

Ash Wednesday

February 26, 2020



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP



To the friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to our first time guests we extend it most sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with the risen living Redeemer, membership in His Church, and citizenship in His eternal kingdom. Our message is as old as the Word of God to man and as new as the new life it brings: *Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to give eternal life to people everywhere.*

Guest Book: Before you leave today, please sign our guest book. It is located in the Narthex.

Amplifiers: Personal sound enhancement receivers are available to help the hearing impaired. An usher will be happy to assist you.

Broadcast: Tonight's Service is being broadcast at www.peacewithgod.com. Click on the blue box labeled "Live Online Services." It can be viewed LIVE or any time from the collection of archived services.

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✘ ✘ ✘ **Before participating in Communion** ✘ ✘ ✘

We welcome all people to our services, those who are fully united with us in Christ's teachings as well as those who do not yet share our confession of the Faith. However, it is a sad consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to all Christians to receive Communion with us. Our Lord teaches (1 Cor. 10:17 and elsewhere) that Communion is an action of the celebrating community that declares their oneness in the Faith, life, and worship. Communing with Christians not in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS] or our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS], would imply a oneness that does not truly exist, but for which we pray. Our pastor will gladly talk with you about establishing communion fellowship here at Peace.

*We begin this solemn season of reflection with limited music.
The chimes toll 3 times, recalling the Triune Name we're baptized into.
Here we reflect on our sin, our Savior from our sin, and
our Baptismal call to a life of sober yet hope-filled repentance.
In keeping with the tone of this service, **the liturgy will be spoken.***



NO OPENING HYMN

REMAIN SEATED or KNEEL

PSALM 51 - spoken as directed

- A: Have mercy upon me, O God, according to your unfailing love:
according to your great compassion blot out my transgression.
- B: Wash away all my iniquity:
and cleanse me from my sin.
- C: For I know my transgressions:
and my sin is always before me.
- A: Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight:
so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.
- B: Surely I have been a sinner from birth:
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- C: Surely you desire truth in the inner parts:
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.
- A: Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean:
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- B: Let me hear joy and gladness:
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- C: Hide your face from my sins:
and blot out all my iniquity.
- A: Create in me a clean heart, O God:
and renew a right spirit within me.
- B: Do not cast me from your presence:
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- C: Restore to me the joy of your salvation:
and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
- A: Then I will teach transgressors your ways:
and sinners will turn back to you.
- B: Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me:
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
- C: O Lord, open my lips:
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- A: You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it:
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
- B: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit:
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
- C: In your good pleasure make Zion prosper:
build up the walls of Jerusalem.
- A: Then there will be righteous sacrifices, whole burnt offerings to delight you:
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

EXHORTATION FOR LENT

M: Dear brothers and sisters in our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of penitential reflection and prayerful meditation.

We begin with penitential reflection on the reality that we are but dust and ashes, for we are sinners and God declares: “for dust you are and to dust you will return.”

As the Baptized we direct our attention to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. We were buried with him through baptism into death in order that, we too may live a new life. We prayerfully reflect on Christ’s passion that we may be transformed into his likeness, living new lives in him.

From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of humble repentance practiced with meditation and prayer, self-denial, and acts of charity. When such Lenten devotions spring from our hope in Christ’s passion, God’s kingdom comes and his will is done among us, to his glory and our good. Prepared by such Lenten devotion, the gospel will renew us and we will be readied to celebrate our pass over from death to life this Easter so we may keep the feast in sincerity and truth, now and forever.

Let us be silent. Let us be still. Let us pause now for a time of reflection and self-examination. Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

HYMN

In Adam We Have All Been One | 396



1 In Ad - am we have all been one, One
2 We fled our God, and los - ing him, We
3 But your strong love, it sought us still And
4 O Sav - ior, when we loved you not, You
5 Send us your Spir - it; teach us truth To



huge re - bel - lious man; We all have fled that
lost our broth - er too. Each sin - gly sought and
sent your on - ly Son That we might hear his
loved and saved us all; O great good Shep - herd
purge our van - i - ty. From fan - cied wis - dom,



eve - ning voice That sought us as we ran.
claimed his own; Each man his broth - er slew.
shep - herd - voice And, hear - ing him, be one.
of man - kind, Oh, hear us when we call.
self - sought ways, O Sav - ior, set us free.

6 Then shall our song united rise
To your eternal throne,
Where with the Father evermore
And Spirit you are one.

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CONFESSION OF SINS

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good.

For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.

But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray:

Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

The minister faces the congregation and says:

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us.
He graciously gave us his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.
Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority,
I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Having tasted the mercy of God's full and free forgiveness, unite in proclaiming the lifelong longing of the people of God . . .

C: Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Amen.

