

Passing of the Peace:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always C: **And also with you**

Offering: *You are invited to place offering in the plates provided in the narthex or give online. St. Luke thanks you for your gifts.*

Offertory Prayer: P: Let us pray,

C: **God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer: 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.

The Meal & Hymns: *"Just As I Am, without One Plea"* #592

Verse 1: Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Verse 2: Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Verse 3: Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come,

Verse 4: Just as I am; thy love unknown has broken ev'ry barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

"Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross" #335

Verse 1: Jesus, keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain;
free to all, a healing stream flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

Refrain: In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever; till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Verse 2: Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;
there the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me. [Refrain]

Verse 3: Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me. [Refrain]

Verse 4: Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river. [Refrain]

"Jesus Remember Me" 2X #616

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Post Communion Prayer: P: Let us pray.

C: **Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Blessing: *(stand as you are able)* P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, & Holy Spirit, bless you now & forever. C: **Amen**

Dismissal: P: God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *(The assembly leaves in silence)*

St. Luke Lutheran Church · 308 First Ave. PO Box 276 Goodhue, MN 55027
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Faith Formation Facilitator: Michelle Matthees · Treasurer: Sara Nolte



St. Luke Lutheran Church · Pastor Eric Hanson March 2, 2022 · 6:45PM Ash Wednesday Worship

Prelude *(The assembly gathers in reflective silence.)*

Debbi St. John, Pianist/Organist

Greeting: *(Please stand as you are able)*

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day: P: Let us Pray,

C: **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**

First Reading *(you may be seated):* Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

¹Blow 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— ²a 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. ¹²Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³rend 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. ¹⁴Who 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? ¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather 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. ¹⁷Between 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?'"

Responsive Reading: Psalm 51:1-17

L: ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

C: ²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

L: ³For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

C: ⁴**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.**

L: ⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

C: ⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

L: ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

C: ⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

L: ⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

C: ¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

L: ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

C: ¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

L: ¹³Let me teach your ways to offenders, and sinners shall be restored to you.

C: ¹⁴**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

L: ¹⁵O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

C: ¹⁶**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it. You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

L: ¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10 ^{5:20}We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. ^{6:1}As God's co-workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. ²For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited. ⁴Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; ⁵in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; ⁶in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; ⁷in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; ⁸through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; ⁹known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; ¹⁰sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel Acclamation: "Lamb of God" #336

Verse 1: Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.

Refrain: O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God. Oh wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Verse 2: Your gift of love we crucified. We laughed and scorned him as he died. The humble king we named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God. [Refrain]

Verse 3: I was so lost. I should have died, but you have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod and to be called a lamb of God. [Refrain]

Gospel Reading: John 12:23-29 ²³Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. ²⁷"Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

P: The word of the Lord C: **Thanks be to God.**

Homily: Pastor Eric Hanson

Hymn of the Day: "Tree Of Life" vs 1,2,3 & General verse #334

Verse 1: Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry, in your death we are reborn; though you die in all of hist'ry, still you rise with ev'ry morn, still you rise with ev'ry morn.

Verse 2: We remember truth once spoken, love passed on through act and word; ev'ry person lost and broken wears the body of our Lord, wears the body of our Lord.

Verse 3: Christ, you lead and we shall follow, stumbling though our steps may be; one with you in joy and sorrow, we the river, you the sea, we the river, you the sea.

General Verse: Light of life beyond conceiving, mighty Spirit of our Lord; give new strength to our believing, give us faith to live your word, give us faith to live your word

Invitation to Lent:

P: Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent – self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love – strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Confession of Sin *(Please stand as you are able)*

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

Silence is kept for reflection & self-examination.

P: Most holy and merciful God,

C: 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.

P: 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. C: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

P: 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. C: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

P: Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you. C: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

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

P: Restore us, O God, & let your anger depart from us. C: **Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

Imposition of Ashes & Hymns:

All are invited to receive the imposition of ashes, a physical mark of our penitence before God. Ashes will be received as ushers invite rows forward from the back of the sanctuary to the front.

"There is a Redeemer" sung by St. Luke Choir

"There's a Cross for Me" sung by Sara Strusz

The Prayers:

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, & 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, grief, or deployment; especially Jessica Huemann, Keith Brown, Kathy Nardinger, Dolly Mensink, Finley Budensiek, Sara Nolte, Deb Huneke, Roger Kurtti, Rich & Sue Majerus, Judy Carpenter, Donald & Nancy Nord, Ben Haenel, Larry Reese, Jim Wilcox, Barb Maher, Dan Hedeem, Ken Bremer and Jan Benidt. 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. Receive us with them into your eternal embrace. 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.**