

**ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY, February 22, 2023**

Pastors  
Ministers  
Organist

Randy Baldwin/Bill Peters  
Every Member of this Parish  
Helen Steene

**A M A Z I N G   G R A C E**  
**T H E   S E A S O N   O F   L E N T**  
**“David”**

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Psalm 51:1*

**ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP**  
**Celebrated with Imposition of Ashes**  
**And Holy Communion**

*Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent with ash on our foreheads. This cross echoes our baptismal anointing, when we were buried with Christ. The ash is a chilling reminder of our mortality, but because our death is now in Christ, our endings are beginnings. The Lenten disciplines of acts of kindness, prayer, and fasting are tools of discipleship that can lead us to renewal as we bury all that is holding us back from being truly alive.*

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Prelude  
Welcome and Announcements

**INVOCATION**

We begin our worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

King David sinned against the Lord, committing adultery and murder. When he was confronted by the prophet Nathan, the king repented of his sins. In the Spirit-inspired words of a psalm, David expressed his sorrow over his sins and his trust in God's mercy: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions." God, in his grace, forgave the repentant king. As we begin our Lenten

journey on this Ash Wednesday, we repent of our sins and, using the words of David's psalm, we seek God's amazing grace and ask him to have mercy on us.

**"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight ... Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities" Psalm 51:1-4, 9**

Just as he did in the life of his servant David, God has showered us with his grace, his undeserved favor for sinners. God sent his Son into the world to be our Savior. On the cross Jesus took onto himself the penalty of death that we deserved for our sins and now those sins are washed away in his blood. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit" Psalm 51:10-12**

OPENING HYMN "Canticle of the Turning" ELW #723

*My soul cries out with a joyful shout  
that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things  
that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,  
and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest.  
Could the world be about to turn?*

Refrain

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn.*

*Though I am small, my God, my all,  
you work great things in me,  
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past  
to the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame,  
and to those who would for you yearn,  
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,  
for the world is about to turn.*

Refrain

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn.*

*From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r,  
not a stone will be left on stone.  
Let the king beware for your justice tears  
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.  
The hungry poor shall weep no more,  
for the food they can never earn;  
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,  
for the world is about to turn.*

Refrain

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn.*

*Though the nations rage from age to age,  
we remember who holds us fast:  
God's mercy must deliver us  
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard  
is the promise which holds us bound,  
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,  
who is turning the world around.*

Refrain

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn.*

### IMPOSITION OF ASHES

In repentant humility, the Old Testament figure Job said, "I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes" (Job 42:6). In ancient times, God's people often demonstrated sorrow for their sins by putting dust and ashes on their heads, a reminder of the penalty of death decreed in Eden, when God said, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19). Today on Ash Wednesday, as we begin our journey to the cross with Jesus, we remember that we are sinners and that we need a Savior. We receive a mark of ashes in the sign of a cross, remembering that, on the cross, Jesus took onto himself the penalty of death for our sins. You are invited to come forward and receive the mark of ashes.

*Participants are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers.*

Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return.

**Amen**

*{After All have Received Ashes}*

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,  
**That we may show forth your glory in the world.**  
By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,  
**Bring us with all your saint to the joy of his resurrection.**

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, you showed grace and mercy to your servant David, granting him forgiveness. According to your perfect plan, David the king became an ancestor of a greater King, the Savior called the Son of David, Jesus the Messiah. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we too know and experience your amazing grace. During this season of Lent, lead us to true repentance and renew your Spirit within us that we might serve you by sharing your love with others and living as witnesses to Jesus' love. Hear our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.**

#### FIRST LESSON

2 Samuel 12:1-13

#### SECOND LESSON

Romans 4:4-8

#### GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 15:8-10

The gospel lesson for this evening is written in the sixth chapter of Matthew beginning with the 8<sup>th</sup> verse. **Glory to you O Lord.**

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

#### SERMON

*"Grace for the Humble"*

#### HYMN

*"It is Well with My Soul"*

ELW # 785

*When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*Refrain It is well (it is well)  
with my soul, (with my soul,)  
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
let this blest assurance control,  
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
and has shed his own blood for my soul.*

*Refrain It is well (it is well)  
with my soul, (with my soul,)  
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;  
my sin, not in part, but the whole,  
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!*

*Refrain It is well (it is well)  
with my soul, (with my soul,)  
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,  
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;  
even so it is well with my soul.*

*Refrain It is well (it is well)  
with my soul, (with my soul,)  
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

## 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 to the dead.  
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 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 THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole church and all people as we begin our  
Lenten Journey;

Petitions end - "Gracious Lord,"

Response "Have mercy on us and hear our prayer."

## BENEDICTION

### THREE FOLD AMEN

## CLOSING HYMN "Amazing Grace"

vs. 1-3 #779

*how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me;  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.*

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace and share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude



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# **ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH**

◆Bethany ◆Immanuel ◆Lunder ◆Silver Lake ◆Winnebago

**Ash Wednesday      February 22, 2023**