



*All are
from the dust,
and to dust
all return*

Ecclesiastes 3:20

Divine Service, Setting Two (adapted), LSB pp. 168-183

The pastor enters in silence.

ASH WEDNESDAY ADDRESS — *Stand*

P Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

Silence for reflection

LITANY FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

- P** O Lord,
C **have mercy.**
- P** O Christ,
C **have mercy.**
- P** O Lord,
C **have mercy.**
- P** O Christ,
C **hear us.**
- P** God the Father in heaven,
C **have mercy.**
- P** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
C **have mercy.**
- P** God the Holy Spirit,
C **have mercy.**
- P** Be gracious to us.
C **Spare us, good Lord.**
- P** Be gracious to us.
C **Help us, good Lord.**

- P** By the mystery of Your holy incarnation;
 by Your holy nativity;
 by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation;
 by Your agony and bloody sweat;
 by Your cross and passion;
 by Your precious death and burial;
 by Your glorious resurrection and ascension;
 and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:
- C Help us, good Lord.**
- P** In all time of our tribulation;
 in all time of our prosperity;
 in the hour of death;
 and in the day of judgment:
- C Help us, good Lord.**
- P** We poor sinners implore You
- C to hear us, O Lord.**
- P** To prosper the preaching of Your Word;
 to bless our prayer and meditation;
 to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith;
 and to give heart to our sorrow
 and strength to our repentance:
- C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** To draw all to Yourself;
 to bless those who are instructed in the faith;
 to watch over and console
 the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned,
 and all who stand in our need of prayers;
 to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy;
 and to have mercy on us all;
- C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** To turn our hearts to You;
 to turn the hearts of our enemies,
 persecutors, and slanderers;
 and graciously to hear our prayers;
- C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
- C we implore You to hear us.**
- P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C have mercy.**
- P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C have mercy.**
- P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C grant us Your peace.**
- P** O Christ,
- C hear us.**
- P** O Lord,
- C have mercy.**

P O Christ,
C have mercy.

P O Lord,
C have mercy. Amen.

P O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge 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.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES — *Sit*

*Savior, When in Dust to Thee
Lord, to You I Make Confession*

Hymn 419

Hymn 608

Stand

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, as You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent, create in us new and contrite hearts that, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Joel 2:12–19

¹²“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³and 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.

¹⁴Who 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?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather 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.

¹⁷Between 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 peoples, “Where is their God?””

¹⁸Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people.

¹⁹The LORD answered and said to his people,

“Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations.”

ANTHEM (4:00) *Turn Thy Face from My Sins* Thomas Attwood Kantor

Turn Thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds.
Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

(Psalm 51:9-11)

ANTHEM (7:00) *I Shall See* Michael John Trotta Choir

Teach me Your way; lead me in a straight path. One thing I seek, to dwell in Your house.
Your face I seek; hide not from me. You are my light, whom should I fear?
In times of trouble He shall hide me; I will not fear. He is my strength.
I believe I shall see all of Your good in the land of the living.
Wait upon Him, and He will strengthen you.
Wait for Him, He is your strength. I will not fear. He is my strength.

(based on Psalm 27: 1, 3-5, 8, 9, 11, 13)

EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

²⁰We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For 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. ³We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

Stand

VERSE (Lent) p. 173

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

[Jesus said:] ¹“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.

²“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. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“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. ⁶But 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.” ...

¹⁶“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.

¹⁷But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸that your fasting may not be seen

Psalm 51

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.
- ⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- ⁶ Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.
- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.
- ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.
- ¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud
of your righteousness.
- ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- ¹⁶ For you will not delight in sacrifice,
or I would give it;
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.
- ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God,
you will not despise.
- ¹⁸ Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
build up the walls of Jerusalem;
- ¹⁹ then will you delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Matthew 6:7-15

⁷“And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

⁹Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
¹⁰ Your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread,
¹² and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
¹³ And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

¹⁴For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”