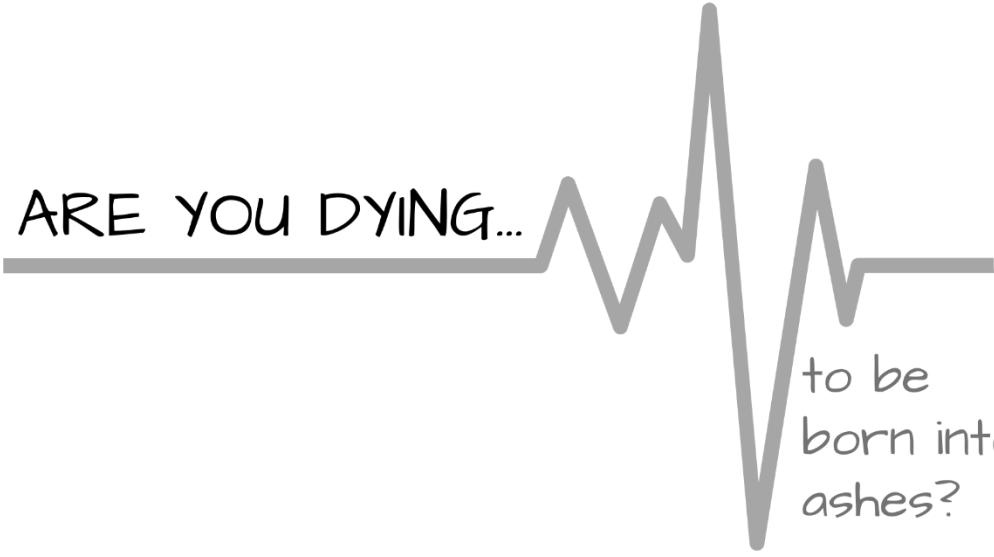


ARE YOU DYING...



to be
born into
ashes?

Ash Wednesday

12 noon

February 26, 2020



trinity | camp hill

LUTHERAN CHURCH



trinity | camp hill

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church! Please sign the red Worship Witness booklet to record your attendance with us this day and indicate how many are communing. Then pass the booklet to the worshipers beside you in your row. If you are a guest, name tags are available for you to wear---we would be delighted to greet you by name. Hearing assistance devices are available at the Gathering Space desk.

about today's service

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.

P: Presiding Minister L: Lector C: Congregation

+ Gathering +

We gather together to praise God and receive God's love.

Please stand as the pastors enter.

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.

+ Word +

We listen to the story of God's mighty acts for the sake of God's people.

Gospel Acclamation

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

Jesus said, "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. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so 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. ⁶ But 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. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so 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; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

[Sit]

[Stand]

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

P: In the dark of night God calls to us; beckoning us on, seeking us out, calling us to peace, to quietness, to wholeness.

C: The world is dark around us, filled with coldness, terror and restlessness.

P: It is a darkness of our creation: greed, hatred, envy: brokenness.

C: Take us and heal us of every evil. Bring us back into the comfort and closeness of your embrace, O God.

P: Your cleansing love, O God, purifies our darkness restoring it to us: warm, comforting, restful: complete.

C: In the dark of our night we hear God call, offering love and strength and forgiveness.

P: With God the darkness brings comfort not fear, love not hatred, righteousness not punishment. Walk in the darkness of your life as in the light, for both the dark and the light belong to God, as do you.

C: Amen.

— from *Ash Wednesday (Taize with imposition of ashes)* written by Lisa Frenz for the Mt. Carmel Evangelical Lutheran Church in Portland, Oregon. Posted on **Lisa's Liturgies**. <https://sites.google.com/site/lisasliturgies/home> "Copyright © 1999 Lisa Frenz. All Rights Reserved. Used with permission."

[Sit]

Imposition of Ashes

Persons wishing to receive the mark of ashes are asked to walk up the center aisle in two rows, pause before the pastor and return by a side aisle.

After all who desire ashes have received them:

[Stand]

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

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

P: By the cross and Passion of your Son our Savior,

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

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends:

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Offering

Optional giving methods: Use the Give+ app on your mobile device • Use the Giving Station in the Gathering Space • Text an amount to 717-963-2281 (be sure to use a "\$") • Use the "DONATE" button on our website and e-blasts

Free will offering can be placed in the plate in the back of the worship space as you leave.

+ Meal +

When we celebrate communion we remember that Jesus died for us and we experience God's love and forgiveness. As we eat the bread and wine Christ is present with us.

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: Creator God, we lift our hearts to you... And so we gladly praise and thank you, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing your unending praise:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: 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.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: Redeemer God, over forty days you flooded the earth....

P: Great is the mystery of faith.

C: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

P Sanctifying God, where your children are in the wilderness....

...until the day when every eye shall see you and every tongue shall praise you, and you are all in all, ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Invitation to Communion

P: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

C: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

[Sit]

Distribution of Holy Communion

We invite all baptized Christians to the Lord's Table to celebrate the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament. Communion is by intinction. You will receive a wafer. Dip it in the chalice of wine before consuming. You may then return to your seat or come to the altar rail for prayer. Children and adults who aren't communing may come forward to receive a blessing. As a gesture of hospitality, we use dealcoholized wine (less than .5% alcohol). In addition, we offer gluten-free wafers, available upon request B please ask at the time of communion.

[Stand]

Post-Communion

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

C: Amen.

Prayer

A: Let us pray. Lord God, in your mercy, give grace to us who have received this Most Blessed Sacrament that our Lenten penance may give you glory and bring us pardon and salvation. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

✠ **Sending** ✠

*We have heard the Word of God, offered our gifts, and been fed at the table.
Now we are sent out, strengthened by the Holy Spirit to be God's people in the world.*

Benediction

P: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.
The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Dismissal

P: Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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