



✠ ASH WEDNESDAY ✠

Imposition of Ashes & Divine Service

5 March A.D. 2025, 12:15 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Stand. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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

Silence for reflection.



Choir: Guiltless, a captive taken unresisting, by false accusers brought to condemnation. Save, Lord, and help the souls thou hast redeemed.

C **Hearken, O Lord...**

Text: Latin chant *Attende, Domine*
Music: Chant Mode V

✠ Confession & Absolution ✠

Stand

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You 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; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

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 Amen.

Sit

A **Jonah 3:1-10**

¹Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

⁶The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸but

let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.”

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51: 1-19



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Have mercy on | me, O God,
according to your stead- | fast love;
according to your a- | bundant mercy
blot out | my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,
and cleanse me from | my sin!
For I know my trans- | gressions,
and my sin is ever be- | fore me.

Against you, you only, | have I sinned
and done what is evil in | your sight,
so that you may be justified | in your words
and blameless | in your judgment.

The sacrifices of God are a | broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not | despise.
Do good to Zion in your | good pleasure;
build up the walls of Je- | rusalem.

A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will | not despise.
then will you delight in right sac- | rifices,
in burnt offerings and | whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered | on your altar.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son
and to the Ho- | ly Spirit;
as it was in | the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P 2 Peter 1:2–11

²May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

³His 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, ⁴by 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. ⁵For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, ⁶and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, ⁷and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

⁸For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. ¹⁰Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. ¹¹For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation



C Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Matthew 6:1-21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “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.

²“Thus, 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.

⁵“And 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. “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

¹⁶“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. 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 This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

607 *From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee*
The choir sings stanza 3 alone.

Sit

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Lord in Your mercy:

C hear our prayer.

Offering & Anthem

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

*On my heart imprint Your image,
Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation!*

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary ... Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Choir: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Text: Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9; Music: Richard Proulx

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth... To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C

Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,
Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as
it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly
bread; and for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give

those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -
to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -
ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

P 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.”

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Choir: Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world; grant us
peace. Text: John 1:29; Music: Richard Proulx

419 *Savior, When in Dust to Thee*

606 *I Lay My Sins on Jesus*

Stand

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

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.**

418 *O Lord throughout These Forty Days*

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent; a 40 day (excluding Sundays) journey to the yearly remembrance of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Liturgically this is marked by austerity. Music is sometimes limited or otherwise intentionally simple. We abstain from the acclamation of *Alleluias* before the reading of the Gospel and in our hymnody. The hymn of praise is omitted, we move directly from Kyrie to the Salutation and Collect of the Day. Abstinence, somberness, silence, these all can be stark reminders of our need for repentance, changing of our ways, and fasting as God's redeemed and forgiven people.

Ash Wednesday takes its name from the ancient tradition of having ashes placed as a symbol on our foreheads. This ritual is not obligatory, it is simply a gesture to remind us of our mortality, as St. Paul reminds us, *for the wages of sin is death.* (Romans 6) The words *Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return* are said as the cross is traced on our foreheads. These words are taken from the story of the Fall. (Genesis 3) Ashes are also a Biblical symbol of repentance, Jesus himself exhorts people to repent in this way. (Matthew 11)

This ritual is not sacramental, it does not impart grace; there is nothing miraculous in it; and the ashes are not marks of our own faithfulness. Rather it is a ritual that leads us to a deeper understanding of our need for repentance and God's forgiveness. By receiving the ashes, we acknowledge that God's judgment against our sin is right and just. However, the ashes are also made in the sign of the cross – the very instrument by which our Lord took upon Himself the punishment for our sins in our place. Thus, the cross of ashes serves to remind us that we are sinners and that Christ died for us sinners. This sign of the cross is also what is marked on our foreheads and hearts at our baptisms. As St. Paul says, *do you not know that all of us who been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?* (Romans 6)

Acknowledgments

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✠ 2025 Lent & Holy Week Schedule ✠

Midweek Lenten Services

March 12th, March 19th, March 26th, April 2nd, and April 9th

Morning Prayer – Day School Chapel – 8:10 a.m. *(Use Door E1)*

Midday Prayer – 12:15 p.m. *(Use Door N2, E1, or W2)*

Evening Vespers – 6:30 p.m. †

Palm Sunday – Weekend of April 12th & 13th

Saturday: Divine Service – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: Palm Sunday Procession & Divine Service – 9:30 a.m. †

Wednesday of Holy Week – April 16th

Morning Prayer – Day School Chapel – 8:10 a.m. *(Use Door E1)*

Maundy Thursday – April 17th

Divine Service – 12:15 p.m. *(Use Door N2, E1, or W2)*

Divine Service & Stripping of the Altar – 6:30 p.m. †

Good Friday – April 18th

Good Friday Service – 6:30 p.m. †

Holy Saturday – April 19th

Holy Saturday Vespers – 4:00 p.m.

Easter Day – April 20th

Easter Day Divine Service – 9:30 a.m. †

† - denotes livestreamed services