



ASH Wednesday

“For you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Genesis 3:19

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Bonduel, Wisconsin
February 26, 2020

ASH WEDNESDAY

- ❖ *Ash Wednesday is a solemn Christian day.*
- ❖ *Today we measure our hearts against God's Law; He leads us to repent.*
- ❖ *Lent begins. The music is restrained. We do not sing "alleluias" during Lent.*
- ❖ *The black altar paraments remind us of our sin and death.*
- ❖ *Receiving the sign of the cross marked with ashes is a two-fold reminder: we are dust, and to dust we shall return; Christ suffered on the cross for our sin*
- ❖ *We enter and leave the sanctuary in reverent silence.*
- ❖ *Our offerings today may be placed in the baskets in the narthex after the service.*



† RINGING OF THE BELL †

All stand in silence and face the processional cross.

Pastoral Address

The ashes symbolize this truth: we are dust, and to dust we must return. When we look into our hearts, we see sin and death. We know that from them we cannot escape. Ash Wednesday is for self-examination, because Jesus gives His Holy Meal to comfort those who are troubled because of their sin and who fear God's wrath.

The problem is not simply death. The problem is that when we die we face God's judgment. His judgment is against every man, woman, and child born with a corrupt, fallen, anti-God, sinful nature, including you and me.

To confess sin means to agree with God's evaluation and guilty verdict. Is His judgment misplaced? No. You and I have not kept God's Law. To ignore your guilt empowers your sin to numb your conscience and to destroy your faith. Holding sin without Christ leads the sinner into hell. However, as God leads us to confess our sin, He thereby opens our hearts to receive His Word of absolution, "I forgive you all of your sins." His forgiveness means that He hides His face from your sin, separates your sin from you as far as the east is from the west, refuses to take His Holy Spirit from you, and restores to you the joy of salvation.

† THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES †

"For you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Genesis 3:19

Those desiring to receive the sign of the cross with ashes upon the forehead or upon the topside of the hand, please come forward at the usher's invitation.

During the imposition of ashes, meditate on and pray with David Psalm 51.

Psalm 51:1–13

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,
so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being,
and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
 wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
 Let me hear joy and gladness;
 let the bones that You have broken rejoice.
 Hide Your face from my sins,
 and blot out all my iniquities.
 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.
 Then I will teach transgressors Your ways,
 and sinners will return to You.
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

HYMN 610 *Lord Jesus, Think on Me*

1	Lord Jesus, think on me And purge away my sin; From worldly passions set me free And make me pure within.	3	Lord Jesus, think on me Amid the battle's strife; In all my pain and misery, O be my health and life!
2	Lord Jesus, think on me, By anxious thoughts oppressed; Let me Your loving servant be And taste Your promised rest.	4	Lord Jesus, think on me Nor let me go astray; Through darkness and perplexity Point out Your chosen way.

5 Lord Jesus, think on me
 That, when this life is past,
 I may the eternal brightness see
 And share Your joy at last.

† CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION †

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

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

Amen.

Old Testament Reading— Joel 2:12–19

(Prior to this reading, the Prophet Joel warns that the day of judgement is coming. He asks, “Who can endure the Day of the Lord?” The question is a gift from God calling all to repentance.)

“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.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading— 2 Peter 1:2–11

(Faith is living and active. Peter writes, “Make every effort to supplement your faith with...” (v. 5, printed below). Look closely at Peter’s list.)

May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. ³His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, ⁴by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. ⁵For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, ⁶and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, ⁷and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. ⁸For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. ¹⁰Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. ¹¹For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem

7:00pm

How Vast the Love

The Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “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 by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

Passion Reading—Mark 14:1–9

It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him, ²for they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the people.” ³And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head. ⁴There were some who said to themselves indignantly,

“Why was the ointment wasted like that? ⁵For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor.” And they scolded her. ⁶But Jesus said, “Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ⁷For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me. ⁸She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. ⁹And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her.”

Sermon

What She Has Done Will Be Told (Mark 14:9)

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Lord Jesus Christ, with sorrow and contrition, we enter the holy season of Lent to meditate on the sufferings and death that You endured to save us. Help us never to misjudge the value of Your sacrifice and the strength of Your promises for us, but always to hold them as our dearest treasure and to fix our eyes upon You, the founder and perfecter of our faith. O Lord,

hear our prayer.

May Your willingness to deny Yourself and take up the cross for us inspire in us a hatred of sin and a zeal to follow Your way for the sake of our neighbor. O Lord,

hear our prayer.

Grant to all pastors and evangelists the courage to proclaim Your cross as saving wisdom from on high, even though the world considers the Gospel folly. O Lord,

hear our prayer.

Grant us to escape from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. Give us strength to supplement our faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. Prevent us from being ineffective or unfruitful in our lives. O Lord,

hear our prayer.

By Your Holy Spirit, lead us not to practice our righteousness before others to make a show, but to pray, fast, and give offerings humbly for Your glory and for the good of our neighbor. O Lord,

hear our prayer.

Dear Lord, plead to the Father on our behalf so that, even though our own prayers are insufficient, we may nonetheless receive everything we need in life and faith, according to Your steadfast love and mercy, even as You prepare us now to receive Your very body and blood through the bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins, for strength for this life, and for the guarantee and Your pledge of eternal life.

Amen.

† SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT †

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "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, and when He had given thanks, He 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 for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Agnus Dei ~ Lamb of God **962**

Distribution Hymns **613** **569** **423** **435**

Post-Communion Prayer

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Benediction

Closing Hymn 433

Glory Be to Jesus

Glory be to Jesus,
Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood
From His sacred veins!

Grace and life eternal
In that blood I find;
Blest be His compassion,
Infinitely kind!

Blest through endless ages
Be the precious stream
Which from endless torment
Did the world redeem!

Lift we, then, our voices,
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious blood!

Acknowledgments

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Serving the Lord in Worship

Pastors	Rev. Timothy J. Shoup	Rev. Mark R. Palmer
Organist	Mrs. Lorraine Doell	
Music	St. Paul Adult Choir	
Acolytes	Allison Zernicke	Kaiden Thornborrow

Midweek Lenten Worship

Eyes on Jesus

10:00am and 7:00pm

Wednesday, March 4 – *Murderous Eyes*

Rev. Mark R. Palmer

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bonduel

Wednesday, March 11 – *Sleepy Eyes*

Rev. Travis Kleinschmidt

St. Jakobi Lutheran Church, Shawano

Wednesday, March 18 – *Denying Eyes*

Rev. John Eyer

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Stony Hill, and Zion Lutheran Church, Gresham

Wednesday, March 25 – *Betraying Eyes*

Rev. Steve Conradt

St. John Lutheran Church, Hermansfort

Wednesday, April 1 – *Worldly Eyes*

Rev. Travis Kleinschmidt

St. Jakobi Lutheran Church, Shawano





Rev. Timothy J. Shoup, Administrative Pastor
Rev. Mark R. Palmer, Associate Pastor
Mr. Gerald R. Schmidt, Principal
Mrs. Lorraine Doell, Music Director
Mrs. Robin Reep, Youth Director

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