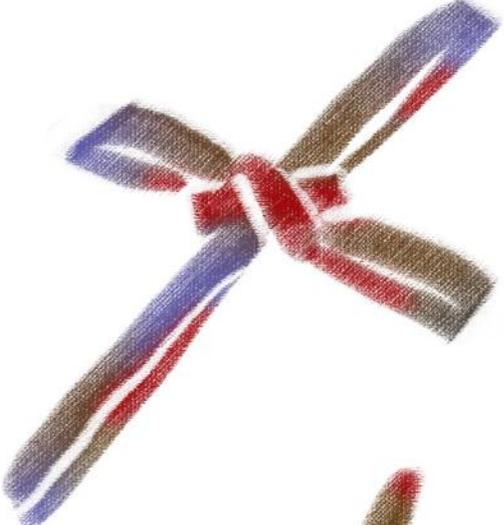


Ash 
Wednesday

Ash Wednesday
2-17-2021

PRELUDE

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

AUS TIEFER NOT SCHREI ICH ZU DIR, LV 27

THE GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you!**

THE OPENING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of 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.**

A READING FROM PSALM 51

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

C: **Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

P: For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

C: **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

P: Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

C: Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.

P: Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

C: Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.

P: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

P: Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

C: Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

P: Let me teach your ways to offenders, and sinners shall be restored to you.

C: Rescue me, O God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

P: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

C: For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it. You are not pleased with burnt offering.

P: The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

O LORD, THROUGHOUT THESE FORTY DAYS



1 O Lord, through-out these for - ty days you prayed and kept the fast;
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your faith - ful - ness en - dured;
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind a - bove;
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and all our earth - ly days,



in - spire re - pen - tance for our sin, and free us from our past.
lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
so teach us to de - ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
that when the fi - nal Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan, b. 1930

Music: CAITHNESS, *Psalter*. Edinburgh. 1635

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*. admin. Augsburg Fortress

A READING FROM ISAIAH

58:1-12

R: A reading from Isaiah the 58th chapter.

1 Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their
sins. 2 Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my
ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me
righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. 3 “Why do
we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not
notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers. 4 Look, you fast only to quarrel and to
fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

5Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and
ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

6Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke? 7Is it not to share your bread with the
hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you
see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your
own kin? 8Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your
healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. 9Then you shall call,
and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say,
Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger,
the speaking of evil, 10if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the
darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. 11The Lord will
guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered
garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

12Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the
foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of
the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

”

R: Word of God, Word of Life!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

A READING FROM 2 CORINTHIANS

5:20b-6:10

R: A reading from 2nd Corinthians the 5th chapter.

^{20b}We entreat 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}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

R: Word of God, Word of Life!

C: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 6:1-6,-16-21

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 6th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“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. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so 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. ⁶But 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. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so 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; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

Pastor Clayton J. Bailey

OUT OF THE DEPTHS I CRY TO YOU



1 Out of the depths I cry to you; O Lord God, hear me call - ing.
2 All things you send are full of grace; you crown our lives with fa - vor.
3 In you a - lone, O God, we hope, and not in our own mer - it.
4 My soul is wait - ing for you, Lord, as one who longs for morn - ing;



In - cline your ear to my dis - tress in spite of my re - bel - ling.
All our good works are done in vain with - out our Lord and Sav - ior.
We rest our fears in your good Word and trust your Ho - ly Spir - it.
no watch - er waits with great - er hope than I for your re - turn - ing.



Do not re - gard my sin - ful deeds. Send me the grace
We praise you for the gift of faith; you save us from
Your prom - ise keeps us strong and sure; we trust the cross,
I hope as Is - rael in the Lord, who sends re - demp -



my spir - it needs; with - out it I am noth - ing.
the grip of death; our lives are in your keep - ing.
your sig - na - ture, in - scribed up - on our tem - ples.
tion through the Word. Praise God for grace and mer - cy!

THE 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.

THE CONFESSION

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

You are invited to kneel as you are able.

P: Most holy and merciful God,

C: We confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

P: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

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P: Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

C: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Please be seated.

BLESSING OF THE ASHES

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

Please remain in your seats.

Pastor will visit each family to distribute the ashes.

MEDITATION

Organ:

Robert Lau

PICARDY

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Solo:

Douglas Nolan

Speak to Me in Ashes
Victor Welsch, baritone

Organ:

David Cherwien

PICARDY

THE ABSOLUTION

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.

THE GREAT 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.

THE PREFACE FOR LENT

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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: Jesus draws the whole world to himself.
Come to this meal and be fed.

*At this time you may open your communion cups
as we share the Body and Blood of Christ.*

TABLE BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

THE TABLE PRAYER

P: Let us pray. God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P: You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. May God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, that you may be a blessing to others.

C: Amen.

SAVIOR, WHEN IN DUST TO YOU



1 Sav-ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom-age due;
2 By your help-less in-fant years, by your life of want and tears,
3 By your hour of dire de-spair, by your ag-o-ny of prayer,
4 By your deep ex-pir-ing groan, by the sad se-pul-chral stone,



when, re-pen-tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep-ing eyes;
by your days of deep dis-tress in the sav-age wil-der-ness,
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc-ing spear, and tor-tur-ing scorn,
by the vault whose dark a-bode held in vain the ris-ing God,



oh, by all your pains and woe suf-fered once for us be-low,
by the dread, mys-te-rious hour of the in-sult-ing tempt-er's pow'r,
by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread-ful sac-ri-fice,
oh, from earth to heav'n re-stored, might-y, re-as-cend-ed Lord,



bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!
turn, oh, turn a fa-v'ring eye; hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!
lis-ten to our hum-ble sigh; hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!
bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt.

Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1841–1903

POSTLUDE

Janet Linker

Variations on ABERYSTWYTH
Theme and Variations

THANK YOU to Shelley Ross for serving as tonight's Lector and
Beth & Jack Myers for being tonight's Host family.

Many thanks to our Cantor,
Victor Welsch.



Ash
WEDNESDAY

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Director of Music:
CURTIS L. KING

"God is among us!"
"We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive,
reconcile and trust God for all that we need."