



ASH WEDNESDAY

18 February A✠D 2026



OUR SAVIOR

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—Missouri Synod

4000 Wallings Road ✠ North Royalton, Ohio 44133

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Rev. Jonathan C. McCall, Pastor

✠ Hymns ✠
419
607
562
418
440

On receiving the Lord's Supper: Our congregation is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), a family of congregations that pledge themselves to believe, teach, and confess the same faith. We believe that we are given a great responsibility to commune only those persons who are members of our confessional fellowship. We practice closed communion to exhibit unity in faith (Acts 2:42), to guard the uninstructed against a reception of the sacrament that will be harmful to them (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), and to keep the pastor from having to make “divine” decisions by determining who is a believer and who is not (2 Timothy 2:19). Therefore, we ask that only LCMS members, or members of churches in fellowship with us, commune at the altar of this church. We want to express our sincere welcome to our guests and assure them that we practice closed communion for their spiritual welfare. Guests desiring to learn more about our beliefs are asked to speak with our pastor.

✠ **THE ASH WEDNESDAY DIVINE SERVICE** ✠
WITH THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

6:00pm

PLEASE ENTER THE SANCTUARY IN SILENCE.

As we enter the season of Lent, much of our joyous singing in the Liturgy becomes subdued.

Unless accompanied by music in the bulletin, our words are spoken.

When the bell tolls three times to signify the beginning of service in reverence of the Holy Trinity, please STAND.

THE PROCESSION

SILENT

THE BLESSING OF ASHES

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray. O God, who desirest not the death, but the conversion, of sinners: we beseech Thee, graciously consider the frailty of our mortal nature, and of Thy goodness ✠ bless these ashes which we purpose to be set upon our heads for a token of humility and the remission of our sins: that we, who know that we are but ashes, and must return to dust by reason of our wickedness, may of Thy mercy worthily obtain the pardon of our offenses and the recompense promised to the penitent; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

THE PSALM

PSALM 69:16,1



| Hear us, | O LORD, for Thy loving-kind- / ness is gôod:
Turn unto us according to the multitude
of / Thy tender mercies.

Save / me, O Gôd:

For the waters are come in / unto my soul.—

Glory be to the Fa- / ther and to the Son

And to / the Holy Spirit;

As it was in / the beginning,

Is now and will be / forever. Amen.

| Hear us, | O LORD, for Thy loving-kind- / ness is gôod:
Turn unto us according to the multitude
of / Thy tender mercies.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray. Grant us, we implore Thee, O Lord, to enter our Christian warfare with holy fasts, that by the aids of abstinence we may be fortified to fight against spiritual evils; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Upon motioning by the pastor the People now approach the Altar, as at Holy Communion, to be marked with ashes in the sign of the cross in remembrance of Holy Baptism.

Proceed to the rail, kneel (if able), and receive the ashes on your forehead hearing the words:

“Remember that thou art dust, and unto dust thou shalt return.”

There is no dismissal from the rail.

Immediately after you receive the ashes, simply get up and return to your pew to BE SEATED until after the Hymn.

THE PSALMODY

[JONAH 3:6; JOEL 2:13, 17; ESTHER 13:17]



Let us change our raiment for ashes and sackcloth:

let us fast and mourn be- / fore the LÔrd.*

For He is very merciful to forgive us our sins, / even our God.—

Between the porch / and the altar*

Shall the priests and Levites, the

ministers / of the Lord, weep and say:

Spare Thy peo- / ple, O LÔRD,*

And destroy not the mouths of

them / that call to Thee, O LORD.

Once all have received ashes and returned to their pews, the hymn will begin.

THE HYMN

419 *Savior, When in Dust to Thee*

Please STAND



THE COLLECT

Let us pray. Almighty, everlasting God, who upon the Ninevites repenting in ashes and sackcloth didst bestow the remedy of Thine indulgence, mercifully grant that like as we now imitate them outwardly, so we may follow them in the obtaining of Thy pardon; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

THE RESPONSORY

BARUCH 3:2, PSALM 106:6



Let / us amend the sins*
That in our ignorance / we have committed:
Lest suddenly overtaken by the / day of dêath, *
We seek for time for repentance,
but are not / able to find it.

Hearken, O Lord, / and have mercy*
For we / have sinned against Thee.

We have sinned / with our fathers,*
We have committed iniquity, / we have done wickedly.

Hearken, O Lord, / and have mercy*
For we / have sinned against Thee.

Please KNEEL IF YOU DESIRE AND ARE ABLE

THE LITANY FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

O Lord,
have mercy upon us.
O Christ,
have mercy upon us.
O Lord,
have mercy upon us.
O Christ,
hear us.

God the Father in heaven,
have mercy upon us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
have mercy upon us.

God the Holy Spirit,
have mercy upon us.

Be gracious to us.
Spare us, good Lord.

