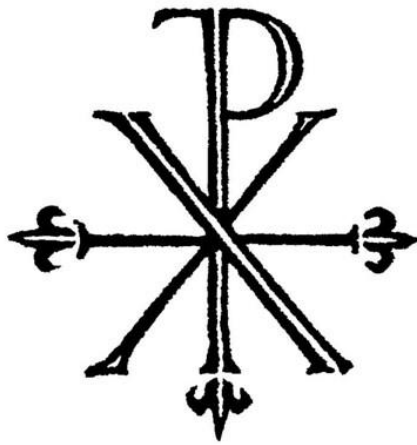


ASH WEDNESDAY

Divine Service with the Imposition of Ashes



FEBRUARY 14, 2024

LEBANON LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lebanon Church, VA

The congregation assembles and offers silent prayer.

Stand

The Lenten Address

Silence for reflection.

P O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

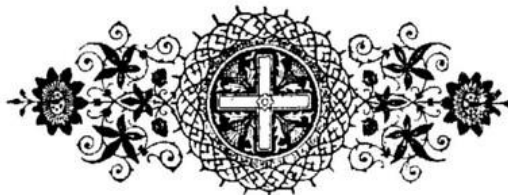
C **Amen.**

Sit. Those who desire to receive ashes as a sign of repentance may assemble in the center aisle.

The Imposition of Ashes

After receiving the ashes, each person returns to the pews in silence. There is no statement of dismissal.

When all have received the ashes, we stand.



SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

Psalm 57:1a; antiphon: vv. 2, 1b

I cry out to God | Most High,*
to God who fulfills his purpose | for me.
in the shadow of your wings I will take | refuge,*
till the storms of destruction | pass by.
Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful | to me,*
for in you my soul takes | refuge;
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I cry out to God | Most High,*
to God who fulfills his purpose | for me.
in the shadow of your wings I will take | refuge,*
till the storms of destruction | pass by.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

A The Old Testament Reading is from Jonah, chapter 3.

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.”

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Have mercy on me, O God,
 according to your | steadfast love;*
 according to your abundant mercy
 blot out my trans- | gressions.

**Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,*
 and cleanse me | from my sin!**

For I know my trans- | gressions,*
 and my sin is ever be- | fore me.

**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.**

Behold, I was brought forth in in- | iquity,*
 and in sin did my mother con- | ceive me.

**Behold, you delight in truth in the inward | being,*
 and you teach me wisdom in the | secret heart.**

Purge me with hyssop, and I | shall be clean,*
 wash me, and I shall be whit- | er than snow.

**Let me hear joy and | gladness;*
 let the bones that you have bro- | ken rejoice.**

Hide your face | from my sins,*
 and blot out all my in- | iquities.

**Create in me a clean heart, | O God,*
 and renew a right spirit with- | in me.**

Cast me not away from your | presence,*
 and take not your Holy Spirit | from me.

**Restore to me the joy of your sal- | vation,*
and uphold me with a willing | spirit.**

Then I will teach transgressors | your ways,*
and sinners will re- | turn to you.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Epistle

2 Peter 1:2–11

A The Epistle is from 2 Peter, chapter 1.

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

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, 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. For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. 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. For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities

you will never fall. For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Tract

Psalm 103:10; 79:8a, 9a

He does not deal with us according | to our sins,*
nor repay us according to our in- | iquities.
Do not remember against us our former in- | iquities;*
let your compassion come speedily to | meet us.
Help us, O God of our sal- | vation,*
for the glory | of your name.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:16–21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “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. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that 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.

“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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

Today Your Mercy Calls Us



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
 2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
 3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
 4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
 Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
 His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
 What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
 The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
 No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
 When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
 A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
 Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
 We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt.
 Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–after 1857
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

The Great Litany

P O Lord,

C have mercy.

P O Christ,

C have mercy.

P O Lord,

C have mercy.

P O Christ,

C hear us.

P God the Father in heaven,

C have mercy.

P God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

C have mercy.

P God the Holy Spirit,

C have mercy.

P Be gracious to us.

C Spare us, good Lord.

P Be gracious to us.

C Help us, good Lord.

P From all sin, from all error, from all evil;

From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;

From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion;

From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water;
and from everlasting death:

C Good Lord, deliver us.

P 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:

C Help us, good Lord.

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

C Help us, good Lord.

P We poor sinners implore You

C to hear us, O Lord.

P To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all
pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and
understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in
holy living;

To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the
way of truth all who have erred and are deceived;

To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into
Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and
Spirit:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to
comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need;

To direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people;

To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel;

To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;

To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C we implore You to hear us.

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

C have mercy.

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

C have mercy.

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

C grant us Your peace.

P O Christ,

C hear us.

- P** O Lord,
C have mercy.
P O Christ,
C have mercy.
P O Lord,
C have mercy. Amen.

Sit

Offering

When the gifts have been received and the altar prepared, we stand for the Offertory Prayer.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Offertory Prayer

- A** Merciful Father,
C We offer with joy and thanksgiving, what You have first given us: our selves, our time, and our possessions – signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him Who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Preface



P The Lord be with you.



C And al-so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Sanctus

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of

pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name



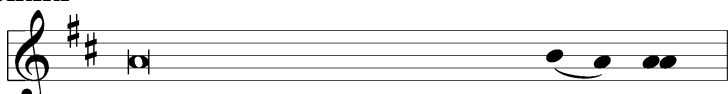
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Our Father

Pax Domini



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

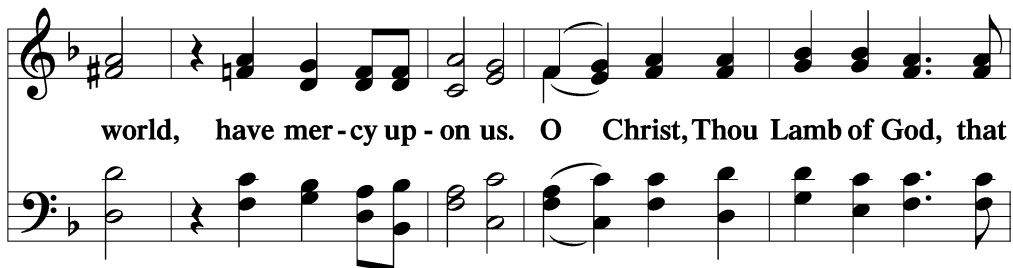


C A - men.

Agnus Dei



C 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.

Sit

Distribution

Stand

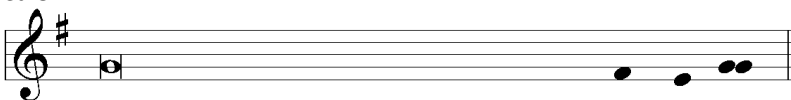
Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



C A - men.

The congregation may depart in the peace of the Lord or remain for silent prayer.

Acknowledgments

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