



Ash Wednesday
2-22-2023

PRELUDE

Johann Sebastian Bach

O MENSCH, BEWEIN' DEIN' SÜNDE GROSS, S. 622

O people, weep for your great sin

THE GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you!**

THE OPENING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

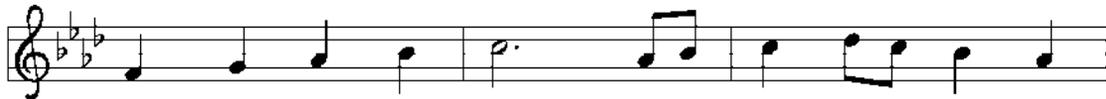
Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

O LORD, THROUGHOUT THESE FORTY DAYS



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
 faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
 fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
 all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.
 skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
 ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
 Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930
 Music: CONSOLATION. A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816
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A READING FROM 2ND SAMUEL 12:1-13

R: A reading from 2nd Samuel the 12th chapter.

And the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, “There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds, but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. And he brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children. It used to eat of his morsel and drink from his cup and lie in his arms, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had come to him, but he took the poor man’s lamb and prepared it for the man who

had come to him.” Then David’s anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, “As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.” Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. And I gave you your master’s house and your master’s wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.’ Thus says the Lord, ‘Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house. And I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun.’” David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.” And Nathan said to David, “The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die.”

R: Word of God, Word of Life!

C: Thanks be to God!

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 sin, 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 offerings.

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

A READING FROM ROMANS

4:4-8

R: A reading from Romans the 4th chapter.

Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."

R: Word of God, Word of Life!

C: Thanks be to God!

AMAZING GRACE

Verse 1

Amazing grace!
How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind,
but now I see.

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 15:8-10

P: A reading from St. Luke the 15th chapter.

What woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

P: Word of God, Word of Life!

C: Thanks be to God!

TODAY'S REFLECTION

Rev. Clayton J. Bailey

amazing
GRACE

Please stand.

SAVIOR, WHEN IN DUST TO YOU

ELW 601



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-turing 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-cr'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

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 gracious 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 and 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. 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 judgements, 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.

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

MEDITATION

*Organ Settings on KAS DZIEDÄJA
Once We Sang and Danced*

ELW 701

VOCAL SOLO

Dan Nolan

Speak to Me in Ashes
Victor Welsch, baritone

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.

Please stand.

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: Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

C:



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

At this time we share in taking the bread and wine as we feast on the body and blood of Christ. Together we break bread and lift the cup.

Please stand.

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

L: Let us pray. Embodied God, at your table we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your

promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P: God, the giver of love, Christ the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

C: Amen.

ONCE WE SANG AND DANCED ***ELW 701***



1 Once we sang and danced with glad-ness, once de-light filled ev-'ry breath;
2 All the wil-lows bow in weep-ing, all the riv-ers rage and moan,
3 God, who came to dwell a-mong us, God, who suf-fered our dis-grace,
4 Come, O Christ, a-mong the ash-es, come to wipe our tears a-way,



now we sit a-mong the ash-es, all our dreams de-stroyed by death.
as cre-a-tion joins our plead-ing: "God, do not leave us a-lone."
from your own heart, grieved and wound-ed, come the rich-es of your grace.
death de-stroy and sor-row ban-ish; now and al-ways, come and stay.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952, based on Psalm 137

Music: KAS DZIEDĀJA, Latvian folk tune

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POSTLUDE

Janet Linker

Variations on ABERYSTWYTH
Savior, When in Dust to You
VI. Firmly

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-cr'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!

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Tonight's Worship Leaders

Cantor/Soloist *Victor Welsch* *Facebook Camera:* *Wendy Bailey*

Hosts: *Sharon Losey/Judy Kimmel* *SlideShow Creator:* *Pastor Bailey*

Lector: *Shelley Ross* *SlideShow Operator:* *Andrew Bailey*

Worship Assistant: *Shelley Ross* *Voice of David:* *Rick Greene*

Director of Music: *Curtis L. King* *Tonight's Officiant:* *Pastor Bailey*

We could not offer multiple platforms for sharing worship
"Apart...yet Together"
without an entire crew of people working to make the magic happen.
THANK YOU!



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."