+ Ash Wednesday ~ February 14, 2024 +

+ + In the Name of Jesus + +

Carillon Call to Worship

Prelude

Silent Procession

Invocation

■ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ Imposition of Ashes +

▶ Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus 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 special devotion, selfdenial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in 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.

If you desire ashes upon your forehead please come forward at the direction of the Elder and hear the following words:

L Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

After receiving the ashes, each person returns to his place in silence. There is no statement of dismissal.

P O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



+ Confession and Absolution +

Exhortation

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection.

Confession of Sins

- **P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- **C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the +→ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ Service of the Word +

Introit

The sacrifices of God are a broken | spirit;*

- a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will | not despise.
- Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;*

according to your abundant mercy blot out my trans- gressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,*

and cleanse me | from my sin!

For I know my trans- | gressions,*

and my sin is ever be- | fore me.

Psalm 51:1-3, 10-12; antiphon: v. 17

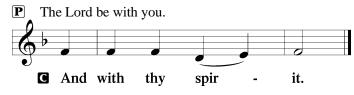
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Create in me a clean heart, | O God,* and renew a right spirit with- | in me. Cast me not away from your | presence,* and take not your Holy Spirit | from me. Restore to me the joy of your sal- | vation,* and uphold me with a willing | spirit. Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen. The sacrifices of God are a broken | spirit;* a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will | not despise.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Handbell Choir

There is A Green Hill Far Away

Horsely

Joel 2:12-19

Old Testament

¹²"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³and rend your hearts and not your garments."
Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

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; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders: gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. ¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach. a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'" ¹⁸Then the LORD became jealous for his land

¹⁹The LORD became jealous for his fand and had pity on his people.
¹⁹The LORD answered and said to his people, "Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied;
and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations."

Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For 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. ³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities,

⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

¹[Jesus said:] "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

²"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you....

¹⁶"And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Nicene Creed

■ God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

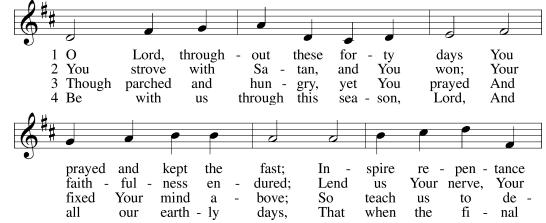
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn







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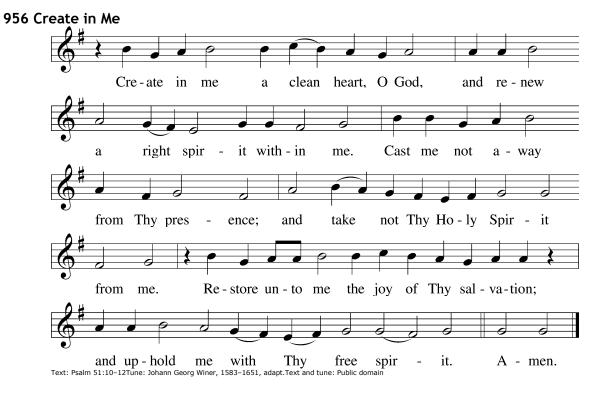
Sermon

The Powerless "I Am"

