

**Ash Wednesday Worship
March 5, 2025**

Welcome

684 Come unto Me, Ye Weary

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 "Come unto Me, ye weary,
And I will give you rest."
O blessed voice of Jesus,
Which comes to hearts oppressed!
It tells of benediction,
Of pardon, grace, and peace,
Of joy that hath no ending,
Of love that cannot cease. | 3 "Come unto Me, ye fainting,
And I will give you life."
O cheering voice of Jesus,
Which comes to aid our strife!
The foe is stern and eager,
The fight is fierce and long;
But Thou hast made us mighty
And stronger than the strong. |
| 2 "Come unto Me, ye wand'ers,
And I will give you light."
O loving voice of Jesus,
Which comes to cheer the night!
Our hearts were filled with sadness,
And we had lost our way;
But Thou hast brought us gladness
And songs at break of day. | 4 "And whosoever cometh,
I will not cast him out."
O patient love of Jesus,
Which drives away our doubt,
Which, though we be unworthy
Of love so great and free,
Invites us very sinners
To come, dear Lord, to Thee! |

Text: Public domain

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

Come, let us draw near to the Lord our God.
I long to dwell in your tent forever and take refuge in the shelter of your wings.
(Psalm 61:4)

Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place?
**He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol
or swear by what is false.**
(Psalm 24:3-4)

Who can say, "I have kept my heart pure; I am clean and without sin"? (Proverbs 20:9)
**"Woe to me! I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a
people of unclean lips."** (Isaiah 6:5)

Hymn of Confession.....*sung to: Chief of Sinners*

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

Words of Forgiveness 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:2
Be reconciled to God. For our sake God made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. So God urges us not to accept His grace in vain. For He says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on the day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation!

It is my joyful duty as the called and ordained pastor of this congregation to announce the full forgiveness of all our sins, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Hymn of Forgiveness.....sung to: *Chief of Sinners*

Peace, to soothe our bitter woes, God in Christ on us bestows;
Jesus bought our peace with God With His holy precious blood;
Peace in Him for sinners found In the gospel's joyful sound.

Prayer of the Day

Merciful Father, whose guiding hand has brought us to the completion of this day, we humbly pray for Your Spirit to stay with us and shelter us in quiet hours of the night that we, who are wearied by the changes and chances of this passing world, may rest in Your changeless peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

Old Testament

Isaiah 40:27-31

Why do you complain [and] say, “My way is hidden from the Lord; my cause is disregarded by my God”?

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Galatians 6:7-10

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

John 14:15-18

[Jesus said:] I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

420 Christ, the Life of All the Living

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Who, Thyself for me once giving
To the darkest depths of woe:
Through Thy sufferings, death, and merit
I eternal life inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee. | 2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast taken on Thee
Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;
Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee,
O Thou sinless Son of God!
Thus didst Thou my soul deliver
From the bonds of sin forever.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee. |
|--|---|

3 Thou hast borne the smiting only
That my wounds might all be whole;
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely,
Rest to give my weary soul;
Yea, the curse of God enduring,
Blessing unto me securing.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,
That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:
Thence I gain security;
Comfortless Thy soul did languish
Me to comfort in my anguish.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Text: Public domain

Message

Prayers of the Church

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus
And for all people according to their needs.

After each portion of the prayers:

Lord in Your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord, be with you always.
And also with you.

In our catechism we are asked, "What is the Lord's Supper?"
It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, for Christians to eat and to drink.

And, "What is the benefit of such eating and drinking?"
It is contained in these words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."

In this Sacrament we receive the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Come and receive Christ's true body and blood as we rejoice in our common salvation.

Jesus' Directions for Communion

Invitation

Jesus says, "I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me." (Revelation 3:20)

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

(Revelation 22:20)

Agnus Dei/Lamb of God.....*sung to: My Faith Up to Thee*

O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins away-
Our faith increase. Have mercy on us all,
Strengthen us when we fall,
Answer our fervent call And grant us peace.

Distribution Hymn

618 I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole: Refrain | 3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: Refrain |
| 2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. Refrain | 4 Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. Refrain |
| 5 What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace. Refrain | |
| ref Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good! | |

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000716

Post Communion Collect

We give thanks, almighty God, that You have refreshed us in this gift of grace in this sacrament. Strengthen us for our Lenten journey that, by your grace, we may boldly give witness that You are our Lord; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance on you and give you peace

Amen.

423 Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Jesus, refuge of the weary,
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary,
Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended,
Gazed upon the sinner's fall;
Yet upon the cross extended,
You have borne the pain of all. | 2 Do we pass that cross unheeding,
Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding,
See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us
Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us
Calms the sinner's deep distress. |
| 3 Jesus, may our hearts be burning
With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning
To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never
From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever,
Dwell the cross, the Crucified. | |

Text: Public domain

The Imposition of Ashes

(Those who want may come forward to receive a cross of ashes on their foreheads.)

418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 O Lord, throughout these forty days
You prayed and kept the fast;
Inspire repentance for our sin,
And free us from our past. | 3 Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed
And fixed Your mind above;
So teach us to deny ourselves,
Since we have known God's love. |
| 2 You strove with Satan, and You won;
Your faithfulness endured;
Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust
In God's eternal Word. | 4 Be with us through this season, Lord,
And all our earthly days,
That when the final Easter dawns,
We join in heaven's praise. |

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000716

878 Abide with Me

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me. | 4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me. |
| 2 I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me. | 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me! |
| 3 Come not in terrors, as the King of kings,
But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings;
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev'ry plea.
Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me. | 6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me. |

Text: Public domain