

March 2, 2022

Ash Wednesday



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Our Lenten Series:

By My Hand, For My Sake

MARCH 9: Nicodemus' story

MARCH 16: Judas' story

MARCH 23: Barabbas' story

MARCH 30: Pilate's story

APRIL 6: The Thief's Father's story

APRIL 14: MAUNDY THURSDAY- Peter's story

APRIL 15: GOOD FRIDAY – The Centurion's story

APRIL 17: RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

Messiah Lutheran Church

7740 Hwy 72 West, Madison, AL 35758

(256)721-0041 / www.mlutheran.org

ASH WEDNESDAY

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

INTRODUCTION TO LENT

INVOCATION

THE READING

Genesis 3:8-19

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

¹⁵I 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."

¹⁶To 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."

¹⁷And 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.”

DIALOG: *Adam*

THE MEDITATION

HYMN: “Savior, When in Dust to Thee”

Savior, When in Dust to You

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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 - 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!

THE PSALM: *Psalm 51:1-13*

- 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)

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

305

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 CASA)

OFFERTORY: "Create in Me"

732

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 EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you,

Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him should not perish,
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation
you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 AGNUS DEI: "Lamb of God"

☐ 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, grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: "Just as I Am, without One Plea"

Just as I Am, without One Plea

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1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, But that thy blood was shed for me,
 2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not To rid my soul of one dark blot,
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a con - flict, man - y a doubt,
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es, heal - ing of the mind,

And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 To thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
 Fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 Yea, all I need, in thee to find,

5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
 Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
 Because thy promise I believe,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; thy love unknown
 Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
 Now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

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 CASA (Care Assurance System for the Aging and Homebound), unless otherwise designated.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of the penitential season of Lent. Its original name was not *Ash Wednesday*, but *The Day of Ashes*. Whichever name is used, the reference to ashes comes from the ceremony of placing ashes on the forehead in the shape of the cross as a sign of penitence. This custom was introduced by Pope Gregory I, who was Bishop of Rome from to 590 AD to 604 AD. It became as a universal practice in all of Western Christendom at the Synod of Benevento in 1091 AD.

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."

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is the theme of our Lenten midweek services

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