

Ash Wednesday
February 18, 2026
6:30 AM & 12:00 PM



Remembrance of Baptism

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptisms.

P In the name of the Father, and of the (T) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Address to Congregation

Silence for Meditation and Self-Examination

Service of Confession and Imposition of Ashes

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God, holy and mighty, holy, and immortal,
C Have mercy on us.

P For self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness, for reluctance in sharing the gifts of God, and for carelessness with the fruits of creation, for longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest within ourselves:

C Holy God, holy and mighty, holy, and immortal, have mercy on us.

P For misuse of human relationships, and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others, for hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm, for jealousies that divide families and nations, and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:

C Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

P For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ, and for squandering the gifts of Christ's love and grace:

C Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

P 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.



Imposition of Ashes

P 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.

C 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."

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

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

P 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.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P 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 contrite hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may obtain from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



Epistle

Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Meditation

Pastor Scott Henze

A word about communion: *The usher will release you from the center aisle. You will receive the bread from Pastor. After receiving the bread simply move to the lay minister who will offer you the wine in an individual cup. Move further to the side to take the wine and then dispose of the cup in the basket. Please return to your seat by the side aisle.*

Great Thanksgiving

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.

Words of Institution

Eucharistic Prayer

P For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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



The Lord's Prayer

P 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.

No hymns will be sung during communion.

Distribution

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray: God of our pilgrimage, in this meal you nourish us with the gifts of faith and hope. Sustain us on our journey, that refreshed by your grace, we may reach the promised land, the Easter feast of victory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Benediction

Dismissal

***Offering plate is in the back of the church.
All worshipers are asked to depart in silence.***

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St. Paul Lutheran Church & Pre-School

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School for children and youth at 9:45 AM

Adult Bible Study at 10:00 AM in rooms 201/202

