



Lent:

SHADOWS OF
THE SAVIOR

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH | Lodi, California

March 2, 2022

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday, like the season of Lent, is never mentioned in Scripture and is not commanded by God. Christians are free to either observe or not observe it. It also should be obvious that the imposition of ashes, like similar external practices, is meaningless, even hypocritical, unless there is a corresponding inner repentance.

The ashes rubbed on foreheads in the shape of a cross on Ash Wednesday are a stark reminder of the ultimate passing away of the things of this world, including our very own flesh, as well as a sign warning us that our own righteousness is no cleaner nor longer lasting than the ashes. So we receive these ashes together and begin the season of Lent not to impress anybody with how holy we are, but rather to impress upon each one of us the dire consequences of our own sin and point us to the only way to be saved from those consequences.

Worship begins in silence with a reading from Psalm 51

PSALM 51

This Psalm is the most prominent of Penitential Psalms (6, 32, 38, 102, 130). We are familiar with this Psalm. We are also familiar with its background. Here David magnifies and multiplies the grace of God by magnifying and multiplying his sin. A true and penitent heart sees nothing but sin when they stand before God. Anyone who finds confidence or security in self cannot speak these words sincerely.

A psalm of David, when the prophet Nathan came to him after he had gone to Bathsheba.

¹Be gracious to me, God,
according to your faithful love;
according to your abundant compassion,
blot out my rebellion.

²Completely wash away my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I am conscious of my rebellion,
and my sin is always before me.

⁴Against you—you alone—I have sinned
and done this evil in your sight.

So you are right when you pass sentence;
you are blameless when you judge.

⁵ Indeed, I was guilty when I was born;
I was sinful when my mother conceived me.

⁶ Surely you desire integrity in the inner self,
and you teach me wisdom deep within.

⁷ Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

⁹ Turn your face away[Ⓜ] from my sins
and blot out all my guilt.

¹⁰ God, create a clean heart for me
and renew a steadfast[Ⓜ] spirit within me.

¹¹ Do not banish me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

¹² Restore the joy of your salvation to me,
and sustain me by giving me a willing spirit.

¹³ Then I will teach the rebellious your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

¹⁴ Save me from the guilt of bloodshed, God—
God of my salvation—
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

¹⁵ Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

¹⁶ You do not want a sacrifice, or I would give it;
you are not pleased with a burnt offering.

¹⁷ The sacrifice pleasing to God is[Ⓜ] a broken spirit.
You will not despise a broken and humbled heart, God.

¹⁸ In your good pleasure, cause Zion to prosper;
build the walls of Jerusalem.

¹⁹ Then you will delight in righteous sacrifices,
whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Silence for meditation

INSTRUCTION FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle. Let us be silent. Let us be still. Let us pause now for a time of reflection and self-examination.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Most holy and merciful Father,

**C: We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned
by our own fault,
by our own grievous fault
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

M: 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, Lord.

M: We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved the Holy Spirit.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

M: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Our love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

C: Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

HYMN

Lord, to You I Make Confession | **CW 653**

ABSOLUTION

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live.

Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit.

May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Those who wish to receive the sign of ashes can walk up one at a time. The pastor will apply ashes to the forehead or the hand in the form of a cross, and say,

M: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

The Service of the Word

Having just received absolution for their sins, believers now gather around the Word of God to find encouragement and peace for their lives on earth.

FIRST LESSON

Joel 2:12-19

Joel has shown us a locust plague that came upon Israel, followed by another catastrophe when another army of locust like attackers invades the land. So what is Israel to do? When judgment is coming, there is only one thing to do; and it doesn't involve guns, gold, or groceries. Repent.

¹²Even now—

this is the LORD's declaration—
turn to me with all your heart,
with fasting, weeping, and mourning.

¹³Tear your hearts,
not just your clothes,
and return to the LORD your God.
For he is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger, abounding in faithful love,
and he relents from sending disaster.

