



CHURCH OF THE
REDEEMER

ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 17, 2021

CONCERNING THE SERVICE

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent: a time of penitence, fasting and prayer, in preparation for the great Feast of the Resurrection.

The season of Lent began in the earliest days of the Church as a time of preparation for those seeking to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. The forty days refer to our Lord's time of fasting in the wilderness; and since Sundays are never fast days, Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the Lenten Fast.

Throughout the Old Testament, ashes are used as a sign of sorrow and repentance, and Christians have traditionally used the same to indicate sorrow for our own sin, and as a reminder that the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). Like Adam and Eve, we have disobeyed and rebelled against God, and are under the same judgment, "you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19b).

As we are marked with ashes in the same manner that we were signed with the cross in Baptism, we are also reminded of the life we share in Jesus Christ, the second Adam (Romans 5:17, 6:4). It is in this sure hope that we begin the journey of these forty days, that by hearing and answering our Savior's call to repent, we may enter fully into the joyful celebration of his resurrection.



Welcome Visitors!

Thank you for joining us in worship today. We are blessed by your presence with us and would love to get to know you better. If you would like to be contacted by one of our pastors, or simply be added to our weekly email newsletter, please provide your contact information in the space provided below and give it one of our greeters. Thank you.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

- Please send me the church newsletter*
- I would like to speak with a pastor*

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures for ever.

Please kneel as you are able.

Celebrant: Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all 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 you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

JOEL 2:1-2, 12-17

¹Blow a trumpet in Zion;
 sound an alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
 for the day of the Lord is coming; it is near,
² a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains
 a great and powerful people;
their like has never been before,
 nor will be again after them
 through the years of all generations.

¹² "Yet even now," declares the Lord,
 "return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³ and rend your hearts and not your garments."

Return to the Lord your God,
 for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;
 and he relents over disaster.

¹⁴ Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
 and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering
 for the Lord your God?

¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 consecrate a fast;

call a solemn assembly;

¹⁶ gather the people.

Consecrate the congregation;
 assemble the elders;
gather the children,
 even nursing infants.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her chamber.
¹⁷ Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep
and say, "Spare your people, O Lord,
and make not your heritage a reproach,
a byword among the nations.
Why should they say among the peoples,
'Where is their God?'"

The Holy Bible, ESV

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

PSALM 103:8-14

⁸ The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
⁹ He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
¹² as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
¹³ As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.
¹⁴ For he knows our frame;
he remembers that we are dust.

Leader and People:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20B-6:10

^{20b} We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

"In a favorable time I listened to you,
and in a day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

The Holy Bible, ESV.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING (please stand)

(At the Gospel reading, we stand and the Scripture is read in the midst of the congregation as a way to honor the truth that in Christ God became flesh and dwelled among us.)

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew

People: Glory to you Lord Christ

MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21

¹"Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

² "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶But when 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 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. ¹⁷But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸that 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.

¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The Holy Bible, ESV

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

HOMILY

Travis Pickell

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Officiant: Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful, were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. In this manner, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need that all Christians continually have to renew our repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and alms-giving; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

And to make a right beginning, let us now pray for grace, that we may faithfully keep this Lent.

Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

Almighty God, you have created us from the dust of the earth: grant that these ashes may be for us a symbol of our mortality and a sign of our penitence, that we may remember that it is by your grace alone that we receive the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

As you are dismissed by row, you may come forward for the imposition of ashes.
Ashes are imposed with the following words: "Remember that you are dust, and to
dust you shall return."

PSALM 51:1-17

Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945)



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- 1 Have mercy upon me, O God, in your great goodness;|
according to the multitude of your mercies wipe away my of fences. ||
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness|
and cleanse me from my sin. ||
- 3 For I acknowledge my faults,|
and my sin is ever before me. ||
- 4 Against you only have I sinned, and done this evil in your sight,|
so that you are justified in your sentence,
and blameless in your judgment. ||
- 5 Behold, I was brought forth in wickedness,|
and in sin my mother conceived me. ||
- 6 But behold, you desire truth in the inward parts|
and shall make me understand wisdom secretly. ||
- 7 You shall purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;|
you shall wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ||
- 8 You shall make me hear of joy and gladness,|
that the bones which you have broken may rejoice. ||
- 9 Turn your face from my sins|
and blot out all my misdeeds. ||
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,|
and renew a right spirit within me. ||
- 11 Cast me not away from your presence|
and take not your holy Spirit from me. ||
- 12 O give me the comfort of your help a gain|
and sustain me with your willing Spirit. ||

