

TURN *Your Eyes*
UPON *Jesus*

ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 17, 2021

The Hymns are in The Lutheran Hymnal (Red book).

7:00 PM THE ORDER OF VESPERS WITH HOLY COMMUNION

AS IMPCATION of Ashes
THE OPENING HYMN NO. 320 - "Lord Jesus, Think on Me"
(Please stand for stanza 7)

THE WELCOME

THE LITANY

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 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 Lenten tide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

P: O Lord, C: have mercy.
P: O Christ, C: have mercy.
P: O Lord, C: have mercy.
P: O Christ, C: hear us.
P: God the Father, in heaven, C: have mercy.
P: God the Son, Redeemer of the world, C: have mercy.
P: God the Holy Spirit, C: have mercy.
P: Be gracious to us. C: Spare us, good Lord.
P: Be gracious to us. C: Help us, good Lord.
P: By the mystery of Thy holy incarnation, by Thy holy nativity, by Thy baptism, fasting and temptation, by Thy agony and bloody sweat, by Thy cross and Passion, by Thy precious death and burial, by Thy glorious resurrection and ascension, and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. C: Help us, good Lord.

P: In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

C: Help us, good Lord.

P: We poor sinners implore Thee

C: to hear us, O Lord.

P: To prosper the preaching of Thy Word; to bless our prayer and meditation; to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith; to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

C: We implore Thee to hear us, good Lord.

P: To draw all to Thee; to bless those who are instructed in the faith; to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers; to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy; and to have mercy on us all:

C: We implore Thee to hear us, good Lord.

P: To turn our hearts to Thee; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers:

C: We implore Thee to hear us, good Lord.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C: we implore Thee to hear us.

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy.

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy.

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: grant us Thy peace.

P: O Christ, C: hear us.

P: O Lord, C: hear us.

P: O Christ, C: have mercy.

P: O Lord, C: have mercy. Amen.

P: O God, Thou desirest not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore Thee 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 Thou hast laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who livest and reignest with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

C: Amen. (Be seated)

THE CONFESSION OF SINS (Pastor and Congregation speak alternately)

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.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

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

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 of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

C: Amen. (Please be seated)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Joel 2:12-19

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 and had pity on His people. ¹⁹"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.'"

A: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!

THE EPISTLE LESSON: 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. 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. ^{6:1}Working 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;

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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 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.

A: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!

(Stand)

THE GOSPEL ACCOUNT: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

¹"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.

²Thus, 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."

⁵And 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. ¹⁶And 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."

P: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.
C: Thanks be to Thee, O Lord! (Be seated)

THE SERMON HYMN NO. 158 - "Glory Be to Jesus"

(Please stand to sing stanza 6)

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THE SERMON - "A Call To Return."

Text: Joel 2:12-19

(Stand)

THE PRAYERS

(SUNG RESPONSES) (pages 24-28)

THE PREFACE OF HOLY COMMUNION

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.

P: It is truly meet, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty 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 Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

C: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: 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;

C: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PAX DOMINI: P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen. (Be seated)

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN NO. 388 - "Just As I Am, without One Plea" (Second Tune)

(Stand) (pages 29-31)

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE THANKSGIVING

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

C: And His mercy endureth forever.

P: We give thanks to Thee, Almighty God, that Thou hast refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we beseech Thee that of Thy mercy Thou wouldst strengthen us through the same in faith toward Thee and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

C: Amen.

THE SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

P: The Lord be with you. C: And with thy spirit.

P: Bless we the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless thee and keep thee.

The Lord make His face to shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.

C: Amen, Amen, Amen. (Be seated, but stand to sing stanza 5,

The Trinitarian verse)

THE CLOSING HYMN NO. 605 - "The World Is Very Evil"

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The Presiding Minister - Rev. James A. Haugen, Jr.

The Guest Organist - Tim Brower

Caring for the Altar - Rhea Browning and Martha Prok