¹⁴Who knows? He may turn and relent
and leave a blessing behind him,
so you can offer a grain offering and a drink offering
to the LORD your God.

¹⁵Blow the ram's horn in Zion!
Announce a sacred fast;
proclaim a solemn assembly.

¹⁶Gather the people;
sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;^[u]
gather the infants,
even babies nursing at the breast.

Let the groom leave his bedroom,
and the bride her honeymoon chamber.

¹⁷Let the priests, the LORD's ministers,
weep between the portico and the altar.

Let them say,
“Have pity on your people, LORD,

and do not make your inheritance a disgrace,
an object of scorn among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
‘Where is their God?’”

¹⁸Then the LORD became jealous for his land and spared his people. ¹⁹The LORD answered his people:

Look, I am about to send you
grain, new wine, and fresh oil.
You will be satiated with them,
and I will no longer make you
a disgrace among the nations.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 130

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

There is urgency in God’s call to repent. The time is now.

We plead on Christ’s behalf, “Be reconciled to God.” ²¹He made the one who did not know sin to be sin^{ful} for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

⁶ Working together with him, we also appeal to you, “Don’t receive the grace of God in vain.” ² For he says:

**At an acceptable time I listened to you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you.**¹⁰

See, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation!

³We are not giving anyone an occasion for offense, so that the ministry will not be blamed. ⁴ Instead, as God’s ministers, we commend ourselves in everything: by great endurance, by afflictions, by hardships, by difficulties, ⁵ by beatings, by imprisonments, by riots, by labors, by sleepless nights, by times of hunger, ⁶ by purity, by knowledge, by patience, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, ⁷ by the word of truth,¹⁰ by the power of God; through weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left, ⁸ through glory and dishonor, through slander and good report; regarded as deceivers, yet true; ⁹ as unknown, yet recognized; as dying, yet see—we live; as being disciplined, yet not killed; ¹⁰ as grieving, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet enriching many; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Joel 2:13

Return to the LORD your God. For he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, abounding in faithful love.

GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Then why display ashes on our foreheads? Many Christians choose to leave the ashes on their forehead for the remainder of the day, not to showcase our piety but our mortality. We do this as a witness that all people are sinners in need of repentance and that through Jesus all sins are forgiven through faith.

6 “Be careful not to practice your righteousness^[a] in front of others to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward with your Father in heaven. ² So whenever you give to the poor, don’t sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be applauded by people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward. ³ But when you give to the poor, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.^[a]

⁵ “Whenever you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites, because they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your private room, shut your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.^[a]

¹⁶ “Whenever you fast, don’t be gloomy like the hypocrites. For they disfigure their faces so that their fasting is obvious to people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting isn’t obvious to others but to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.^[a]

¹⁹ “Don’t store up for yourselves treasures^[a] on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don’t break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

HYMN OF THE DAY

In Adam We Have All Been One | CW 565

DEVOTION

Genesis 14:18-20

Shadow of the Savior: Melchizedek

Please stand.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

2 Cor. 6:18

Is. 51:13

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died,
and was buried.

1 Cor. 8:6; Jn. 3:18

Lk. 1:35

Lk. 1:34; 2:7

Lk. 23:16

Mt. 27:32-61; Mk. 15:21-47

Lk. 23:26-56; Jn. 19:16b-42

He descended into hell.

1 Pet. 3:19

The third day he rose again from the dead.

1 Cor. 15:4b

He ascended into heaven

Ac. 2:33-34

and is seated at the right hand

of God the Father almighty.

Heb. 1:13

From there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

Mt. 25:31

2 Tim. 4:1

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

Mt. 3:16-17

the holy Christian Church,

Eph. 5:23

the communion of saints,

Eph. 4:3-6

the forgiveness of sins,

Rom. 4:6-8

the resurrection of the body,

1 Cor. 15:13-19

and the life everlasting. Amen.

1 Th. 4:17

Upon hearing the Word preached, the congregation unites in one voice to speak a summary of the Christian faith just preached. The creeds signify our allegiance to the Christian faith and unite us with over 2,000 years of Christian history. By repeating the creeds weekly, we equip ourselves for public witness by grounding our confession in the fundamentals of our faith.

