

Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2023



Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Beulah, North Dakota

† PREPARATION †

Opening Hymn # 420 (st. 1-4) “Christ, the Life of All the Living”

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Opening Sentences

Corinthians 5:21, alt.; Isaiah 53:5

For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin,
so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.
But He was wounded for our transgressions;
He was crushed for our iniquities;
upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with His stripes we are healed.

Confession and Absolution

Based on Philippians 2:1-11

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.

We observe a moment of silence for personal prayers of confession.

With humble hearts, let us pray together:

Lord Jesus, the Father’s only Son, the King of kings and Lord of Lords, hear us as we pray.

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.

Our rebellion against You in thought, word, and actions is why You died for us—

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

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.

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.

Amen.

Imposition of Ashes

As each person comes forward, the pastor makes the sign of the cross on his or her forehead with ashes, saying: “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” During the imposition, the congregation sings # 609, “Jesus Sinners Doth Receive,”

† WORD †

Salutation

The Lord be with you,
And also with you.

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You exchanged the ashes of our sin for the beauty of Your holiness when You died and rose again for us.

Renew our hearts and minds during this Lenten season as we receive the promised treasures of Your Word;

for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Job 30:11-19

This is the Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:16-6:2

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Verse

Joel 2:13b

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.
Glory to You, O Lord.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostle's Creed

Inside back cover of hymnal

Hymn # 421

“Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing”

Sermon

Sitting in Dust and Ashes

Offering

Prayer

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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, [especially . . .] and in the lives of all we name before You in our hearts.

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

Lord's Prayer

Inside back cover of hymnal

Benediction

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.

Amen.

Hymn # 420 (st. 5-7) "Christ, the Life of All the Living"



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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