

GUIDED
to the
CROSS

Ash Wednesday
GUIDED TO FORGIVENESS

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February 14, 2024

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:13-14

AS WE GATHER

In this service for Ash Wednesday, we are drawn to Calvary to receive forgiveness. In word and song, we contemplate how to live lives of forgiving one another as we have been forgiven by Christ through the cross.

Opening Hymn "I Lay My Sins on Jesus" LSB 606 Vss 1&3



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;
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.
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 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.
Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

Invocation and Call to Repentance

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

C **Amen.**

P In ancient times, people might display their sorrow over sin by scattering dust and ashes on their heads, a reminder that in Eden, God decreed death as the penalty for sin: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19). Yet God also promised that a Savior would come to destroy the power of the tempting serpent who had brought sin and death into God's creation. In his suffering, the inspired prophet Job spoke of his trust in the Lord's promise: "I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth" (Job 19:25). Confident in his Redeemer's love, Job confessed his sins, "I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes" (Job 42:6). Remembering that the promised Savior, Jesus our Redeemer, shed his blood on the cross for us, we take onto ourselves a mark of repentance. You are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive the mark of ashes, a reminder that we, like Job, repent in dust and ashes.

The Imposition of Ashes

(Participants are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive a mark of ashes.)





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!

Confession and Forgiveness (Psalm 51:1-2, 9-10, 12)

P Having received the symbol of repentance, let us confess our sins to God our Savior, using the words of the psalmist David.

C **“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!...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.”**

P God has had mercy on us, and for the sake of Christ Jesus our Redeemer, he has forgiven our sins. 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.

C **“Restore to me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with a willing spirit!”**

Prayer of the Day

P Heavenly Father, although we are all too aware of our sins and failures, we repent with humble confidence, knowing that Jesus shed his blood on the cross for us. By your grace, your undeserved favor for sinners, you have brought us out of the domain of sin and transferred us into the kingdom of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we have forgiveness for our sins. Lead us by your Spirit to walk in love as Jesus walked, and to bear witness to the fact that our Redeemer lives! Hear our prayer, and accept our praise in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 103:11-14

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

Epistle Reading

Colossians 1:9-14

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:33-34

And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.

Sermon Hymn

“Lord Jesus, Think on Me” LSB 610 Vss 1,2,4



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me And purge a - way my sin;
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, By anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me Nor let me go a - stray;



From world - ly pas - sions set me free And make me pure with - in.
Let me Your lov - ing ser - vant be And taste Your prom - ised rest.
Through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty Point out Your cho - sen way.

Sermon

“Guided to Forgiveness”

Pastor Scott Henze

Prayers of the Church

Each petition ends with the following response:

P Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

P Lord and Savior, we begin this season of Lent marked with the ashes of repentance. As we remember your suffering and death for us, we trust in your steadfast love and look to you for mercy and forgiveness. Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

P Lord and Savior, through your death and resurrection, we have been delivered from the domain of sin and death. By grace through faith in your holy name, we have been brought into your kingdom. Our sins are washed away in your blood, and we have forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C Have mercy on us, and hear our prayer.

P Lord and Savior, we pray for those who are suffering in ashes of grief and loss, of illness and sorrow. Comfort them through the promises of your holy Word, and lead us to encourage them in love. Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

P Lord and Savior, you prayed for forgiveness for those who nailed you to the cross. As you have forgiven us, lead us by your Spirit to forgive others as we have been forgiven and to walk in love as you did. Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

P Lord and Savior, through these 40 days, we will remember your suffering and death for us. As we praise you for your saving love, we look forward with joy to the celebration of your resurrection on Easter morning. When you return on the Last Day, we too will be raised as you were raised, and we will receive the crown of life. Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

P Amen.

Offering

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also 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.**



Proper Preface

P 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

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

The Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.

Words of Institution

The Peace of the Lord

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Agnus Dei

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(The congregation and minister may greet each other with the peace of the Lord)

Distribution Hymns "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.

“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.

Closing of the Table

The Blessing

(Colossians 1:12-14; Numbers 6:24-26)

- P We give thanks to God the Father, “who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.
- C He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”**
- P The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.
- C Amen.**

Closing Hymn

"Jesus Sinners Doth Receive" LSB 609 sts 1,2,4



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
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;
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;

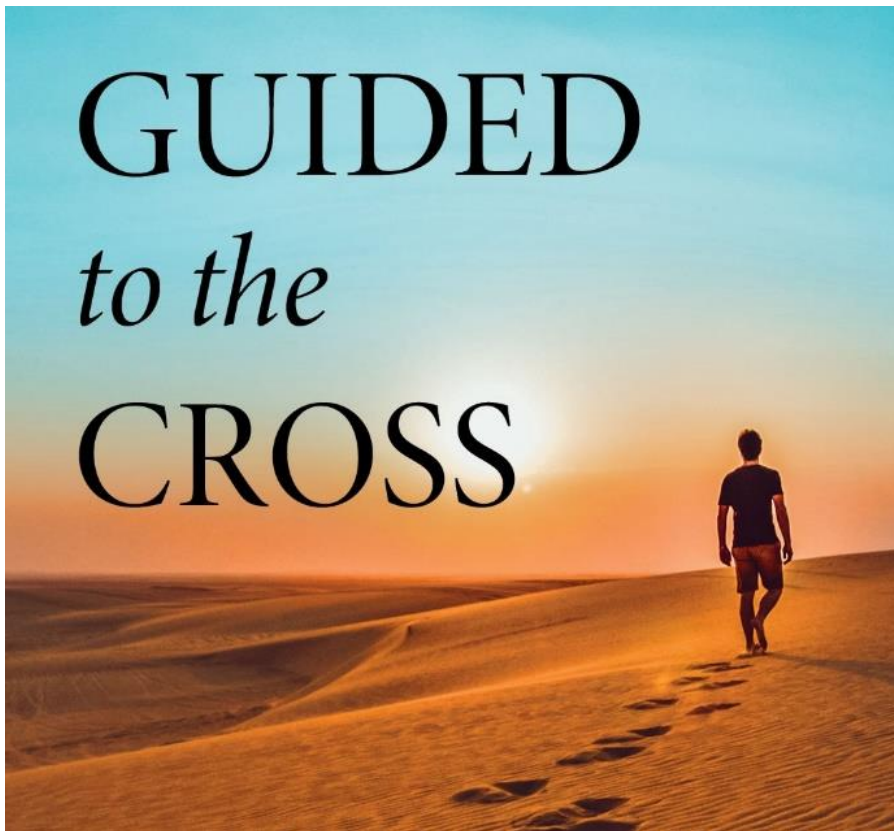


And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for
Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these
Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

Midweek Lenten Worship Schedule



Wednesday Evenings at 7:30 PM

Midweek Lent 1	February 21	Guided to Hope
Midweek Lent 2	February 28	Guided to Love
Midweek Lent 3	March 6	Guided to Peace
Midweek Lent 4	March 13	Guided to Trust
Midweek Lent 5	March 20	Guided to Perseverance



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Call the church office at 954-384-9096 if you or someone you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School for children and youth: 9:45 AM

Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM



Website and online