

Worship Leader Edition – Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024

11:00 AM & 7:00 PM

On Ash Wednesday, our Lenten journey begins. It is a time to return to the Lord. During Lent, we reflect on the meaning of our baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes reminds us of our human mortality and frailty. We are invited to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME and INVOCATION (*Rob*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Rob*)

L: Holy God, on this Ash Wednesday we reflect upon our sin, our failings, and the harms we have caused.
Remind us that, although we are dust, we are also your children, and your love never fails.

C: Amen.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES (*Rob*) (*Invite the people at home to impose the ashes upon each other*)

11:00 AM +HYMN

“O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days”

ELW #319/Screen

Verse 1

O Lord, throughout these forty days
you prayed and kept the fast;
inspire repentance for our sin,
and free us from our past.

Verse 3

Though parched and hungry, yet you prayed
and fixed your mind above;
so teach us to deny ourselves
that we may know God's love.

Verse 2

You strove with Satan, and you won;
your faithfulness endured;
lend us your nerve, your skill and trust
in God's eternal word.

Verse 4

Be with us through this season, Lord,
and all our earthly days,
that when the final Easter dawns,
we may join in heaven's praise

7:00 PM - ANTHEM

“A New Heart”
Choir Ensemble

Melissa Dunphy

+LITANY FOR ASH WEDNESDAY (*Bette Gamboni/David Skinner*)

L: 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.

L: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

C: that we may show forth your glory in the world.

L: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

C: bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

L: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in goodness, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING (*Beth Angerhofer/Joy Lindgren*)

Philippians 2:1-11

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

+THE HOLY GOSPEL {*Pulpit*} (*Rob*)

Mark 9:30-50

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, ‘The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.’ But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, ‘What were you arguing about on the way?’ But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, ‘Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.’ Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ‘Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.’ John said to him, ‘Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.’ But Jesus said, ‘Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. ‘If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.’ And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. ‘For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.’

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

Please stand as you are able.

+HYMN OF THE DAY

“Bless Now, O God, the Journey”

ELW #326/Screen

Verse 1

Bless now, O God, the journey
that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence,
the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert
and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters,
the road where faith is found.

Verse 2

Bless sojourners and pilgrims
who share this winding way;
your hope burns through the terrors,
your love sustains the day.

We yearn for holy freedom
while often we are bound;
together we are seeking
the road where faith is found.

Verse 3

Divine eternal lover,
you meet us on the road.
We wait for lands of promise
where milk and honey flow,
but waiting not for places,
you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written
on roads, as faith is found.

+THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Bette Gamboni/David Skinner*)

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

+THE PRAYERS {*Front Center*} (*Bette Gamboni/David Skinner*)

Screen

After each petition:

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

+SHARING OF THE PEACE {*Front Center*} (*Bette Gamboni/David Skinner*)

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

L: For all who are gathered, let us stand and take a moment to welcome everyone with a wave of peace. For those of you online, please share a word of peace in the comment or chat. Most of all as we go out into the world may we greet others as people of peace.

MEAL

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

+THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Pastor Rob*)

DIALOGUE AND PREFACE (*spoken*)

ELW pg. 152/*Screen*

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*brief intro*)

ELW pg. 144/*Screen*

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (*Pastor Rob*)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Screen

C: 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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION/ALL ARE WELCOME TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION SONG

11:00 AM -

"Change My Heart, O God"
Lori Murray and Pat Lair

Eddie Espinosa

7:00 PM -

"Lamb of God"
Choir Ensemble

Anna Laura Page

TIME OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE

Screen

L: In this time of reflection and response you are invited to fill out your welcome card. Share any reflections, questions, or prayers on the back. Also, take this time to prepare your offering. For those gathered the collection plates are in the front and back. For those online please go to our website stlukesbloomington.org and there is a link to give at the bottom of every page. Enjoy this time

Please stand as you are able.

+POST-COMMUNION BLESSING (*Rob*)

L: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

+POST-COMMUNION PRAYER {*Front Center*} (*Rob*)

L: Loving God, you have fed our spirits with your word of hope and your food of life. Empower us to go forth strengthened and renewed, to serve the world you love.

C: Amen.

SENDING

+BENEDICTION (*Rob*)

L: Go, marked as God's beloved. To all you meet, remember each is also God's beloved. In the name of the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

+SENDING HYMN

“Restore in Us, O God”

ELW # 328/Screen

Verse 1

Restore in us, O God,
the splendor of your love;
renew your image in our hearts,
and all our sins remove.

Verse 2

O Spirit, wake in us
the wonder of your pow'r;
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives
like spring-time bud and flow'r.

Verse 3

Bring us, O Christ, to share
the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life
that death can not destroy.

Verse 4

Three-personed God, fulfill
the promise of your grace,
that we, when all our searching ends,
may we see you face to face.

+DISMISSAL (*Rob*)

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE