



***Calvary Lutheran Church  
March 2, 2022***

*On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a solemn call to fasting and repentance. In marking our foreheads with ashes, we acknowledge that someday we will all die and return to the earth. At the same time, the ash traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism, so that what seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning; in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we journey forth trusting that in Christ, we have already received the promise of new life now and forever.*

**Prayer Before Worship:** God of mercy, you know us better than we know ourselves, and still you love us. Wash us from all our sins, create in us clean hearts, and strengthen us by your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully follow wherever you may lead; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*(In preparation for our worship together, you are invited to take a moment of silence to offer your own prayers of worship and praise.)*

**\*INDICATES PLEASE STAND IF ABLE.**  
Congregational responses are printed in **BOLD** type

**A Warm Welcome** to all as we gather as God's people to worship our Lord. We pray our worship together would strengthen your faith and desire to know and serve the One who loves us with an everlasting love as made known to us in Jesus Christ.

***Visitors**, if you are worshipping with us in person or online today,  
we are glad to have you with us.*

## **Prelude Music**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **†WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS†**

#### **The Greeting and Invitation to Lent**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

### **\*Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

**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.**

### **‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡**

#### **Old Testament Reading: Genesis 3:17-19**

<sup>17</sup>And to the man he said,

"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; <sup>18</sup>thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

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

## **Psalm 51** (*selected verses*)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

**In your great compassion blot out my offenses.**

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

**For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.**

Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight,

**So you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

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

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

**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 to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

## **Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10**

<sup>20b</sup>We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>6:1</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

**\*Lenten Verse:**

**“Let Your Steadfast Love...”**

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**Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.  
Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.  
Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.  
Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.**

**\*Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

*Response after the announcement of the gospel:*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: <sup>1</sup>“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.

<sup>2</sup>“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. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup>“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. <sup>6</sup>But 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.

<sup>16</sup>“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. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>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.

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

*Response after the gospel reading:*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

*(silence for reflection and meditation)*

**Pastor Chris**

**✠WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD✠**

**\*Hymn:**

**“O Bread of Life from Heaven”**

**ELW # 480**

**1. O bread of life from heaven,  
O food to pilgrims given,  
O manna from above:**

**feed with the blessed sweetness  
of your divine completeness  
the souls that want and need your love.**

**2. O fount of grace redeeming,  
O river ever streaming  
from Jesus' wounded side:  
come now, your love bestowing  
on thirsting souls, and flowing  
till all are fully satisfied.**

**3. We love you, Jesus, tender,  
in all your hidden splendor  
within these means of grace.  
Oh, let the veil be riven,  
and our clear eye in heaven  
behold your glory face to face.**

**\*Profession of Faith: The Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*Prayers of the Church:**

*Each petition ends with:*

Merciful God...**receive our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude with:*

...for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**\*Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

Having offered ourselves and our gifts to God, let us pray.

**Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**‡THE LORD'S SUPPER‡**

*Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins.*

**\*Confession of Sin**

Gracious Lord, ashes remind us of our human frailty and mortality. You are eternal, but we are limited in our days. Someday we will return to dust and ashes. You remind us of this in your Word:

**Dust we are and to dust we shall return.**

*(Genesis 3:19; Psalm 90:3)*

Ashes speak of condemnation for sin. When Adam fell into sin, judgment and death came to all. Since we all are born into sin, we are marked for death and ashes.

**Dust we are and to dust we shall return.**

Ashes speak of our total dependence upon you, O God. We are but frail human beings who must rely upon you, dear Father. We think we are capable of taking care of ourselves and make our own plans for greatness. However, so often these plans fail and crumble into ashes.

**Dust we are and to dust we shall return.**

Ashes speak of our humiliation and repentance. As people in the Bible humbled themselves and expressed their repentance and mourning in the signs of sackcloth and ashes, we also humble ourselves before you, O God, as we ask you to forgive our sins through Jesus Christ, our Lord. As we repent we put on dust and ashes.

**Dust we are and to dust we shall return.**

People of God, as we see the meaning of ashes and dust for us as Christians, we now make our earnest confession unto the Lord.

**Almighty God, you have always warned your people against trusting in false gods. We are sinful and this nature has given birth to sinful deeds: things we have done and things we have left undone. We are but dust and ash of the ground and we deserve nothing more than to return to the dust. Though we deserve your stern judgment, but for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive and renew us. Amen.**

Hear the Word of the Lord, “Repent, and believe the gospel.” With these words, Jesus began his ministry and now directs us to make repentance and hear his good news. Therefore, as you have made repentance, now hear the gospel. I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce to you the grace of God. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **\*Words of Institution**

#### **The Lord’s Prayer**

**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.**

#### **Imposition of Ashes & Distribution of Communion**

*During the Imposition of Ashes, the worship leaders mark the forehead of each person with a cross of ashes, saying: “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” You will then proceed to the communion servers to receive assurance of God’s love and forgiveness through the gift of Holy Communion.*



**All are invited to participate in the Imposition of the Ashes and the Lord's Supper.**  
*(WHITE GRAPE JUICE and GLUTEN FREE wafers are available. Just ask the server.)*

**"Here At This Table"**

**Choir**  
*Flute - Victoria Brady*

**\*Post-Communion Blessing**

**\*Post-Communion Prayer**

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡**

**\*Benediction**

May the love of God, which gives life to the world, sustain you.

May the bread of life, Jesus Christ, ‡ feed you with the food that endures to eternal life.

May the power of the Holy Spirit nourish and strengthen you in faith. **Amen.**

**\*Hymn:**

**"O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days"**

**ELW #319**  
**vv. 1&4**

**1. O Lord, throughout these forty days  
you prayed and kept the fast;  
inspire repentance for our sin,  
and free us from our past.**

**4. Be with us through this season, Lord,  
and all our earthly days,  
that when the final Easter dawns,  
we join in heaven's praise.**

## \*Sending

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

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**Hymns: O Bread of Life from Heaven:** Text: Latin hymn, c. 1661; tr. Hugh T. Henry, 1862-1946, sts. 1, 3; tr. Philip Schaff, 1819-1893, st. 2 ©Public Domain; **O Lord, throughout These Forty Days:** Text: based on Claudia F. Hemaman, 1838-1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress. OneLicense.net License #A-721840

## ✠In Our Thoughts and Prayers✠

Prayers for healing: **Reuben Gorr** (Covid), **Larry Stahla** (lung cancer-brother of Virginia Pickett), **Mabel Dedlow** (recovering from hip surgery), **Shirlie Schuldies** (eye & heart procedures), **Clark Beyer** (respiratory issues—brother of Pastor Chris), **Dick Heidingsfelder** (recovering from hip surgery), **Jude Walker** (recovering from a fall), **Andrew Miller, Jean Collins** (recovery from hip surgery), **Kathy Pickett** (cancer—Virginia Pickett's niece), **Maeve Singer** (medical issues), **Kathy Johnson** (back issues), **Alice Braaten** (rehab), **Kathy Rahrs** (recovering from back surgery—Val Rahrs' mother), **Mark** (Jean Collins & Kathy Johnson's cousin's husband), **LaDonna Schmidt** (chemotherapy), **Greta Mehling** (Health Issues), **Gloria Gorr** (health issues), **Julie** (cancer treatment—Travis Miller family), **Joan** (cancer—niece of Marj Nikont), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn's sister-in-law).

Prayers for comfort and peace for: Family and friends of **Juanita Gibbs**.

Prayers for: those dealing with the grief & aftermath caused by the Colorado Wildfires, the December Tornadoes, and the recent Covid surge.



**March 9<sup>th</sup>**, the meal is @ 5:30 pm  
with worship to follow @ 6:30 pm.  
This week is Scalloped Potatoes &  
Ham sponsored by the Women of  
the ELCA.