OFFERING

In response to God's love and forgiveness, we give back a portion of what he has given us. The members of Christ Lutheran Church have joined to proclaim the gospel to this community. These offerings support that work. While our guests are welcome to participate, they should not feel obligated to do so.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Holy and righteous God, as we begin again the solemn spiritual journey of Lent, we come before you in deep humility. We confess that we are sinners, both by the nature

we inherit and by the sinful thoughts and desires, words and actions that nature produces. Because of our sins, we deserve only your wrath and punishment. Yet you reveal yourself, not only as a God of holiness and justice but as a God of mercy and love. Despairing of our own merits and worthiness, and in response to your gracious invitation, we come pleading for your forgiveness.

C: Lord, have mercy on us for your holy name's sake.

M: You have revealed your love and mercy for us sinners in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. You sent him into our world to be the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all people. Help us grasp by faith the great truth that the pain and suffering, the mockery and ridicule, and the death and punishment he endured should have been ours. Help us understand that in incomprehensible love he suffered and died for us.

C: Lord, have mercy on us for Jesus' sake.

M: In silent meditation let us reflect on our sins, praise our Savior for the forgiveness he has won for us, and ask for God's continued grace to remove any doubt that we are forgiven.

Silent meditation

M: God of grace and mercy, may your Spirit continue to be with us as we follow the way of the cross. As we contemplate the story of our Savior's passion, build us up in our faith. Renew in us the zeal to serve you by reflecting your love in our lives. Give us the desire and the ability to boldly proclaim the grace in which we stand, so that all for whom you lived and died may join us in fellowship now and in your presence forever.

C: We offer our humble thanks and praise, our prayers and petitions, and ourselves in body and spirit to you, Lord God. Hear us, according to your promise, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

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 SACRAMENT

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, *who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome.*

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your 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 who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION - *The Words of institution both proclaim the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's Supper.*

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my ☩ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD – *Agnus Dei*



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION

Participation in the Sacrament is an expression of a common faith. Our guests today who are not members of a congregation in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (or a church in fellowship with the WELS) are invited to speak with the pastor to learn how you might receive the sacrament with us in the future.

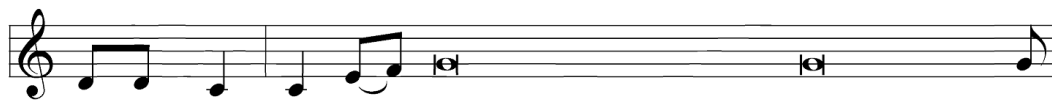
THANKSGIVING

Stand

SONG OF SIMEON – *Nunc Dimittis*



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing



to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-



pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the



Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M:
C:

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

Numbers 6:22-27

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness | CW 376

Lenten Series: Shadows of the Savior

This year's sermon series is based on Old Testament lessons which depict people and events that are types of the Savior to come. Paul writes of the Old Testament these were a "shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ" (Colossians 2:17).

The Law was an outline, a shadow of the things to come. Christ is the substance.

March 2 nd	Genesis 14:18-20	Melchizedek
March 9 th	Genesis 50:20	Joseph
March 16 th	Exodus 12:1-14	Sacrifice of the Lamb
March 23 rd	Genesis 22:1-14	Abraham: A Father's Sacrifice
March 30 th	Exodus 16:14-15	Bread from Heaven
April 6 th	Exodus 17:1-7	Water from the Rock



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Pastor Joshua Hanson

WELCOME TO CHRIST EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We preach a message of forgiveness, hope and peace
through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Families and individuals of all ages will find opportunities
both to grow and to serve.

Our mission statement:

Look what Christ is doing!

He binds us together in fellowship

He gathers us in for worship

He builds us up for service

*"Now you are the body of Christ,
and each one of you is a part of it."*

(1 Corinthians 12:27)

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