



Ash Wednesday
February 17, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.
Livestream Service from



Grace Lutheran Church

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www.glccu.org

Pastor: Chris Repp

Welcome to Grace!

We're glad you've joined us as we assemble “virtually” to be encountered by the Word of God in this service of Morning Prayer. We believe that God is at work here to create and sustain faith in God’s promise of love and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. We use a rich, traditional pattern of worship that dates back to the early days of Christianity. We recognize it comes with a bit of a learning curve, but we’re convinced that it’s worth the effort. Don’t feel like you have to get everything the first time. We’ll “carry” you until you get a feel for it.

Worshipping remotely via live-streamed services is of course not the same as worshipping in person, but there are a few things you can do at home to enhance the experience. First, before the service begins decide to prepare yourself for worship by finding a suitable space. Turn off the television, radio, and stereo. Light a candle, perhaps, and tune in ahead of time so that you are settled by the time the service begins. We will have the live-stream up at least ten minutes before the start of the service.

Dedicate this time to the service as you would if you were attending in person. Even if our gatherings are only “virtual,” we can be confident that God is truly in our midst when we gather in Christ’s name.

Key to the order of service:

Regular type: spoken by a leader

Bold type: spoken by the people

Regular Italics: sung or chanted by a leader

Bold Italics: sung or chanted by the people

Small Italics: liturgical directions

✠ indicates that the sign of the cross may be made

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Hymnal)

♪ “Favorite Hymn” request

As We Gather: On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit. R

¹³*Let me teach your ways | to offenders,
and sinners shall be re- | stored to you.*

¹⁴***Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of | my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing | of your righteousness.***

¹⁵*O Lord, o- | pen my lips,
and my mouth shall pro- | claim your praise.*

¹⁶***For you take no delight in sacrifice, or | I would give it.
You are not pleased | with burnt offering.***

¹⁷*The sacrifice of God is a | troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will | not despise. R*

Greeting

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.



Word

First Reading

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Because of the coming Day of the Lord, the prophet Joel calls the people to a community lament. The repentant community reminds God of his gracious character and asks God to spare the people, lest the nations doubt God's power to save.

¹Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
 for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—

²a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains
 a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
 nor will be again after them in ages to come.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,
 return to me with all your heart,
 with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing.
 Return to the LORD, your God,
 for he is gracious and merciful,
 slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
 and relents from punishing.

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; sanctify a fast;
 call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather the people.
 Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged;
 gather the children, even infants at the breast.
 Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, “Spare your people, O LORD,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
‘Where is their God?’ ”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 103: 8-14

⁸LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

⁹**you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.**

¹⁰You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

¹¹**For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.**

¹²As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

¹³**As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.**

¹⁴For you know well how we are formed;
you remember that we are but dust.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10

The ministry of the gospel endures many challenges and hardships. Through this ministry, God's reconciling activity in the death of Christ reaches into the depths of our lives to bring us into a right relationship with God. In this way, God accepts us into the reality of divine salvation.

^{20b}We entreat 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}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, “At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of

salvation I have helped you.” See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

Gospel Acclamation



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.

Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.

The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever 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.

¹⁶“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Chris Repp

The assembly stands.

Hymn of the Day

Restore in Us, O God

ELW 328



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen-dor of your love; re -
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit-less fear un - furl our lives like spring-time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search-ing ends, may see you face to face.

The assembly is seated.

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

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or sits. Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

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 toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward 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.

Imposition of Ashes

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 Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The minister marks the forehead of each person present with a cross of ashes, saying:

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

After the imposition of ashes, the service continues with the following dialog and prayer:

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your 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.

Almighty God have mercy on us, 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church,
the world, and all in need.

Each petition concludes:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The assembly stands.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet those with them with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words. If you are alone, you may speak a word of peace to the screen, knowing that others are doing the same. If you are attending using your Facebook account, you may type in a greeting of peace at this time so that others may see it.

After the Peace, the assembly is seated.

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

During this time, we invite you to continue supporting the work of the church by giving online at <http://glccu.org/donate>. You may also mail checks to the church.

Choir Anthem

Sieh, ich bin in Sünd empfangen (BWV 1083)

J.S. Bach

Lydia Walsh-Rock, soprano

Text

*Sieh, ich bin in Sünd empfangen,
Sünden hab ich hier begangen,
seit daß ich geboren ward.*

Translation

*Lo, I was in sin conceived,
sinful deeds I've here committed
since the day that I was born*

Offering Verse *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

ELW 188

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The image shows musical notation for the Offering Verse 'Create in Me a Clean Heart'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right'.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offering Prayer

