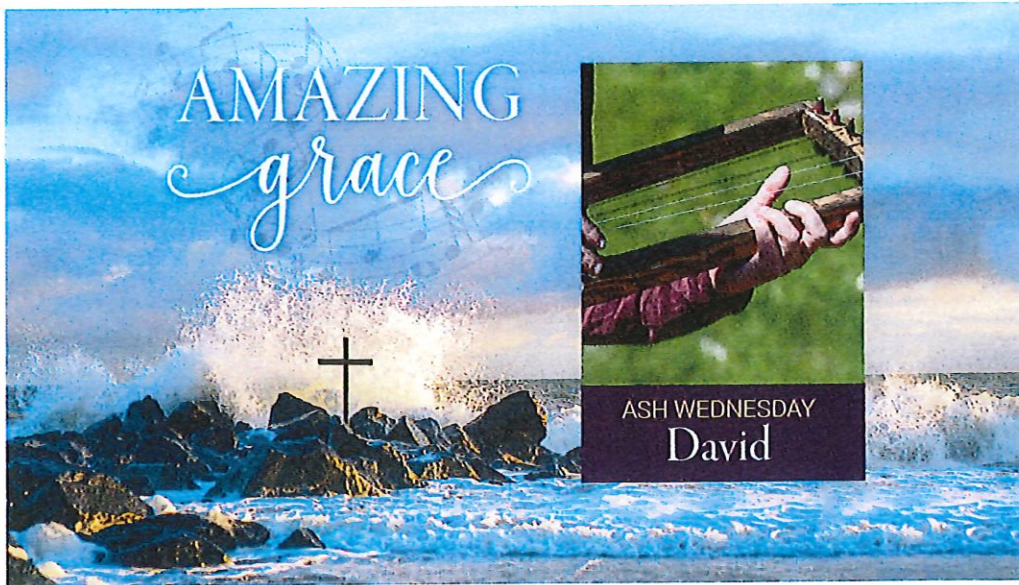


Ash Wednesday Service - February 22, 2023

7:30 PM



AS WE GATHER

Welcome to our Amazing Grace series for Lent. In this Ash Wednesday service, which includes the Imposition of Ashes, we will focus on the amazing grace of God King David experienced when he confessed his sins and was forgiven. We experience that same amazing grace of God in confession and forgiveness this Lent as we look toward the cross of Christ that made our freedom from sin possible.

ADDRESS TO THE CONGREGATION

Dear brothers and sisters in 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 prayer, special devotion to acts of service, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on God's Word and draws from it life and hope. The next 40 days are a time for introspection for the whole Body of Christ as we prepare to celebrate our Lord's resurrection. It's a time to do some internal house cleaning. So today, let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His one and only Son through 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.

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“I lay My Sins on Jesus”

LSB 606 verses 1-3



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;



He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.
He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.
His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.
He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.
Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

Pastor: King David sinned against the Lord, committing adultery and murder. When he was confronted by the prophet Nathan, the king repented of his sins. In the Spirit-inspired words of a psalm, David expressed his sorrow over his sins and his trust in God’s mercy: “Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.” God, in his grace, forgave the repentant king. As we begin our Lenten journey on this Ash Wednesday, we repent of our sins and, using the words of David’s psalm, we seek God’s amazing grace and ask him to have mercy on us.

People: **“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. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight ... Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities” (Psalm 51:1-4, 9).**

Pastor: Just as he did in the life of his servant David, God has showered us with his grace, his undeserved favor for sinners. God sent his Son into the world to be our Savior. On the cross Jesus took onto himself the penalty of death that we deserved for our sins and now those sins are washed away in his blood. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

People: **“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” (Psalm 51:10-12).**

PREPARATION Confession and Imposition of Ashes

Pastor: O Lord, who did come to call sinners to repentance,

People: **Call sinners still that they may return to You and live.**

Pastor: Be merciful to sinners who have nowhere to hide from Your wrath;

People: **Who have not loved You above all things nor have loved their neighbors as themselves.**

Pastor: Soften the hearts of the impenitent;

People: **Restore those who have fallen away.**

Pastor: Set free the sinner from his guilt and shame;

People: **Bring into Your light all that is hidden that You may forgive us sinners.**

Pastor: We have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep.

People: **We have followed the desires of our hearts and offended against Your law.**

Pastor: We have done those things which You forbid

People: **And we have not done the good which You command.**

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Spare us sinners, who confess to You our faults.**

Pastor: Restore the penitent according to Your promise;

People: **Grant to us full pardon and remission of all our sins**

Pastor: For the sake of Jesus Christ and for His merits alone.
People: **Look not upon our unworthiness but upon Christ our Savior.**

Pastor: Fill us with the grace of Your Holy Spirit
People: **That we may repent of our sins and amend our sinful ways.**

Pastor: Return to the Lord, Your God, for He is gracious and merciful;
People: **Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Pastor: Dust you are and to dust You shall return;
People: **But even in ashes and dust we have hope in Christ.**

Pastor: As you believe, so let it be. 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. Go and sin no more.
People: **Amen.**

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Pastor: Let us pray: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Bless these ashes and those who receive them. May this sign of our mortality and penitence remind us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
People: **Amen.**

Those who desire to receive ashes may come forward. Ashes are applied with the words: "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return."



