

Ash Wednesday

February 17, 2021



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Pastor Bill Maggard

Pastor Daniel A. Holm

Ash Wednesday

Vespers

PASTORAL ADDRESS AND IMPOSITION of the ASHES

OPENING HYMN

My Song Is Love Unknown

430

- 1 My song is Love unknown,
 My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown
 That they might lovely be,
Oh, who am I
 That for my sake
 My Lord should take
Frail flesh and die?
- 1 He came from His blest throne
 Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none
 The longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend,
 My friend indeed,
 Who at my need
His life did spend!
- 2 Sometimes they strew His way
 And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
 Hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!"
 Is all their breath,
 And for His death
They thirst and cry.
- 3 Why, what hath my Lord done?
 What makes this rage and spite?

He made the lame to run,
He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries!
Yet they at these
Themselves displease
And 'ganst Him rise.

5 They rise and needs will have
My dear Lord made a way;
A murderer they save,
The Prince of Life they slay
Yet cheerful He
To suff'ring goes
That He His foes
From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heav'n was His home
But mine the tomb
Wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,
No story divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!

Stand

O Lord, open my lips,
And my mouth will declare Your praise.

Psalm 51:15

Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

Make haste to help me, O Lord.

Psalm 70:1

**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.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.**

PSALM 51 - *responsively*

¹Have 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!**

³For 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.**

⁵Behold, 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.**

⁷Purge 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.**

⁹Hide 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.**

**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**

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

Sit

- 1 From depths of woe I cry to Thee;
In trial and tribulation;
Bend down Thy gracious ear to me,
Lord, hear my supplication
If Thou rememb'rest every sin,
Who then could heaven ever win,
Or stand before Thy presence?
- 2 Thy love and grace alone avail
To blot out my transgression;
The best and holiest deeds must fail
To break sin's dread oppression.
Before Thee none can boasting stand,
But all must fear Thy strict demand
And live alone by mercy.
- 3 Therefore my hope is in the LORD
And not in mine own merit;
It rests upon His faithful Word
To them of contrite spirit
That He is merciful and just;
This is my comfort and my trust.
His help I wait with patience.
- 4 And though it tarry through the night
And till the morning waken,
My heart shall never doubt His might
Nor count itself forsaken.
O Israel, trust in God your Lord.
Born of the Spirit born and the Word,
Now wait for His appearing.
- 5 Though great our sins, yet greater still
Is God's abundant favor;
His hand of mercy never will
Abandon us, nor waver.

Our Shepherd good and true is He,
Who will at last His Israel free
From all their sin and sorrow.

First 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;
¹³ and 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.

¹⁴ Who 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?

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

¹⁶ gather 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.

¹⁷ Between 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?”

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

¹⁹ The 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.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

2 Peter 1:2-11

² May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

³ His 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, ⁴ by 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. ⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, ⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, ⁷ and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. ⁸ For 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 confirm your calling and election, 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.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Third Reading

Matthew 6:1-18

[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.

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.

¹⁰Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹Give us this day our daily bread,

¹²and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³And 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.

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.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

Sit

RESPONSORY - Lent

Psalm 51:14; 59:1; 141:8

Deliver me, O Lord, my god, for You are the God of my salvation.

Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

SERMON

Pastor Maggard

Stand

Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

And the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

MAGNIFICAT – Song of Mary

Luke 1:46-55

My Soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior; for He has regarded the lowliness of His hand-maiden. For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away. He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

Glory b the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**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.**

COLLECTS

Ash Wednesday Collects

Amen.

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all god counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Psalm 103:1

Let us bless the Lord

Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Amen.