

# Ash Wednesday

March 2, 2022



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

# ASH WEDNESDAY

March 2, 2022

*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.*

## PRELUDE

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## GATHERING

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P The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## GREETING

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**GATHERING HYMN**

*O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*

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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.

## INVITATION TO LENT

**P** 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

**A** Most holy and merciful God,

**C** **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.**

**A** 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.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**A** 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.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**A** Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**A** Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**A** Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

A Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

**C Have mercy on us, O God.**

A Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

**C Have mercy on us, O God.**

A Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

**C Have mercy on us, O God.**

A Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**C Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

#### **IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

P 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.

**C Amen.**

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

**HYMN**

*Out of the Depths I Cry to You*

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- 1 Out of the depths I cry to you; O Lord God, hear me call - ing.
- 2 All things you send are full of grace; you crown our lives with fa - vor.
- 3 In you a - lone, O God, we hope, and not in our own mer - it.
- 4 My soul is wait - ing for you, Lord, as one who longs for morn - ing;



In - cline your ear to my dis - tress in spite of my re - bel - ling.  
All our good works are done in vain with - out our Lord and Sav - ior.  
We rest our fears in your good Word and trust your Ho - ly Spir - it.  
no watch - er waits with great - er hope than I for your re - turn - ing.



Do not re - gard my sin - ful deeds. Send me the grace  
We praise you for the gift of faith; you save us from  
Your prom - ise keeps us strong and sure; we trust the cross,  
I hope as Is - rael in the Lord, who sends re - demp -



my spir - it needs; with - out it I am noth - ing.  
the grip of death; our lives are in your keep - ing.  
your sig - na - ture, in - scribed up - on our tem - ples.  
tion through the Word. Praise God for grace and mer - cy!

A Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept.*

A Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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.**

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#### **SENDING**

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#### **BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

#### **DISMISSAL**

A Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**C Thanks be to God.**

#### **POSTLUDE**

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Mar. 2 ..... Ash Wednesday Worship ..... 5:30 PM

Sun., Mar. 6..... Worship with Holy Communion ..... 10:30 AM



The mission of  
**Trinity Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**  
is to

- worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
- serve those in need, and
- reach out to share the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ!

**T**ogether in Community • **L**iving with Christ • **C**aring for Neighbors

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