

ASH WEDNESDAY
Order of Worship

PRELUDE: *Lord Jesus, Think on Me*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

February 17, 2021

Ash Wednesday



If you are an online guest today, please leave a record of your visit, below. Thank you!

[Online Guest Form](#)

Messiah Lutheran Church

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HYMN: "What Wondrous Love Is This" vs 1,2

What Wondrous Love Is This

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G Dm C Am C Dm F Em Dm

1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, To
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; I'll sing on; And

Am Am7 F Em Dm Dm7 G Am Am7 G

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be-
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; And when from death I'm free, I'll

Am Bb7maj7 C Dm G Dm C F Em

caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
neath God's right-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for
is the great I Am, While mil - lions join the theme, I will
sing his love for me, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

Dm G Em Dm Am Dm Am7 F Em Dm

for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, While mil - lions join the theme, I will
on, I'll sing on; And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

RESPONSIVE READING

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, in truth and love. *2 John 1:3*

For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. *Romans 5:15*

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many. *Mark 10:45*

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. *Psalms 106:1*

THE READING

Genesis 3

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" **2** The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; **3** but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" **4** But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; **5** for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." **6** So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. **7** Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

8 They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. **9** But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" **10** He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." **11** He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" **12** The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." **13** Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." **14** The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head,

and you will strike his heel."

16 To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

17 And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you,

'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you;

in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread

until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken;

you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

20 The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living. **21** And the LORD God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

22 Then the LORD God said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"— **23** therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. **24** He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life.

Jesus Sinners Will Receive

1 Je - sus sin - ners will re - ceive; May they all this
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich
 3 When their sheep have lost their way, Faith - ful shep - herds
 4 Come, O sin - ners, and all, Come, ac - cept his

say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions
 grace re - veal - ing; Par - don, peace, and life pro -
 go to seek them; Je - sus watch - es all who
 in - vi - ta - tion; Come, o - bey his gra - cious

live And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is
 claim, Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing; We with
 stray, Faith - ful - ly to find and take them; In his
 call, Come and take his free sal - va - tion! Firm - ly

hope for all who grieve:
 hum - ble hearts be - lieve
 arms, that they may live—
 in these words be - lieve:
 Je - sus sin - ners will re - ceive.

MEDITATION: *Running Away from God?: Adam and Eve*

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your lovingkindness;
in your great compassion
blot out my offenses.
- 2 **Wash me through and through
from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**
- 3 For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 **Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.**
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 **Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.**
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 **Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 **Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.**
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 **Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again,
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

(Silence for reflection and self examination)

CONFESSION OF SIN:

Blessed be the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit + one God, the fountain of living water, the Lord who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. Amen.

Come, let us acknowledge our sin and seek God's face that we may live.

(Silence)

Holy God, we confess that we have turned away from you and from our neighbors, and in toward ourselves.

We have sought security in possessions and the place of power in relationships. We have trusted in ourselves rather than in You.

Turn us back to You, O God. In your mercy, forgive our

sinfulness and cleanse us from guilt and shame.

Guide us on paths of life and freedom that are your gifts to us as your children in Christ our Lord, Amen.

Hear now God's Word for you:

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,

In the waters of Baptism grace abounds for you and for all God's people.

God turns to you in love and forgives all your sins for the sake of + Jesus, whom our Heavenly Father sent to save the world.

Amen

(Those who desire to administer ashes or dirt at home, please mark the sign of the cross on your forehead.

If you are watching this service with others you may make the cross on each other's forehead and speak the words.)

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

(Silence for reflection)

HYMN: "I Lay My Sins on Jesus"

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

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1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;
 2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in him;
 3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;

He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.
 He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul he does re - deem.
 His right hand me em - brac - es; I on his breast re - cline.

I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains
 I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;
 I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;

Clean in his blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.
 He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.
 Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

THE OFFERING

(Offerings designated as Lent offerings benefit Davidson Farms Cottage Homes)

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and

take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the

joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

THE PRAYER

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrod, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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**

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE: *Lamb of God*

Our Lenten Series:

RUNNING AWAY FROM GOD?

WEDNESDAYS February 17, 24, and March 3, 10, 17, 24

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 1

GOOD FRIDAY - April 2

(Livestream Worship at 7 p.m.)

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY – March 28

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD: EASTER SUNDAY - April 4

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVESTREAM LENTEN WORSHIP at 7:00 p.m.

Worship online following link provided at <https://mlutheran.org>. The livestream will be available as a recording also.

LENT OFFERINGS

Lent midweek offerings will go to Davidson Farms Cottage Homes project, unless otherwise designated:
<https://www.kidstolove.org/davidson-farms>

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER BOOKLETS

to borrow are available on MLC's Give and Take Cart on Sunday morning or call the church office to pick one up during office hours.

ASHES

Using ashes as a sign of repentance is an ancient practice, often mentioned in the Bible (e.g., Jonah 3:5-9; Job 42:6; Jeremiah 6:26; Matthew 11:21). The early Christians adopted the use of ashes from Jewish practice as an external mark of penitence. Ashes symbolize several aspects of our human existence:

- +Ashes remind us that God condemns sin. God said to Adam, "You are dust and to dust you shall return" (Gen.3:19).
- +Ashes symbolize our need to repent, confess our sins, and return to God.
- +Ashes suggest cleansing and renewal. In ancient times, ashes were used in the absence of soap. On Ash Wednesday ashes are a penitential substitute for water as a reminder of our Baptism.
- +Ashes remind us of the brevity of this life. It is said as we are buried: "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."