John 18:1-11

Solomon Spangler, Vicar

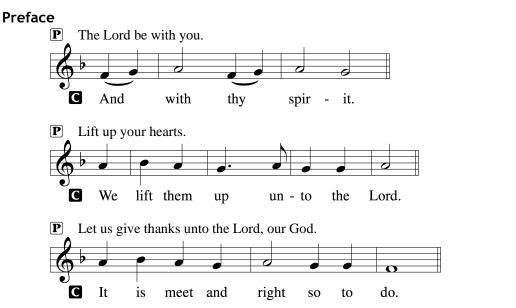
Congregational Response



Offering

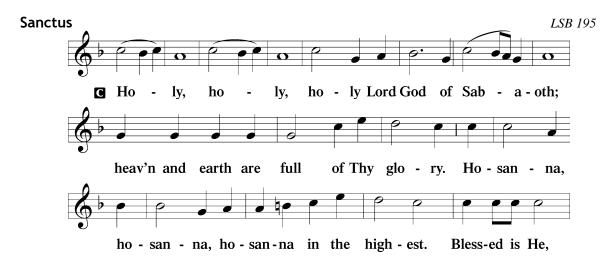
Prayer

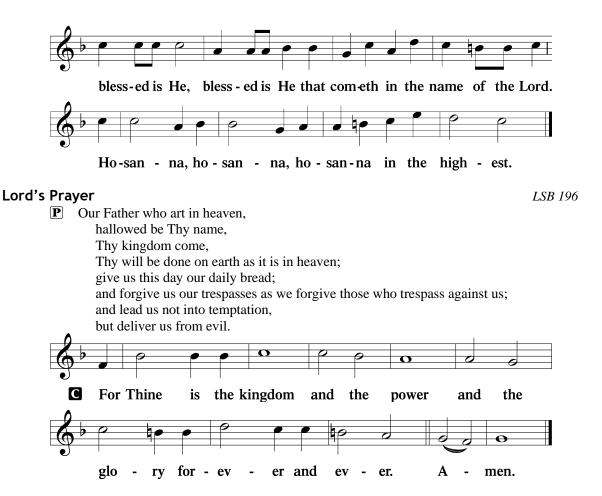
+ Service of the Sacrament +



Proper Preface

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





The Words of Our Lord

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P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

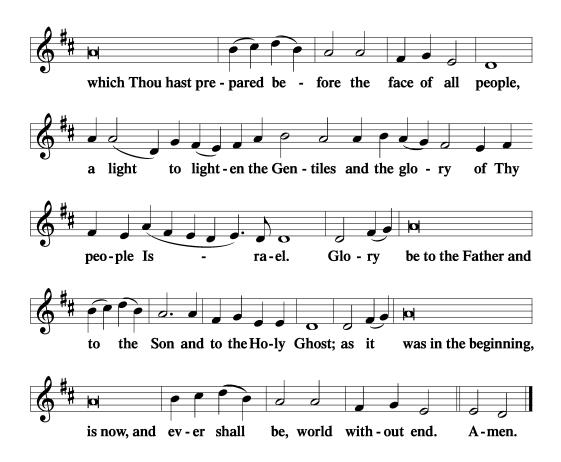
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Nunc Dimittis LSB 199 C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace accord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

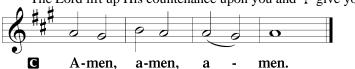
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



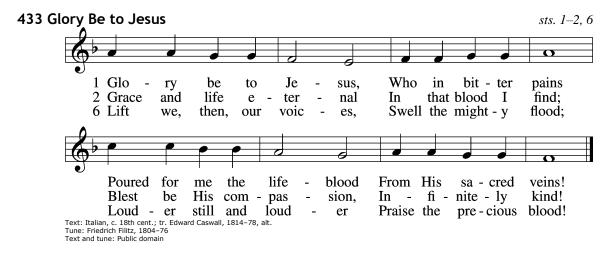
Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



Recessional Hymn



Acknowledgments

Ash Wednesday from Lutheran Service Book

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Ian Boynton, Director of Music Erika Halboth, Church Secretary Steve Robinson, Organist and Choir Accompanist Bonnie Karkheck, Assistant to the Pastor -Children and Youth

Join us next Wednesday for our Lenten Dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Serving will begin at 5:15 pm. **The Menu is Spaghetti & Meatballs, Salad and Bread.** Signup sheets are located at the Information Center.

Next Wednesday - First Mid-Week Worship at 6:30 pm - Vicar Spangler will preach on the theme "The St. John Passion: The Two Interrogations" based on John 18:12-27.

Help us beautify the Chancel for Easter. Easter lily signup sheets are at the Information Center. The cost is \$20 per plant. Payment is requested when you place your order. Checks should be made payable to Grace Lutheran Women's Ministries, cash is also accepted. Payments should be placed in an envelope with your name on it and placed in the black box next to the order form.