A time of silent reflection.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, you never despise what you have made and always forgive those who turn to you. Create in us such new and contrite hearts that we may continue to truly repent of our sins and live under your full and gracious pardon; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 59:12-20

- 12 For our offenses are many in your sight,
and our sins testify against us.
Our offenses are ever with us,
and we acknowledge our iniquities:
- 13 rebellion and treachery against the LORD,
turning our backs on our God,
inciting revolt and oppression,
uttering lies our hearts have conceived.
- 14 So justice is driven back,
and righteousness stands at a distance;
truth has stumbled in the streets,
honesty cannot enter.
- 15 Truth is nowhere to be found,
and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey.
- The LORD looked and was displeased
that there was no justice.
- 16 He saw that there was no one,
he was appalled that there was no one to intervene;
so his own arm achieved salvation for him,
and his own righteousness sustained him.
- 17 He put on righteousness as his breastplate,
and the helmet of salvation on his head;
he put on the garments of vengeance
and wrapped himself in zeal as in a cloak.
- 18 According to what they have done,
so will he repay
wrath to his enemies
and retribution to his foes;
he will repay the islands their due.
- 19 From the west, people will fear the name of the LORD,
and from the rising of the sun, they will revere his glory.
For he will come like a pent-up flood
that the breath of the LORD drives along.
- 20 “The Redeemer will come to Zion,
to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,”
declares the LORD.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:2

²⁰ ... We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1} As God's co-workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. ² For he says,

“In the time of my favor I heard you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you.”

I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

STAND and face the center aisle

VERSE OF THE DAY - *Spoken by the congregation to one another*

Joel 2:13 cf. RSV

ALL: **Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

GOSPEL

Luke 18:9-14

M: The Gospel, Luke Chapter 18

⁹To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

¹³“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

¹⁴“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

M: This is the Gospel.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY

Baptismal Waters Cover Me | 739:1, 4

1 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me As
 2 I look to Christ up - on the tree, His
 3 Lord, may your wound - ed hand im - part Your
 4 From your own mouth comes forth a word; Your
 5 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me; Christ's

I ap - proach on bend - ed knee; My Fa - ther's mer - cy
 bod - y bro - ken there for me; I lay be - fore him
 heal - ing to my bro - ken heart; Your love a - lone can
 Shep - herd speaks, but you are heard; Through him your hand now
 wound - ed hand has set me free. Held in my Fa - ther's

here I plead, For griev - ous sins of thought and deed.
 all my sin, My dark - est se - crets from with - in.
 form in me A heart that serves you joy - ful - ly.
 stretch - es out, For - giv - ing sin, de - stroy - ing doubt.
 strong em - brace, With joy I praise him for his grace.

The vital relationship between Holy Baptism and daily repentance and absolution is vividly described in this hymn.

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SERMON TEXT

Hebrews 4:15

¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

SERMON – *See the separate sheet for the Sermon Road Map.*

Skirmishes

REMAIN SEATED after the sermon

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.**

OFFERING

PRAYERS – Offering Prayer, Communion Prayer

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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

STAND

THE SACRAMENT

*These portions of the communion liturgy will be **spoken** on this solemn night.*

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was in every respect tempted as we are, yet without sinning; by whose grace we are enabled to subdue all sinful desires, and called to live no longer for ourselves but for him who died for us and rose again;

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join them in proclaiming your awe:

C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts: heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, **“Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”**

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, **“Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”**

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

C: **Amen.**

C: **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.**

BE SEATED and follow the usher’s direction for gathering at the Lord’s Table.

What can I do while others are communing?

Ponder the mystery of Christ's real presence in the bread and wine of this supper,
the events of his Passion remembered and proclaimed by this memorial meal,
the power of the gospel received in this meal,
the communion we share with God and with one another as believers,
the loud bold silent witness to the truth and treasure of Christ crucified proclaimed those
who do this in remembrance,
the one voice proclamation we publicly declare to the world as we gather together around
our Lord at this meal,
the firm and sure character of the covenant the Lord renews with us by means of his covenant
blood and broken body,
the riches of divine love and peace that is given, shared and celebrated at this feast,
the promise this banquet offers as a shadow of the eternal wedding banquet to which we are
invited,
the greatness of our redemption,
and all the other wonders of this sacrament.

STAND

THANKSGIVING

- M:** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.
- C:** **Whenever we eat this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**
- M:** O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C:** **Amen.**
- M:** The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The LORD look on you with favor and † give you peace.
- C:** **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Baptismal Waters Cover Me | 739 v. 2, 3, 5

1 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me As
 2 I look to Christ up - on the tree, His
 3 Lord, may your wound - ed hand im - part Your
 4 From your own mouth comes forth a word; Your
 5 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me; Christ's

I ap - proach on bend - ed knee; My Fa - ther's mer - cy
 bod - y bro - ken there for me; I lay be - fore him
 heal - ing to my bro - ken heart; Your love a - lone can
 Shep - herd speaks, but you are heard; Through him your hand now
 wound - ed hand has set me free. Held in my Fa - ther's

here I plead, For griev - ous sins of thought and deed.
 all my sin, My dark - est se - crets from with - in.
 form in me A heart that serves you joy - ful - ly.
 stretch - es out, For - giv - ing sin, de - stroy - ing doubt.
 strong em - brace, With joy I praise him for his grace.