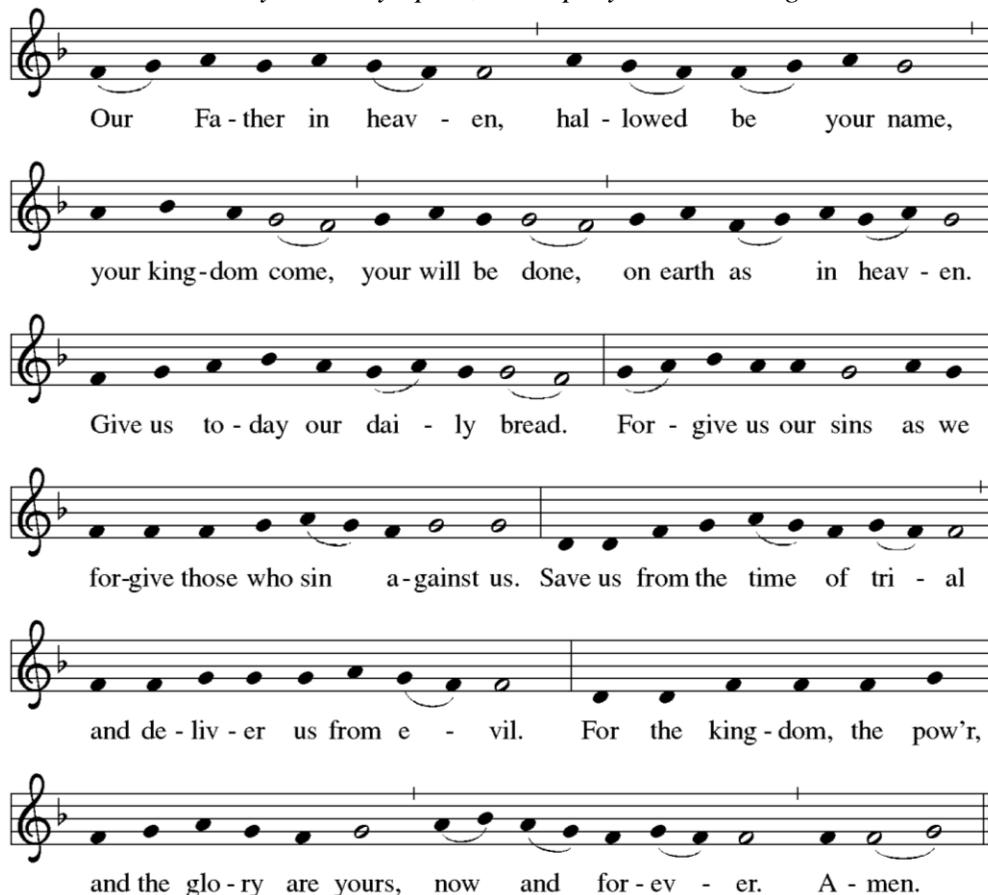
Let us pray.

**Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places,
and illumine our darkness by the light of your Christ.**

**Accompany us in our Lenten journey, that we may pass over from death to life
through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Sending

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

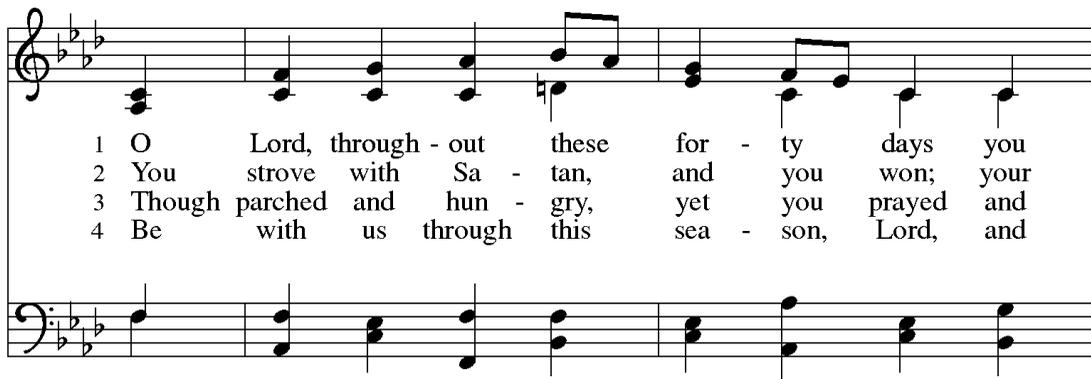
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

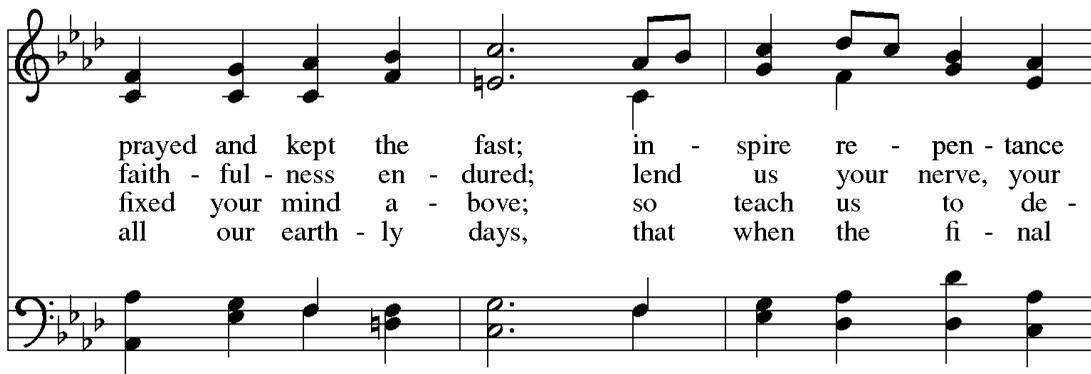
Sending Hymn

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

ELW 319



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.

Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news..

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Support

The ministry of the church is carried out by all of its people, and Christian worship is a communal activity of the whole assembly. We give thanks to the following for their worship leadership and support today.

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Chris Repp	Director of Music:	Andy Bruhn
Assisting Minister:	Helen Repp	Organist:	Dana Robinson
First Reading:	Ja'Net Miller	Sound Technician:	Kevin Vail
Second Reading:	Steven Miller	Video Technician:	David Brown
Psalm:	Ja'Net & Steven Miller	Director of Youth & Congregational Life:	Caitlyn Reinders
		Office Assistant:	Lyla Vipinraj

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