



Ash Wednesday

Passion Prediction

February 14, 2024

10:00am & 6:30pm

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

We Gather in Silence

Welcome

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' Passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

Call to Worship

Jesus welcomes us into this holy place.

Like little children, we come before him.

Jesus charges us to welcome others as we have been welcomed.

We joyfully welcome every child of God as our sibling in Christ!

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Holy God, we gather on this Ash Wednesday to remember that we are created out of the dust of the earth and that we will one day return to dust. Help us to see this not as a morbid reflection of death, but as a call to humbly turn over to you ourselves and all the world, knowing that you alone have the power to transform life and destroy death. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Song

Where Charity and Love Prevail

ELW 359

**Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.**

**With grateful joy and holy fear, God's charity we learn;
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in return.**

**Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son;
as members of each body joined, in him we are made one.**

**Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

When his disciples fail to understand Jesus' transformative definition of power, including why he has to suffer and dies and what it means to be great, he holds up a child as a way to help them see.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 32:1-5

¹Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

²Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³While I kept silence, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Refrain

Re - turn to God with all your heart, the
Source of grace and mer - cy; come seek the ten - der
faith - ful - ness of God.

Gospel Reading

Mark 9:30-37

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁰They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

When We Are Living

ELW 639

**When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,
and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.
Both in our living and in our dying,
we belong to God, we belong to God.**

**'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,**

whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
we belong to God, we belong to God.
Across this wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind;
and when we help them, or when we feed them,
we belong to God, we belong to God.



+ Invitation to Lent +

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Confession & Forgiveness

We begin with an honest assessment of our individual and communal life that falls short of fullness and wholeness. You are invited into this vulnerable space as a practice of opening to God's grace as we will experience it in worship.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God of love, **when we look inward and are honest with ourselves, we see where we have lived as though you are not our God. We have sought after our own gain rather than the good of all. We have not loved you or our neighbors as ourselves. We have betrayed and denied you in what we have done and not done. Create in us clean hearts, O God, that we might become what you have called us to be.**

God whose unfathomable love went to the cross for our sake now forgives us all our sins and welcomes us all over again into the promise of eternal life in Christ's name.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

As we walk together through this season of contemplation and preparation, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. We pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Holy God, give us ears to hear that your journey leads not just to the cross, but through the cross for the sake of all creation, so that we might faithfully walk alongside you to the very end. God of the journey.

In mercy, hear our prayer. *(Prayers continue)*

Confident that you walk alongside us in our need, we lift to you all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, through Jesus Christ our savior. **Amen.**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

+ Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes +

Words of Institution

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.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Let us pray. Almighty God, we remember this day that you have created us out of the dust of the earth and breathed life into us by your Spirit. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence as we embrace the journey; finding everlasting life in the cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

Invitation

Come and receive the ashes as a sign of frailty and repentance;
remembering that your life is in God's hands.

Receive food and drink for the journey;
where goodness and mercy follow you all the days of your life.

+ We Are Church. Better Together +



Communion and ashes are available at the front of the sanctuary

Please come forward to the communion rails and stand or kneel to receive ashes and communion. Ashes in the shape of a cross will be traced on your forehead with these words: **"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."**

Communion will be available after you receive the ashes. Please continue down the rail to receive the bread and wine, Christ's body and blood given for you.

All are Welcome

You are invited . . .

to bring an **offering** forward during Holy Communion. The offering is gathered near the altar where we are reminded of God's gifts given to us in Christ and our response to these gifts.

Communion Song (6:30pm)

"Return to God"

- Haugen

Prayer

In this meal and in these ashes, accomplish in us,
O God, the work of your salvation,
that we may show forth your glory in the world.
By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

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. **Amen.**

We thank you, living God, for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage, and + give you peace. **Amen.**

Song

Take, Oh, Take Me as I Am

ELW 814

**Take, oh, take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**
(Repeat)

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**

+ We leave together in silence +

Worship Leadership

- Pastor: Julie Brooks, Kim Gonia
- Pianist: Diane Klinkerfues (10:00am) Emily Keelan (6:30pm)
- Communion Song (6:30pm): Chancel Choir,
directed by Diane Klinkerfues
- Communion Assistants:
10:00am – Gaylene Szaltzer, Del Felton, Betty Moody
6:30pm – Diane Jowell, Bonnie Yockstick, Marcy Lloyd,
Susan Linner
- Readers: 10:00am – Michael Boehm
6:30pm – Kevin Klinkerfues
- Ushers: 10:00am – Michael Boehm
6:30pm – Bob Mohrbacher
- Altar Guild: Donna Madsen, Susie DiPaolo
- Technology: Mike Madsen, Mark Lee

+ WORSHIP SERVICE NOTES +

- **HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES (4 devices available)** are located at the sound booth located in the back of the sanctuary on the east side.

OFFERING

If you would like to make a donation to the mission of Holy Shepherd, which will be used to serve the community, neighborhood and the world, there is an offering plate located at the front of the sanctuary. Please make checks payable to:
Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church or use the PayPal link below. *Thank you.*

KIDS ZONE

The nursery (un-staffed) will be available to use for your family, if you need to leave the service. The library and Fellowship Hall are also available.