[As the people come forward for the imposition of ashes, the congregation sings the hymn. The ashes are a sign of repentance, and the people are marked with the sign of the cross as a sign of the hope that is ours in Christ Jesus.]

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!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray . . . Almighty God, you showed grace and mercy to your servant David, granting him forgiveness. According to your perfect plan, David the king became an ancestor of a greater King, the Savior called the Son of David, Jesus the Messiah. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we too know and experience your amazing grace. During this season of Lent, lead us to true repentance and renew your Spirit within us that we might serve you by sharing your love with others and living as witnesses to Jesus' love. Hear our prayer in Jesus' name.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 12:1-13

And the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds, but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. And he brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children. It used to eat of his morsel and drink from his cup and lie in his arms, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity." Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your

wife.' Thus says the LORD, 'Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house. And I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun.'" David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks Be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 51 (spoken responsively)

Pastor: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

People: **according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

Pastor: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

People: **For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.**

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.

Pastor: Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

People: **Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being, and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

Pastor: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

People: **Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. 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.**

Pastor: Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will return to You.
People: **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.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:8-18

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the Fifteenth chapter.

People: **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

SERMON “Humbled By Grace”

Pastor Scott Henze

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Almighty God, we praise you for the grace displayed in the life of your servant King David. Through David’s descendant and greater Son, Jesus Christ our King, you fulfilled your promise to bring us life and salvation. Gracious Lord,

People: **Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Almighty God, we pray that you will, by the power of your Spirit, lead us to true repentance. As we follow our Lord on his path to the cross, help us to see that it was our sins for which Jesus suffered and died. Gracious Lord,

People: **Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Almighty God, during Lent and beyond this holy season, we pray that, with the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit, we might bear fruit in keeping with repentance. We want to glorify you each day in our thoughts, words and actions. Gracious Lord,

People: Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, we pray that you would bring help and comfort to those who are ill and suffering in body, mind or spirit. According to your gracious will, grant comfort and healing to them. Help them to find hope and joy in the promises of your Word. Gracious Lord,

People: Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, by the power of your Spirit, help us to be bold in our witness for our Savior. We pray that through our acts of love and service and through our words of witness that, by your grace, others will come to know and worship Jesus as Lord and Savior. Gracious Lord,

People: Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Pastor: Amen.

OFFERING

HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up Your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

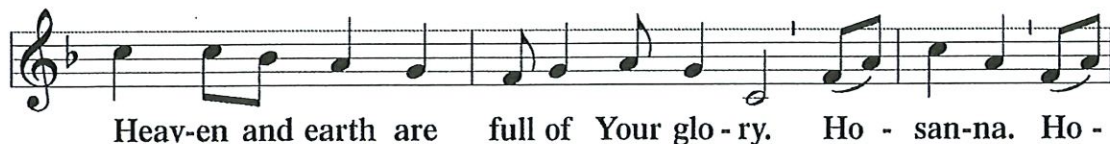
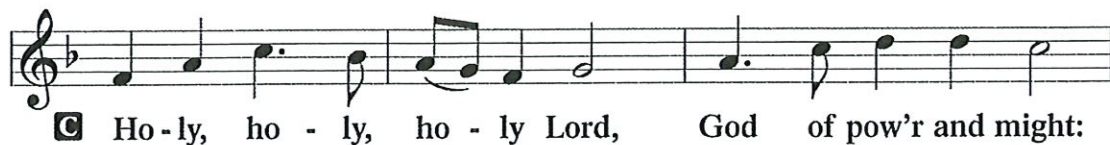
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is good and right that we should at all times and in all places give You thanks and praise through Jesus Christ whom You sent to be our Savior and Redeemer. By His death upon the cross He has paid the cost of our redemption, and through His wounds we are healed. 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

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



LORD'S PRAYER

People: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

PAX DOMINI

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

"Lamb of God"

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have

sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y

sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.

Refrain
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!

O wash me in His pre - cious blood, My Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Not All the Blood of Beasts"

LSB 431



1 Not all the blood of beasts On Jew - ish al - tars slain
2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, Takes all our sins a - way;
3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,
4 My soul looks back to see The bur - den Thou didst bear
5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice To see the curse re - move;



Could give the guilt - y con - science peace Or wash a - way the stain.
A sac - ri - fice of no - bler name And rich - er blood than they.
While as a pen - i - tent I stand, And there con - fess my sin.
When hang - ing on the curs - ed tree; I know my guilt was there.
We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful voice And sing His bleed - ing love.



"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.

PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray: Heavenly Father, we give You thanks that Your Son has prepared a place for us where fears release, where our conscience is cleansed, where our hearts rest, and where we know fully Your peace. Give us this blessed assurance that no one and nothing can steal us from You, and fill our hearts with the desire to abide in Your presence always, now through this Passover fulfilled in the Holy Communion and then in the eternal Passover prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

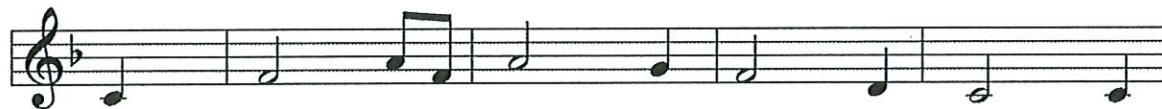
People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

HYMN

“Amazing Grace”

LSB 744, verses 1–3



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me



now am found, Was blind but now I see!
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.

All worshipers are asked to depart in silence.