  
themselves displease, and ’gainst him rise;  
themselves displease, and ’gainst him rise.

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,  
**that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,  
**bring us with all your saints to the joy of his  
resurrection.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life.

**Amen.**

### ***Prayers of Intercession***

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Renew your church, O God. When we have drifted from our call to proclaim repentance and to guide your people toward justice, lead us back to you. Encourage believers who hold the church's doors open to those who have felt excluded. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Renew your creation, O God. Transform parched places into watered gardens and preserve every creature that awaits the arrival of spring. Turn each of us from practices of environmental exploitation to become responsible stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Renew our civic life, O God. Teach those in authority to advocate for the liberation of all who are oppressed and grant them courage to make difficult decisions. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Renew our lives, O God. Spare your people from diseases of the body, mind, or spirit and send healing to those overcome by illness or grief especially those affected by the pandemic and all those we name out loud or in our hearts at this time (pause). Restore to us the joy of your salvation. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Renew this congregation, O God. During these forty days of Lent, confirm our sense of mission and expand our imagination for ministry. Deepen our faith, increase our love, and draw us into your unfolding work of healing and restoration. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

As we mark ashes on our foreheads, we give you praise, O God, for all the saints who died and yet are alive with you (*especially John Wesley and Charles Wesley, whom we commemorate today*). Receive us with them into your eternal embrace. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Renew peace between nations. Ease distrust and suspicions that increase tension between peoples. Stem the desires for power and wealth that escalate conflict. We pray especially for war-torn Ukraine. Merciful God,

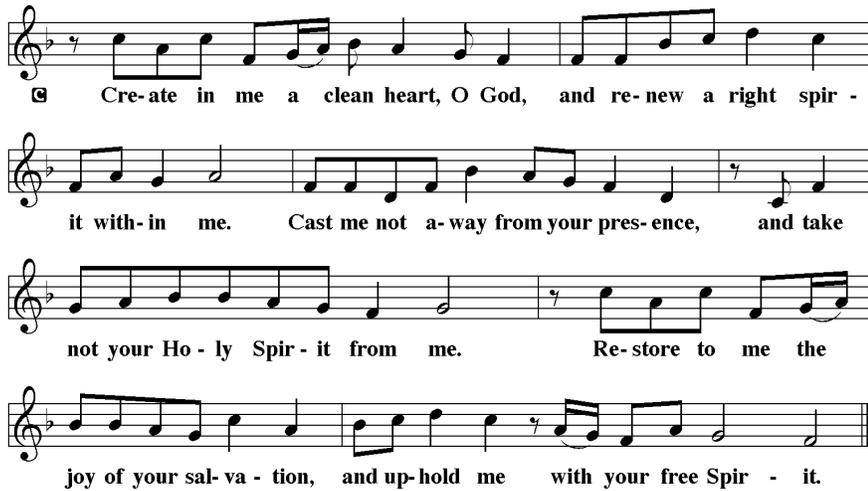
**receive our prayer**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

### ***The Offering***

#### ***The Offertory***



☩ Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -  
 it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
 not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the  
 joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

*Offertory Prayer*

**Let us pray... Extravagant God,**  
**you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.**  
**Now we gather at your feast**  
**where you offer us the food that satisfies.**  
**Take and use what we offer here, come among us,**  
**and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,**  
**in whose name we pray. Amen.**

*The Communion*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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:



☩ 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.

### ***Words of Institution***

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With all your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**Amen.**

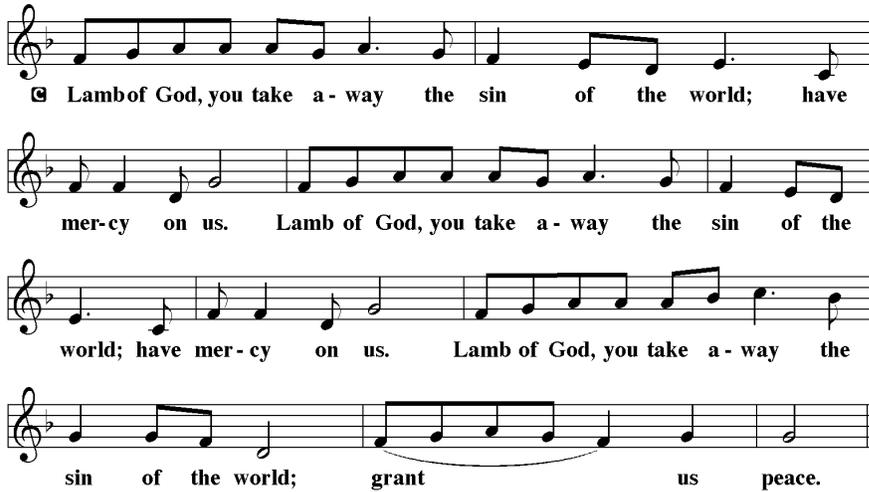
### ***The Lord's Prayer***

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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*



☩ 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.

***Distribution***

***The Prayer***

Let us pray. Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

***The Blessing***

You are children of God,  
anointed with the oil of gladness  
and strengthened for the journey.  
Almighty God,  
motherly, majestic, and mighty,  
☩ bless you this day and always.

**Amen.**

***Hymn "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" LBW #104***

- 1 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.
- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
never shall the cross forsake me;  
lo, it glows with peace and joy.
- 3 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.

- 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.

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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**OUR MISSION - FAITHFUL IN THE WORD**

- + To **gather** as God’s people and nurture one another
- + To **know** the Word of God
- + To **grow** in faith, love, and service
- + To **go** into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ



**SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY**

Pastor  
Music Director  
Worship Assistant

The Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen  
Michael Dettra  
John Flint

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The Altar Flowers are presented by Janice Hoffmann in memory of father, Howard Bobb.



**MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES**

Prayer is the theme for worship this season of Lent. Prayer is about talking with God. It is also about listening to God and opening ourselves up to God. This year’s mid-week Lenten worship services are a worship series called “Open My Life, Lord”. Service will be held in person and online this year Wednesday evenings at 7:00PM, March 9<sup>th</sup> through April

6<sup>th</sup>. <https://www.google.com/url?q=https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82926096221?pwd%3DbDd2NkdmVUxZOFOQ2VUZXR3p1OWQvdz09&sa=D&source=calendar&usd=2&usg=AOvVaw10FPz17WY0xAuc5ppS16-N>



**MID WEEK LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS**

Gather at church during the season of Lent for soup and fellowship before the mid week Lenten worship service. The Soup Suppers will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the social hall on Wednesdays, March 9<sup>th</sup> through April 6<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up at church to bring soup, bread or drinks. Please contact Gail Oines with any questions or concerns 215-534-8218.