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*Those who do not wish to remain for the Imposition of Ashes may leave in silence after singing verse 5, while the organist is playing quietly.
 Those remaining be seated or kneel.*

SERVICE FOR IMPOSITION OF ASHES

M: Abraham, the father of all the faithful, addressed the LORD, “Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the LORD, though I am nothing but dust and ashes . . .” All who share this trust in the God of grace confess this same truth, “I am but dust and ashes. The LORD is my only life, light and hope.”
Tonight we join sons and daughters of Abraham, believers throughout the centuries, in confessing our wretched sinful condition of our mortality with the Ash Wednesday imposition of ashes.

This practice is not a sacrament. Therefore, it is open to all who wish to be reminded of their mortality. The participation of children is left to the discretion of the parents.



HYMN

In Hopelessness and Near Despair | 738 v. 1-2

1 In hope-less-ness and near de-spair, I cry to you, my
2 I see my heart's con-di-tion now, My heart's di-verse af-
Sav-ior! My guilt is more than I can bear. I have not earned your
fec-tions. Why do I love the things you loathe; I'm torn in two di-
fav-or. You know me as I real-ly am: How
rec-tions: Now prod-i-gal, now Phar-i-see. O
much is truth, how much is sham; Why should you heed my plead-ing?
God, be mer-ci-ful to me; Who else but you can help me?

This hymn is a recasting of Martin Luther's great penitential hymn "From Depths of Woe I Cry to You."

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NEWHOPE
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CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Most holy and merciful Father:

C: **We confess to you and to one another that we sin**

M: by our own fault, by our own grievous fault in thought, word, and deed,

C: **by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

M: We do not love you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We do not love our neighbors as ourselves. We do not forgive others as we have been forgiven by you.

C: **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

M: We are deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We are not true to the mindset of Christ. We grieve the Holy Spirit.

C: **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

M: We confess to you, Lord, our wretched character and all our unfaithfulness. Our pride, hypocrisy, and impatience:

C: **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people:

C: **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M: Our anger when our selfish aims are denied, and our envy of those blessed with good things we don't have:

C: **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M: Our love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work:

C: **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M: Our negligence in worship and prayer, and our failure to show the new life you created in us:

C: **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M: Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we do and the good we fail to do. For our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty:

C: **Forgive us, O Lord.**

M: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt for those who seem strange to us:

C: **Forgive us, O Lord.**

M: For every deviation from your will in all that we think or want or say or do:

C: **Forgive us, O Lord.**

M: Restore us, good Lord, and turn your anger away from us.

C: **Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen.**

HYMN

In Hopelessness and Near Despair | 738 v. 3

3 I trem - ble as I feel your hand, Ex - pec - ting re - tri -
 bu - tion, Yet hear no curse or re - pri - mand, But grace and ab - so -
 lu - tion: With you there is for - give - ness, Lord, You
 speak the sweet, con - sol - ing Word, And I am sure you love me!

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IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Those who desire to receive the sign of ashes come forward. Unconfirmed children may come forward at their parents' discretion.

Please stand in line on the right side of the aisle, coming forward one at a time to receive ashes by the font.

The minister applies ashes to the forehead of each in the form of a small cross and says:

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

Upon receiving your ashes, return to be seated or kneel.

After all have received ashes, we continue . . .

M: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your saving deliverance,

C: that we may show forth your glory in the world.

M: By Passion, cross and grave of your Son, O Lord, overcome all sin in us and

C: bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.



ABSOLUTION

The minister faces the congregation and says:

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live.

Therefore, I declare you absolved of your sin in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us his Holy Spirit for our renewal. May we continue to abide in the true faith, and at the last, be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

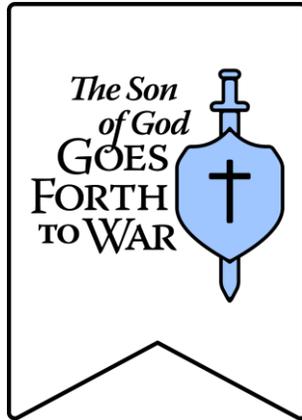
HYMN:

In Hopelessness and Near Despair | 738 v. 4

4 For - giv - en, free of guilt and shame, Grant me some time to
ren - der A gift to glo - ri - fy your name, Love to re - flect your
splen - dor: This world must know what I have learned, That
you be - stow what none has earned: The joy of full for - give - ness!

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Close with quiet meditation. Leave in silence.



	Theme	Pastor
Ash Wednesday February 26	Skirmishes	Huffman
March 4	The Promised Warrior	Burk
March 11	Hidden Warrior	Olson
March 18	Reconnaissance Report: Know Your Enemy	Trimmer
March 25	The Warrior Faces Satan's Ally, The World	Huffman
April 1	The Warrior Rejected by Many Followers	Burk
Palm Sunday April 5		Huffman
Holy Thursday April 9	The Battle is Personal	Huffman
Good Friday Tenebrae April 10	The Greatest Battle Ever Fought	Huffman
Easter Vigil April 11		Huffman
The Resurrection of our Lord April 12	Victory!	Huffman