



ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 14, 2018 6:30 pm

Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School, ELS

1123 Marsh Street Mankato, MN 56001 / (507)345-4966 church@mtolivelutheran.org

Pastors John J. Petersen & Luke Ulrich / Principal Larry Rude

Welcome! In the name of our risen Savior we welcome you to Mt. Olive and thank you for worshipping with us this evening. If you are a guest please fill out a **Guest Card** (found in front of you in the hymnbook rack) or sign our guest book in the entry. We invite you to come and worship with us again soon. **Large Print** copies of the order of service from the ELS Hymnary are available from the usher stand in the back of the sanctuary. **For the Hearing Impaired:** Our facility is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask an usher for a receiver.

Explanation of the Week:

The name Ash Wednesday is derived from the medieval custom of the penitents coming to the church on this day in sackcloth and with naked feet and throwing ashes over their heads when they had finished their prayers. These ashes were made from palm fronds blessed the previous Palm Sunday. The Lessons for the day emphasize Repentance. The first lesson proclaims, "Return to Me with all your heart," and "rend your hearts and not your garments." (Joel 2:12-13) We also are encouraged by the second lesson to "Be reconciled to God...See, now is the day of salvation!" (1 Corinthians 5:20, 6:2) The tradition that many congregations have of marking one's head with ashes is meant to be a visible sign and reminder of repentance. Though we at Mt. Olive have not had the tradition of placing ashes on our foreheads, the meaning is important to us and for our hearts. Inwardly, we are turning from our sins and to God. In our Ash Wednesday Service God comes to those who are repentant, sharing His forgiveness through the pronouncement of Absolution and by sharing Christ's own Body and Blood with us in the Holy Sacrament. Throughout this season of Lent, we continue daily to turn to God--placing our trust in Him and in His forgiveness.

~Hymn 287, vv. 1, 5 *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now*

~The Invocation and Versicles (p. 130)

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

C: Amen.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: Make haste to help me, O Lord.

P: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit.

C: A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

~Collect: Almighty and everlasting God, You hate nothing that You have made and You forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of You, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

~Confession of Sin (Form II, p. 130)

P: And now I ask you, in the presence of God, who searches the heart:

Do you sincerely confess that you have sinned against God and deserved His wrath and punishment?

C: I do so confess.

P: Truly you should confess, for Holy Scripture declares: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

Do you heartily repent of all your sins committed in thought, word, and deed?

C: I do repent.

P: Truly you should repent, as did the penitent sinners: King David, who prayed for a contrite heart; Peter, who wept bitterly; the sinful woman; the prodigal son; and others.

Do you sincerely believe that God, by grace, for Jesus' sake, will forgive you all your sins?

C: I do so believe.

P: Truly you should believe, for Holy Scripture declares: “God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Do you promise that by the power of the Holy Spirit you will amend your sinful life?

C: I do so promise.

P: Truly you should so promise, for Christ the Lord says: “Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

Finally, do you believe that through me, a called servant of God, you will receive the forgiveness of all your sins?

C: I do so believe.

P: Truly you should believe, for Christ the Lord says: “Whoever hears you, hears Me” and “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them.”

~**Choir Anthem: *Create In Me A Clean Heart, O God*** – arr. Jacob B. Weber

~**Personal Absolution** (Form II, p. 132)

P: Upon this your confession, come forward to the altar of the Lord and receive the declaration of the forgiveness of all your sins. (*Under the direction of the ushers, the penitents come forward and kneel at the altar rail.*)

By the authority of God and of my holy office (*then, with the laying on of hands, saying to each one*) I declare to you the gracious forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

May He who has begun the good work in you perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. Peace be with you. Amen.

~**Hymn 276 *When O'er My Sins I Sorrow***

~**Hymn 522 *O Faithful God, Thanks Be to Thee***

~**General Absolution**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

May He comfort your heart by His holy Absolution, and strengthen you by His Sacraments, that your joy may be full. Peace be with you!

~Old Testament Lesson

Joel 2:12-19 "Now, therefore," says the LORD, "Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning." So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm.

~Epistle Lesson

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, inasmuch as God is making an appeal through us. We urge you, on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made Him, who did not know sin, to become sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. As fellow workers we also urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. For He says: At a favorable time I listened to you, and in the day of salvation I helped you. Look, now is the favorable time! See, now is the day of salvation!"