- 13 Then shall I teach your ways unto the 'wicked,|
and sinners shall return unto 'you.||
- 14 Deliver me from blood-guilt, O God, the God of my sal'vation,|
and my tongue shall sing of your 'righteousness.||
- 15 O Lord, open my 'lips,|
and my mouth shall show forth your 'praise.||
- 16 For you desire no sacrifice, or else I would 'give it to you;|
but you delight not in burnt^t-offerings.
- repeat second half of chant*
- 17 The sacrifice of God is a troubled 'spirit;|
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you shall not de'spise.||

CONFESSIO AND LITANY OF PENITENCE

You may kneel or sit during the prayer of confession

Deacon: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

People: Most holy and merciful Father:

**We confess to you and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints
in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own 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.

We have been deaf 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.

Deacon: Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

Deacon: For all our unfaithfulness and disobedience;

for the pride, vanity, and hypocrisy of our lives;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

*Deacon: For our self-pity and impatience, and our envy of those
we think more fortunate than ourselves;*

Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

*Deacon: For our unrighteous anger, bitterness and resentment;
for all lies, gossip, and slander against our neighbors.*

Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

*Deacon: For our sexual impurity, our exploitation of other people, and our failure to give of ourselves in love;
Lord, have mercy upon us:*

People: For we have sinned against you.

*Deacon: For our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our intemperate pursuit of worldly goods and comforts;
Lord, have mercy upon us:*

People: For we have sinned against you.

*Deacon: For our dishonesty in daily life and work, our ingratitude for your gifts, and our failure to heed your call.
Lord, have mercy upon us:*

People: For we have sinned against you.

*Deacon: For our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty;
Lord, have mercy upon us:*

People: For we have sinned against you.

*Deacon: For our wastefulness and misuse of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us;
Lord, have mercy upon us:*

People: For we have sinned against you.

*Deacon: For all false judgments, for prejudice and contempt of others, and for all uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors;
Lord, have mercy upon us:*

People: For we have sinned against you.

*Deacon: For our negligence in prayer and worship; for our presumption and abuse of your means of grace;
Lord, have mercy upon us:*

People: For we have sinned against you.

*Deacon: For seeking the praise of others rather than the approval of God;
Lord, have mercy upon us:*

People: For we have sinned against you.

*Deacon: For our failure to commend the faith that is in us;
Lord, have mercy upon us:*

People: For we have sinned against you.

Show favor to your people, O Lord, who turn to you in weeping, fasting, and prayer. For you are a merciful God, full of compassion, long-suffering, and abounding in steadfast love. You spare when we deserve punishment, and in your wrath you remember mercy. Spare your people, good Lord, spare us; in the multitude of your mercies, look upon us and forgive us; through the merits and mediation of your blessed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Priest: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, desires not the death of sinners, but that they may turn from their wickedness and live.

He has empowered and commanded his ministers to pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all who truly repent and sincerely believe his holy Gospel. For this reason, we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that our present deeds may please him, the rest of our lives may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

As we remember the peace that we have been given with God through his forgiveness, we also remember that He has made us at peace with one another. That is why we "exchange the peace." You may say "The peace of the Lord" to those around you, or just say "Hello."

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Org. JOHN MERBECKE, 1550

Hó - ly, Hó - ly, Hó - ly, LÓRD GÓD of Hosts.

Heá - ven and eá rth are fú ll of thy gló - ry. Gló - ry be to thée, O LÓRD most High.

Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the Name of the LÓRD. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Celebrant:
Holy and gracious Father...*

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving...

...all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

Celebrant and People: AMEN.

And now, as our savior Christ has taught us we are bold to pray together,

Celebrant and People:

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.

Celebrant: Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us, once for all upon the cross.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Please kneel or sit as you are able.

Celebrant and People:

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy.
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Directions for Communion

All baptized believers in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive Communion. However, if you are not able to receive you may remain seated or come forward for a prayer of blessing from one of our ministers. Please indicate your desire for a prayer of blessing by crossing your arms across your chest.

You will be dismissed from each section row-by-row and Communion servers will shift from section to section. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Please extend your hand to receive the bread and return to your seat before consuming.

Distribution of Reserved Sacrament

Reserved sacrament was distributed by our clergy prior to today's service so that we could receive the sacrament together. Reserved sacrament is consecrated elements of the Lord's Supper that are brought to the sick, confined, or others kept away from celebration of Holy Communion. All baptized believers in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive communion. Please sign up for our weekly email for information about times and locations of distribution.

