

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church & School

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Lutheran Church ~ Missouri Synod

7:00 PM

February 22, 2012

Ash Wednesday

*You are
receiving
the outcome of
your faith,
the salvation
of your souls.*

*Welcome,
Guests!*

We are glad you joined us! Please complete our **Fellowship Register**, located at the ends of the seats, with your name, phone, address, & e-mail. We look forward to meeting you!



Serving Tonight...

Sermon:
Pastor Greg Zillinger

Liturgist and Celebrant:
Pastor Brad Stoltenow

Lector:
Vicar Carl Frank

Musicians:
Mrs. Gail Black
Shepherd's Chorale

✠ IN THE NAME OF JESUS ✠

Anthem Shepherd's Chorale *Remember, O God*

Welcome

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b

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

C: Amen!

Prayer

P: Let us pray:

O God, You do not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their evil ways and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our human nature, for we know that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins, that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen!

Confession, with Joel 2:12-19

p. 761 ESV

"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster. Who 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?

Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber.

Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, "Spare Your people, O LORD, and make not Your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the people, 'Where is their God?'"

Response

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

P: Gracious God,

C: **we acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins—those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but which are seen by You. We know that before You nothing remains hidden, and in You everything is revealed. Free us from our slavery to sin, and work in us that which is pleasing in Your sight, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(silence for reflection and personal confession)

P: As the ancient Israelites repented of their sin and sat in sackcloth and ashes, we likewise come to You, holy Father, fully aware that because of sin we are but frail human beings—sinners in need of Your forgiveness.

RETURN

to the Lord
your God.



Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the penitential season of Lent, is one of the most solemn days of the Church Year. Traditionally, Lent was the time when candidates for Holy Baptism were intentionally preparing to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. We, too, in this Lenten season prepare ourselves to remember our Baptism at Easter, as we ritually "pass over" with Jesus from death to new life.

Tonight, we have the opportunity to receive ashes as a sign of penitence—being sorry for our sins—and Baptismal remembrance. The words spoken as ashes are imposed: "Dust you are, and to dust you shall return," were first spoken to Adam after his fall into sin. Ashes also suggest cleansing and renewal. Thus, ashes imposed in the shape of a cross symbolize both judgment and Baptismal cleansing.

May our Lord and Savior Jesus bless your Lenten season with sincere contemplation and heavenly hope!

At this time, those who wish to receive the mark of ashes upon their forehead may come forward.

Imposition of Ashes

All are invited to meditate on Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 103, 130, 143 in the front part of the hymnal. You may also use for meditation the Hymns of Confession and Absolution # 606-616.

Absolution

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. Through His Holy Spirit given at our Baptism, He cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God, who called us out of darkness into the splendor of His light. At the command of Christ and by the power of His cross, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen!

Hymn # 422 "On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

Epistle Reading

pp. 966, 7 [ESV](#)

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

Working together with Him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

Response

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

The Holy Gospel

p. 811 [ESV](#)

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

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. 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. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

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. But 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 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. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that 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.

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Response

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

Hymn # 574 "Before the Throne of God Above"

Homily "A Christian Life: Righteousness and Repentance" Text: 2 Cor 5:20b-6:10

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Voluntary Shepherd's Chorale *Return to the Lord*

✠ ✠ ✠

Directions for Holy Communion

You will be ushered forward for Communion.

When receiving the host (bread), please extend your hand palm up.

If you are not communing but wish to come up and receive a blessing, you may keep your hands folded.

Wine without alcohol is available in the center of each tray.

Preparation for Holy Communion

Holy Scriptures record the Apostle Paul: "A person ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself." (1 Cor 11:28,29) Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood without understanding His true presence in the Sacrament do so to their harm, and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith confessed at this altar, **any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church ~ Missouri Synod and desire to receive the sacrament are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.**

For Further Meditation

LSB pp. 326 & 327, *The Sacrament of the Altar*, and pp. 329 & 330, *Christian Questions with their Answers*

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Confession of Faith

ALL: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true!

Lord's Prayer Shepherd's Chorale

The Words of Our Lord

Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19,20; 1 Cor 11:23-25

Pax Domini ~ The Peace of the Lord

John 20:19

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you!

Agnus Dei ~ Lamb of God

John 1:29

P: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;

C: have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;

C: have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;

C: give us Your peace!

ALL: Amen.

Distribution

Shepherd's Chorale *Cast Ev'ry Burden Upon the Lord*

433 "Glory Be to Jesus"

423 "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"



Christ died
that we might
die to sin
and live for
righteousness;
the earth
is stained
to make us clean
and bring us
into peace.
For peace
He came and
met its cost;
He gave Himself
to save the lost;
He loved us
to the uttermost
and paid for
our release.

~C. M. Idle,
from LSB # 432



Post-Communion Collect

P: Let us pray: Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to us in this holy Sacrament. Keep us in Your faith and favor that we may live in You, even as You live in us. May Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith to life everlasting. Hear us for the sake of Your name.

C: **Amen!**

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: **Amen!**

Hymn # 877 "God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven"

✠ **TO GOD ALONE ALL GLORY!** ✠

Witness ✠ Mercy ✠ Life Together

In the Gospels,
we see that
Jesus' work is
to *bear witness*,
to *show mercy*,
and to *share
His divine life
together with
His people.*

*Witness, Mercy,
Life Together*
also describes
what the Church
does in
this world
while living under
the shadow of
Jesus' cross—
what the mission
of the Church
has been
from Pentecost
until today.

Lent at Shepherd of the Hills

Wednesday Worship Theme: Witness ✠ Mercy ✠ Life Together

Soup Suppers @ 5:45p in the Parish Hall

February 29: WITNESS ✠ *Martyria*

March 7: WITNESS as Confession

March 14: MERCY ✠ *Diakonia*

March 21: LIFE TOGETHER ✠ *Koinonia*

March 28: WITNESS ✠ MERCY ✠ LIFE TOGETHER

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Holy Week Divine Services

Palm Sunday: April 1

regular Sunday schedule, with Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday: April 5

7p with Holy Communion

Good Friday Tre-Ore: April 6

7 mini services, noon-3p

Good Friday Tenebrae: April 6

Service of Darkness @ 7p

Easter Sunrise: April 8

6:30a with Holy Communion

The Resurrection of Our Lord: April 8

Traditional 8 & 10:45a with Holy Communion

Contemporary 10:45a with Holy Communion

Easter Breakfast: 7-10:30a

Please join your church family; ask your friends to become part of our family!