~Nicene Creed (p. 69)

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the Resurrection of the dead and the Life of the world to come. Amen.

~Hymn 239 vv. 1 and 3 *I Lay My Sins on Jesus*

~Gospel Lesson & Sermon Text

Luke 19:41-44 As He came near, He saw the city and wept over it. He said, "If you, yes you, had only known on this day the things that would bring peace to you. But now, it is hidden from your eyes. In fact, the days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you, surround you, and hem you in on every side. Within your walls, they will dash you and your children to the ground. And within your walls, they will not leave one stone on top of another, because you did not recognize the time when God came to help you."

~Sermon Theme

The Sounds of Lent: The Sound of Jesus Weeping

~Offering & Hymn 316/317 ***Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior***

(Visitors: Please place guest cards in offering plate)

* **Holy Communion:** *The Bible teaches that in this Sacrament we receive Christ's true body and blood with the bread and wine. Here, Jesus gives His people what they need most of all: forgiveness of sins. **Guests & Visitors:** We understand that by coming forward and taking communion, you are professing a unity of faith with this congregation and that you are in full agreement with the teachings and doctrines of our church. If you are unsure of the teachings of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, please talk with a pastor before communing. Thank You.*

~Exhortation (pp. 52-53)

P: Dear friends in Christ! In order that you may receive this holy Sacrament worthily, it is good that you consider what you must now believe and do. From the words of Christ: "This is My body, which is given for you; this is My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sin," you should believe that Jesus Christ is Himself present with His body and blood, as the words declare.

From Christ's words "For the remission of sins," you should believe that Jesus Christ bestows upon you His body and blood to confirm unto you the forgiveness of all your sins.

And finally, you should do as Christ commands you when He says "Take, eat; drink of it, all of you," and "This do in remembrance of Me."

If you believe these words of Christ, and do as He therein has commanded, then you have rightly examined yourselves and may worthily eat Christ's body and drink His blood for the forgiveness of all your sins.

You should also unite in giving thanks to Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for so great a gift, and should love one another with a pure heart, and thus with the whole Christian Church have comfort and joy in Christ our Lord. To this end may God the Father grant you His grace; through the same, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

~**Lord's Prayer** (p. 53)

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 pow'r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

~**Words of Institution** (p. 54)

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

~**Agnus Dei** (p. 55)

C: ✠ O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God. You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, grant us Your peace. Amen.

~**Distribution**

Hymn 320 vv. 1, 6-8 *Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Bestowed*

Hymn 333 vv. 1-5 *Christ, the Life of All the Living*

~**Dismissal** (p. 56)

P: Our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ, who has now bestowed upon you His holy body and blood, whereby He has made full satisfaction for all your sins, strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto everlasting life. Peace be with you. Amen.

~Collect of Thanksgiving (p. 56)

P: Let us give thanks and pray: We thank You, Lord God Almighty, that You have refreshed us with these Your salutary gifts; and we beseech You of Your mercy, to strengthen us through the same in faith toward You, and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: ♪ Amen.

~Benediction (pp. 56-57)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: ♪ Amen, amen, amen.

~Closing Hymn 333 v.6 *Thou Hast Suffered Great Affliction*

Preacher: Pastor Luke Ulrich / Liturgist: Pastor John J. Petersen

Organist: John Baumann

Sr. Choir Director: Elisabeth Urtel

Violinists: Matthew Strom and Alyssa Inniger

Lenten Meal Schedule

February 14th – Bethany Auxiliary (Chili)
Feb. 21st – Evangelism Committee (Sloppy Joes)
Feb. 28th – LEGO League (Tacos)
March 7th – School Faculty (or Board of Ed.)
March 14th – BLC Law Club (Lasagna)
March 21st– M.O.M.'s (Hot Dish Extravaganza)



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES FEBRUARY 21ST- MARCH 21ST 2018 *"The Sounds of Lent"*



February 21st Pastor John Petersen -
Matthew 26:14-15; 27:3-5
The Clinking of the Coins

February 28th Pastor Matt Moldstad – Matthew 27:24
The Splashing of the Water

March 7th Vicar Zach Steinke – Matthew 27:21-23
The Shouting of the Crowd

March 14th Pastor Dan Witte – Luke 23:27-30
The Wailing of the Women

March 21st Pastor Keith Siverly – Matthew 26:69-75
The Crowing of the Rooster