



*Remember, O man, that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*

## **Ash Wednesday**

**February 22, 2023**

**7:00 p.m.**

This Evening's Hymns

668 607 421 609

*The congregation enters in silence.*

**P** 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, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and from it draws 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, richly bless us this Lententide so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

*Stand*

## ✠ THE LITANY ✠

### Salutation and Collects

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, who has created us out of the dust of the earth, grant us to know and confess that it is of Your gracious gift alone that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.



**C** A - men.

**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.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

# ✠ THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES ✠

All who come forward will be marked on their foreheads with the sign of the holy cross. There is neither invitation to kneel nor dismissal from the rail. After receiving the sign of the holy cross and hearing the words: “**Remember, O man, that you are dust, and to dust you shall return,**” you may rise and return to your pew. Before and after receiving ashes, take the opportunity to meditate silently on the penitential psalms: 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, or 143.

Hymn

Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You

668

## ✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

### Old Testament

*Joel 2:12–19*

*In those days the prophet Joel said:*

<sup>12</sup>“Yet even now,” declares the LORD,  
“return to Me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
<sup>13</sup>and 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.

<sup>14</sup>Who 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?

<sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
consecrate a fast;  
call a solemn assembly;  
<sup>16</sup>gather 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.

<sup>17</sup>Between 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?'"

<sup>18</sup>Then the LORD became jealous for His land  
and had pity on His people.

<sup>19</sup>The 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."

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalm 57:1a, 3a*

Be merciful to me, O God, be merci- | ful to me,\*  
for in You my soul takes | refuge.

**He will send from Heaven and | save me;\***

**He will put to shame him who tramples | on me.**

## Epistle

*2 Peter 1:2–11*

*Dearly Beloved:* <sup>2</sup>May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup>His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us to His own glory and excellence, <sup>4</sup>by which He has granted to us His precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the Divine Nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. <sup>5</sup>For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, <sup>6</sup>and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, <sup>7</sup>and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. <sup>8</sup>For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having

forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. <sup>11</sup>For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the Eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Tract

*Psalm 103:10; 79:8a, 9a*

He does not deal with us according | to our sins,\*  
nor repay us according to our in- | iquities.

**Do not remember against us our former in- | iquities;\***  
**let Your compassion come speedily to | meet us.**

**Help us, O God of our sal- | vation,\***  
**for the glory | of Your Name.**

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 6:16–21*

**P** The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

*At that time Jesus said to His disciples: <sup>16</sup>“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. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>that 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.*

*<sup>19</sup>“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup>but lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

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 *worshipped 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.

*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day**

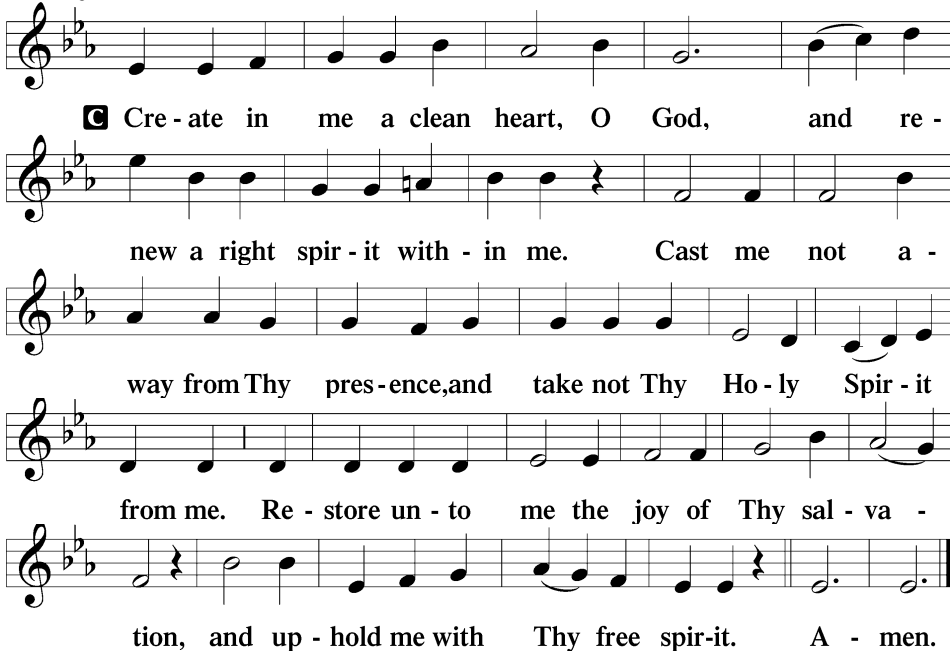
From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

607

**Sermon**

Stand

## Offertory



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

## Prayer of the Church

# ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

## Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spirit.
- P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.  
**C** It is meet and right so to do.

## Proper Preface

It is truly meet, 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 accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of Heaven we laud and magnify Your Glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.





Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

## The 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 Words of Our Lord

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.

**G** Amen.

## Agnus Dei



**G** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

*Sit*

### Distribution Hymns

Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing	421
Jesus Sinners Doth Receive	609

*Stand*

### Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

**P** O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.

**C** **And His mercy endureth forever.**

**P** Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your Only-Begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Salutation and Benedicamus

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## 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.

**C** **Amen.**

*The congregation leaves in silence.*

## **Preparation through Repentance: A Lenten Admonition**

The Church is always prepared through repentance. To ready herself for the celebration of the resurrection of her Lord, the Church has set apart a period of 40 days: the season of Lent. This penitential season begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. It is a time reminiscent of our Lord's fasting in the desert and the Israelites' wandering in the wilderness.

True repentance is not merely feeling sorry for sin, but an actual turning away from sin and toward God. Similarly, Lent is not merely a time to "give things up," but also a time for adding things that increase our awareness and appreciation of God's mercy in Christ Jesus. Therefore, during Lent, the Church urges her members to additional prayer, fasting, and consideration of the poor and needy.

You are encouraged to make use of Lenten customs that aid in your devotion to the Lord and His Word. Specifically, you are encouraged to take advantage of the available means of grace. The Holy Communion is celebrated at Saint Paul Lutheran Church on Sundays at 9:30am and, during Lent, also on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm.

Come and receive the gifts of the Lord.