Be gracious to us.
Help us, good Lord.

By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial; by Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

Help us, good Lord.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

Help us, good Lord.

We poor sinners implore You
to hear us, O Lord.

To prosper the teaching of Your Word; to bless our prayer and meditation; to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith; and to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

To draw all to Yourself; to bless those who are instructed in the faith; to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayer; to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy; and to have mercy on us all:

We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

To turn our hearts to You; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers:

We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

we implore You to hear us.

Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

have mercy upon us.

Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

have mercy upon us.

Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

grant us Your peace.

O Christ,

hear us.

O Lord,

have mercy.

O Christ,

have mercy.

O Lord,

have mercy. Amen.

Please STAND

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

THE INTROIT

WISDOM 11:23, 24A, 26A; PSALM 57:1A



|Thou, O| Lord, hast mercy / upon âll:

And abhorrest nothing / which Thou hast made:—

Thou overlookest the sins of men

for the sake / of repentance:

And sparest them, for / Thou art the Lord our God.

Be merciful unto me, O God, be mer- / ciful unto me:

For my soul / trusteth in Thee.—

Glory be to the Fa- / ther and to the Son

And to / the Holy Spirit;

As it was in / the beginning,

Is now and will be / forever. Amen.

|Thou, O| Lord hast mercy / upon âll:
And abhorrest nothing / which Thou hast made:—

Thou overlookest the sins of men

for the sake / of repentance:

And sparest them, for / Thou art the Lord our God.

THE KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that Thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of Thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

Please BE SEATED

THE PROPHECY

JOEL 2:12-19

Thus says the LORD God: “Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.” So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm. Who knows if He will turn and relent, and leave

a blessing behind Him—a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion, consecrate a fast, call a sacred assembly; gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children and nursing babes; let the bridegroom go out from his chamber, and the bride from her dressing room. Let the priests, who minister to the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar; let them say, “Spare Your people, O LORD, and do not give Your heritage to reproach, that the nations should rule over them. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’” Then the LORD will be zealous for His land, and pity His people. The LORD will answer and say to His people, “Behold, I will send you grain and new wine and oil, and you will be satisfied by them; I will no longer make you a reproach among the nations,” says the LORD Almighty.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL

PSALM 57:1A, 3A



Be merciful unto me, O God, be mer- / ciful unto me:
For my soul / trusteth in Thee:—

He shall / send from heaven:

And save me from the reproach

of him / that would swallow me up.

THE EPISTLE

2 PETER 1:2–11

Dearly Beloved: Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. But also

for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please STAND

THE TRACT

PSALM 103:10; 79:8, 9



O Lord, deal not with us af- / ter our sins;
Nor reward us according / to our iniquities.

O Lord, remember not against us for- / mer iniquities:

Let Thy tender mercies speedily prevent us:

for / we are brought very low.

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the / glory of Thy name:
And deliver us, O Lord,

and purge away our / sins, for Thy name's sake.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

ST. MATTHEW 6:16-21

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

The continuation of the ✠ Holy Gospel ✠ according to ✠ Saint Matthew.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

✠ *At that time Jesus said to His disciples:* “When you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven *and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man*; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and

apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the ✠ life of the world to come. Amen.

Please BE SEATED

THE HYMN OF THE DAY 607 *From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee*

THE SERMON

Please STAND

THE OFFERTORY

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 Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

THE OFFERTORY VERSE

PSALM 30:1-2

I will extol Thee, O Lord; for Thou hast lift- / ed me ûp,
 And hast not made my foes / to rejoice over me.

**O LORD my God, I cried / unto Thêe,
 - / And Thou hast healed me.**

Please BE SEATED



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Please remain STANDING or KNEEL if you desire and are able

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE WORDS OF CHRIST'S TESTAMENT

THE PAX DOMINI

The ☩ peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - - - men.

THE COMMUNION VERSE

PSALM 1:2B, 3B



He that doth meditate in the Law of the Lord / day and night
Shall bring forth his / fruit in his season.

Please BE SEATED

Communion Distribution: Our congregation practices closed communion for the spiritual welfare of our members and guests. Please refer to page 1 of this bulletin for further explanation or speak to our pastor.

THE COMMUNION HYMNS

562 *All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall*

418 *O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*

440 *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now*

Please STAND

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE THANKSGIVING

Oh, give thanks unto the LORD for He is good.

And His mercy endureth forever.

Let us pray. May the Sacraments which we have received, O Lord, be for our support, that our fast may be acceptable in Thy sight, and be profitable unto us for the healing of our souls; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

THE SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

THE BENEDICAMUS

Bless we the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

Please remain STANDING or KNEEL if you desire and are able

THE BENEDICTION

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Please STAND

THE RETIRING PROCESSION WITH POSTLUDE

Please FACE THE PROCESSION as it passes.

Once the Procession reaches the narthex, you may depart in ☩ peace.

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