

# Promises, Promises



## Lent at Our Savior's

Ash Wednesday  
February 17, 2021  
12:00 and 6:30 P.M.

### GATHERING

#### Prelude

(12:00) "Out of the Depths I Cry to You," setting, Jean Langlais

(6:30) "Violin Concerto in A Minor, BWV 1041: II. Andante," J. S. Bach

#### Welcome and Worship Notes

*The assembly stands.*

#### Call to Worship

Tonight we remember the dust from which we came and to which we shall one day return.

Tonight we receive the symbol of the cross as a reminder of our mortality.

Tonight we begin the journey of Lent that leads us to a cross, but that cross is more than a symbol, it is a promise of life, a promise that is ours through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Tonight we give thanks for the gift of God's grace, as we remember.

Kyrie – “Kyrie,” Matthew Tylutki

1. Lord, have \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy. Lord, have \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Christ, have \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy. Christ, have \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. Lord, have \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy. Lord, have \_\_\_\_\_

mer - cy. Lord, have \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy.  
 mer - cy. Christ, have \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy.  
 mer - cy. Lord, have \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy.

Gathering Hymn – ELW, No. 319, “O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days,”

*sts. 1, 2*

1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you  
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your  
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and  
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and

prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance  
 faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your  
 fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -  
 all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal

for our sin, and free us from our past.  
 skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.  
 ny our - selves that we may know God's love.  
 Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930  
 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816  
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you, let us pray,

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy 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.

## WORD

**First Reading** – Joel 2:1–2, 12–17

**Psalm** – Psalm 51:1–17

- <sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- <sup>2</sup>Wash me through and through from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- <sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.
- <sup>4</sup>Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
And so you are justified when you speak and upright in your judgment.
- <sup>5</sup>Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- <sup>6</sup>For behold, you look for truth deep within me,  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- <sup>7</sup>Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- <sup>8</sup>Make me hear of joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- <sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- <sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- <sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- <sup>12</sup>Give me the joy of your saving help again  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- <sup>13</sup>I shall teach your ways to the wicked,  
and sinners shall turn to you.
- <sup>14</sup>Deliver me from death O God,  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,  
O God of my salvation.
- <sup>15</sup>Open my lips O Lord,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- <sup>16</sup>Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,  
But you take no delight in burnt offerings.
- <sup>17</sup>The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

**Second Reading** – 2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10

**Lenten Verse**

**Gospel** – Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

**Sermon**

Hymn of the Day – ELW, No. 600, “Out of the Depths I Cry to You,” *sts. 1–3*



1 Out of the depths I cry to you; O Lord God, hear me call - ing.  
2 All things you send are full of grace; you crown our lives with fa - vor.  
3 In you a - lone, O God, we hope, and not in our own mer - it.  
4 My soul is wait - ing for you, Lord, as one who longs for morn - ing;



In - cline your ear to my dis - tress in spite of my re - bel - ling.  
All our good works are done in vain with - out our Lord and Sav - ior.  
We rest our fears in your good Word and trust your Ho - ly Spir - it.  
no watch - er waits with great - er hope than I for your re - turn - ing.



Do not re - gard my sin - ful deeds. Send me the grace  
We praise you for the gift of faith; you save us from  
Your prom - ise keeps us strong and sure; we trust the cross,  
I hope as Is - rael in the Lord, who sends re - demp -



my spir - it needs; with - out it I am noth - ing.  
the grip of death; our lives are in your keep - ing.  
your sig - na - ture, in - scribed up - on our tem - ples.  
tion through the Word. Praise God for grace and mer - cy!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite  
Music: AUS TIEFER NOT, atr. Martin Luther  
Text © 1978, 2006 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

### Invitation to Lent

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 40 days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

### Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another. I will speak the prayer aloud and invite you to pray with me silently.

Most holy and merciful God, 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. 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. Have mercy on us, O God

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. Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you. Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you. Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you. Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you. Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you. Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us. Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great. Amen.

### **Imposition of Ashes**

*Throughout this time of pandemic, we have been sharing the sacrament of Holy Communion by serving each other in our pew. Tonight, we will share the sign of the cross by marking each other's forehead with the ashes that have been placed on the stands at the end of each of your rows. If you do not have ashes by you, please raise your hand and an usher will bring ashes to you. Please remember to share ashes only within your own household, or by marking yourself if you are here alone this evening. As you make the sign of the cross, share these words, "**Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.**" These words will be on the screen during the imposition of the ashes. When all have received the sign of the cross, use the wet-wipes provided to clean your hands.*

Let us pray: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth.

May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*After everyone has received ashes, the service continues with prayer.*

Let us pray: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of our salvation, that we may show forth your glory in the world. By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior, bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection. Have mercy on us, almighty God, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life. Amen.

*Brief silence is kept for reflection and meditation.*

### **Prayers of Intercession**

**Offering** – "Create in Me a Clean Heart," Jeff Reeves

### **Concluding Prayer**

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these 40 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 taught us to pray:

### **Lord's Prayer**

## **SENDING**

### **Blessing**

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

### **Dismissal**

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Go forth in peace! Amen.

### **Postlude**

(12:00) "Psalm Prelude Set 1, No. 2, Ps. 37 v. 11," Herbert Howells

(6:30) "Violin Sonata in F Major, HWV 370: I. Adagio," George Frideric Handel

### **WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Presiding Ministers:** Pastor Randy Gehring and Pastor Tim Lemme

**Preaching Minister:** Pastor Justin Kosec

**Organist:** Matthew Tylutki

**Cantors:** (12:00) Gene LeVasseur and Matthew Tylutki;

(6:30) Deanna Wehrspann and Gene LeVasseur

**Readers:** (12:00) Ron Rossing; (6:30) Maribeth Anderson

**Media:** Toni LeVasseur

**Sound:** Randy Preston

*Artwork by Gary Gaede for Our Savior's*

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