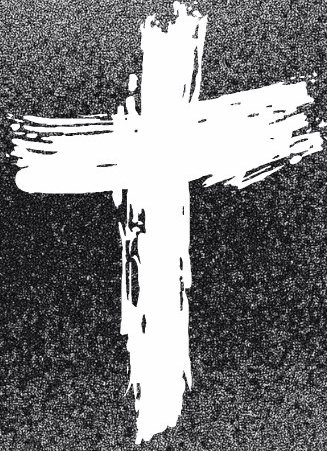


SECOND CHANCE TO LIVE

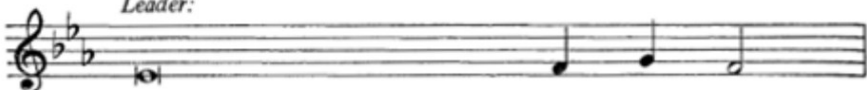


Trinity Lutheran
Ash Wednesday Worship
6:30pm on March 5, 2025

GATHERING


The assembly gathers in silence.

Leader:



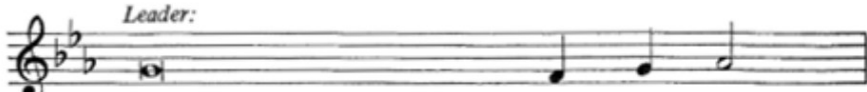
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All:



the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

Leader:



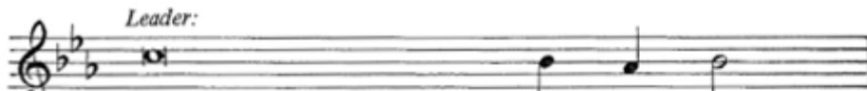
Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All:



and the day is al - most over.

Leader:



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All:



and shine within your peo-ple here. —

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Let us pray together.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Most holy and merciful God,
**we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault,
by our own fault,
by our own most grievous fault,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven
others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We
have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy
Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that
have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other
people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the
faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to
injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,
and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we
confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for
those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth.
May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us
that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life;
through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*People may come forward to receive the ashes. Ministers mark the
forehead of each person with a cross of ashes, saying:*

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

After those who desire ashes have received them, the minister continues.

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.

Here is a flood of grace:
Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us,
breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs,
and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ .
Amen.

PSALM 51 (J. Talbot)

Please join in the bolded refrains at the cantor's signal.

Have mercy, Lord, in Your kindness,
In Your compassion blot out my offences.
**Have mercy, Lord, in Your kindness,
In Your compassion blot out my offences.**

Truly I know them all my offences,
my sin is ever before me, O lord.
Against You alone have I sinned.

Glorify me, then I shall be clean.
Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.
**Glorify me, then I shall be clean.
Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.**

A pure heart create for me, O Lord.
Put a steadfast spirit deep within me,
Nor cast me away from Your presence.

O rescue me, God my Helper,
And my tongue shall declare all of Your goodness.
**O rescue me, God my Helper,
And my tongue shall declare all of Your goodness.**

For in sacrifice you take no delight;
Burnt offerings from me You would refuse.

My sacrifice is a contrite spirit,
my humble heart You will not spurn.

**My sacrifice is a contrite spirit,
my humble heart You will not spurn.**

My humble heart You will not spurn.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Isaiah 61:1-3

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³to provide for those who mourn in Zion —
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

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

LENTEN ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the sixth chapter.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶ “And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

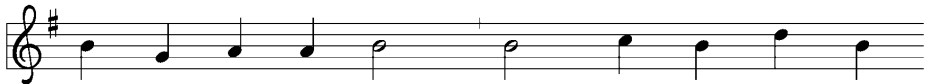
SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

The Glory of These Forty Days (ELW 320)



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in



brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en



things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

INTERCESSIONS: (M. Haugman)

[A] *Repeat continuously*

(Hmmm)

[B]

God — of mer - cy, hold us in love.

Leader: [A] [B]

1. In peace, in peace, we pray to you:

Leader: [A] [B]

2. For peace and sal - va - tion, we pray to you:

Leader: [A] [B]

3. For peace be - tween na - tions, for peace be - tween peo - ples:
4. For us who are gath - ered to wor - ship and praise you:

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Isaiah declares,
If you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

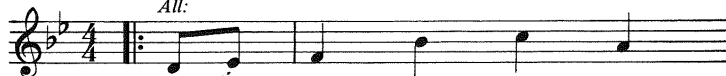
OFFERING

Please place offering in one of the Bulletin Stand offering plates at the end of worship as you leave the church.

OFFERTORY: *Magnificat* (M. Haugman)

Luke 1: 46-55

All:



1.3. My soul pro - claims your
2. You have cast the might - y



great-ness, O God, and my spir - it re-joic - es in
down from their thrones, and up lift - ed the hum - ble of



you, You have looked with love on your
heart, You have filled the hun - gry with



ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won-drous things, and left the wealth-y no part.



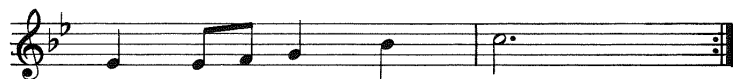
Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,



strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,



How you fa - vor the weak and low - ly one,
As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham,



hum - bling the proud of heart.
kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

O God,

**receive these gifts we offer
as a sign of the dedication of our lives.**

**We bring nothing of our own,
for all that we have is yours.**

**We give, not for the sake of earthly reward,
but for the secret reward only you may grant:
the joy of your righteousness;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

COMMUNION

All are welcome to join in the gift of Holy Communion.

White grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

LENT 2025: THE GOD OF SECOND CHANCES

As we journey through the Bible, we witness God continually offering humanity a second chance to start afresh. The story of the flood, though tragic, represents God's attempt to give humanity a second chance. In the Valley of Dry Bones, God renews the Israelites' hope and life after their exile in Babylon.

Jesus shares the parable of the Prodigal Son, the son who left his father and squandered his wealth. When he returns home, his father, instead of reprimanding him, embraces him with open arms and joyfully offers him a second chance.

Another profound example is the story of Peter, one of Jesus' disciples. Though Peter denies Jesus three times, Jesus later gives him the opportunity to reaffirm his love and commitment, restoring him to a position of trust.

God's act of ultimate grace was sending Jesus to live among us, to teach us, and to bring us back into a relationship with Him. Through His life, Jesus' healing stories went beyond physical restoration. His healing reintegrated people back into their communities and families. Lepers who were once isolated were given a second chance to live as God intended.

This grace culminates in the cross, where Jesus' sacrifice embraces all humanity, offering the world the second chance it cannot achieve on its own. During Lent we will explore the theme of second chances, connecting them to the Bible's narrative.