



ASHWEDNESDAY

TURN FROM SIN | TURN TO GOD

St. John's Lutheran Church
February 14th, 2024 6p.m.

✠ Welcome

Confessions and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

All: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

All: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✠ Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

The Imposition of Ashes

Please come forward in the same manner as of communion. As the ashes are applied to your forehead the words, "remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return" will be spoken.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray...

All: 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.

🕊 Song

“Lord Jesus Think On Me”

ELW # 599

First Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

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?’”

R: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10

^{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.

R: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

✠ P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the sixth chapter beginning at verse one.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 6:1-6, 16-21

[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.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Message

Song

“Just As I Am”

ELW # 592

Apostles' Creed

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 into hell.
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 again 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.

Prayers of Intercession-see prayer sheet

Offering

Offering Song

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures
here below; Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son,
and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Offering Prayer

P: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless
these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your
goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for
justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

All: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n 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, hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

P: On the night in which he was betrayed...

The Lord's Prayer

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

Prayer after Communion

P: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

All: Amen.

Announcements

Song ***“The Glory of These Forty Days”*** ELW #320

Blessing

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed.
God ✝ bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with
courage, and give you peace.

All: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

All: Thanks be to God.

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