Liturgy: Holy Communion – Renewed Ancient Text, Anglican Church in North America.

THE SOLEMN SEASON CALLS US NOW

Verse 1

The solemn season calls us now
A holy fast to keep;
And see within the temple how
Both priest and people weep.

Verse 2

But come not thou with tears alone,
Or outward form of prayer;
But let it in thy heart be known
That penitence is there.

Chorus

Thy breast to beat, thy clothes to rend,
God asketh not from thee;
Thy stubborn soul he bids thee bend
In true humility.

Verse 3

Oh let us, then, with heartfelt grief,
Draw near unto our God,
And pray to him to grant relief,
And stay the uplifted rod.

Verse 4

O righteous Judge, if thou wilt deign
To grant us all we need,
We pray for time to turn again,
And grace to turn indeed.

Chorus

Verse 5

Blest Three in One, with grief sincere,
To thee we humbly pray,
That fruits of mercy may appear
To bless this fasting-day.

Text: Paris Breviary, Trans. John Chandler, 1806-1876

Music: Paul Calvin, 2012

FATHER HEAR OUR PRAYER

Verse

Father hear our prayer
That our lives may be
Consecrated only unto You
Cleanse us with Your fire
Fill us with Your power
That the world may glorify Your
name

Chorus

Lord have mercy on us
Christ have mercy on us
Lord have mercy on us

Andy Piercy
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Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

O Lord our God, grant us grace to desire you with our whole heart:
that desiring you, we may seek you;
and that seeking you, we may find you;
and that finding you, we may love you;
and that loving you, we may hate those sins from which you have
delivered us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Celebrant: Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves,
take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with
you always. Amen*

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Out of respect for the space and our host congregation, please take a moment
to check for papers, bulletins and other items as you leave the sanctuary today.
Thank you.*

Today's Preacher - Travis Pickell

Travis Pickell is Associate Director of University Engagement at Anselm House at the University of Minnesota. He is a scholar of religious ethics, with a particular focus on the intersection of religion, medicine, and society. Some of his other interests include the impact of modernity on religious belief and practices, issues of pluralism and public life, and Christian theological ethics. Before coming to Anselm House, he taught in the departments of Religious Studies and Philosophy at the University of Virginia. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia, M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary, and B.A. from The College of William & Mary. Travis is currently a Fellow with the Paul Ramsey Institute. He lives in St. Paul with his wife Sarah and three daughters.



"Looking at his disciples, Jesus said..." Luke 6:20-49

Weekly Readings and Reflections
Morning Prayer • Compline Groups
Generosity

LUKE FOR LENT

You are invited to read through the Gospel of Luke during the 40 days of Lent with youth and adults of Church of the Redeemer, following a reading plan included in our Lent Bags. Weekly opportunities for reflection on passages from Luke 6 will be provided through written reflections posted each Monday, Morning Prayer, and Compline small groups.

LENT BAGS

Pick up a bag of resources for Lent on Ash Wednesday at one of the services, on Saturday, February 19th at Gathering Place, or at the Sunday service on February 20th.

40 DAYS OF GENEROSITY

'Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap.' - Luke 6:38

Throughout the season of Lent, and as the focus of our Good Friday offering, we will be collecting to support St. Paul's Dormitory for orphans in Ma Ra Moe refugee camp in Thailand. Our connection to this dormitory is through our brothers and sisters at St. John's Karen Anglican Church.

Staff

Rev. Paul Calvin - Rector

Sonia Keillor - Administrative Assistant

Rev. Liz Stewart - Deacon

Pastor of Discipleship & Spiritual Formation

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Dr. Edward Combe - Priest

Rev. Joseph Calandra - Priest

Rev. Dawn Lundgren - Deacon

Rev. Jacques Kustritz - Deacon

Ministry Teams

Altar Guild - Barbara Leafblad

Finance - Roger Scharf

Website Manager - Caleb Molstad

Hospitality Team - Todd Willmarth

Missions Team - Dawn Lundgren

Music - Paul Calvin

Prayer Ministry - Dawn Lundgren

Youth Leadership Team

Breana Dahl

Caleb Dahl

Katie Miller

Children's Leadership Team

Sara Bramsen

Sonia Keillor

Liz Stewart

Steffie Williams

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Vestry

Chris Callan

Roger Christensen - Senior Warden

Greta Dvorak

Barbara Leafblad

Molly Riley - Junior Warden

Eric Watkins

Roger Scharf - Treasurer

Church of the Redeemer

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