



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Kearney, Nebraska*

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD!

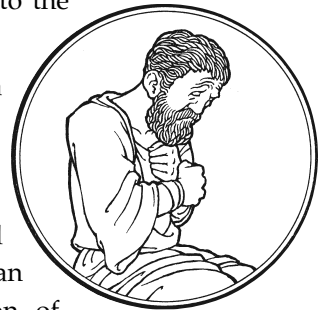
We are so happy you could join us today! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

For your convenience, **Listening Devices** are available for those who need assistance in hearing the service. Please speak with an usher if you need one. A **Nursery** is also available and is equipped with a speaker so that a minimal amount of the service is missed. The nursery is located in the hallway just off the entryway (first door on left).

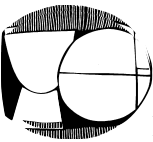
SERVICE NOTES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the Christian's 40-day journey with the Lord to the cross and tomb, preparing for the proclamation of Easter. The 40 days are reminiscent of several biblical events: Jesus' 40-day fast at the beginning of his ministry, Moses' stay on Mount Sinai at the giving of the Law, or Elijah's fast on his way to the mountain of God.

Ash Wednesday begins the Christian's Lenten journey with a reminder of our mortality and a call to repentance. The ancient practice of imposing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful gives Ash Wednesday its name. The imposition of ashes has never been an exclusively Roman Catholic practice, and today is observed widely by Christians of many traditions. The church father, Tertullian (c. A.D. 160–215), writes of the practice as a public expression of repentance and of our human frailty that stands in need of Christ. The ashes remind us forcefully of our need for redeeming grace as they recall the words from the rite for Christian burial: "...earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust..." words that will very likely be spoken over us all.



HOLY COMMUNION IS OFFERED TODAY



As Christians who believe that the Bible is inspired by God and that every word written in it is God’s holy word, we believe that we receive the body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. While this is something that goes beyond our human understanding, our faith allows us to accept this as true. God warns us in the Bible that anyone who doesn’t understand this teaching or who denies this real presence of Christ’s body and blood will do damage to his or her soul if not properly taught first (1 Corinthians 11:27-29).

As a congregation we care about people and about the spiritual well-being of individuals, especially those attending the Lord’s Table today. If you are a guest and desire to commune, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are not under church discipline in another congregation, and are members of our congregation, one of our sister congregations in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS], or a member of our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS].

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Preacher & CelebrantPr. Nathanael Seelow
KeyboardistMichelle Reinsch

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THE DIVINE SERVICE

The liturgy of the church follows the same patterns of worship services used by Christians for millennia. It beautifully unites believers across the ages in celebrating the wondrous mercies of our Lord through the Word and the Sacrament.

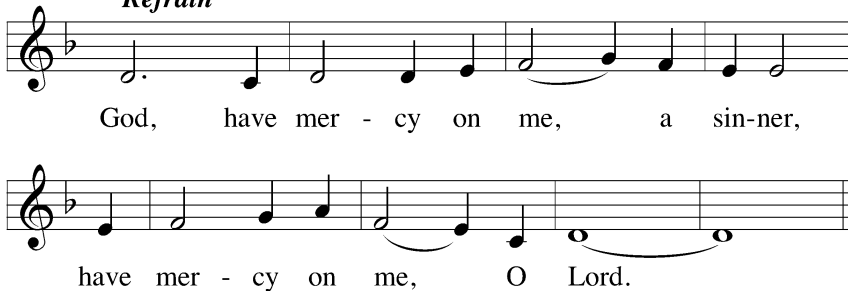
Remain seated.

PENITENTIAL PSALM

Psalm 51a | CWS p. 48

The Pastor sings the refrain first. The congregation is asked to join in the repeated refrain. The Pastor sings the verses of the Psalm. The congregation is invited to join in the Gloria Patri and remaining refrains.

Refrain



Psalm Tone



M Refrain

C Refrain

M Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

C Refrain

M Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.
Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

C *Refrain*

INSTRUCTION FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT

Please stand.

M Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle. Let us be silent. Let us be still. Let us pause now for a time of reflection and self-examination.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Those who wish may kneel.

[M] Most holy and merciful Father,

[C] We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned by our own fault,
by our own grievous fault
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.

[M] 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.

[C] Have mercy on us, Lord.

[M] 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 the Holy Spirit.

[C] Have mercy on us, Lord.

[M] We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.
The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives

[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.

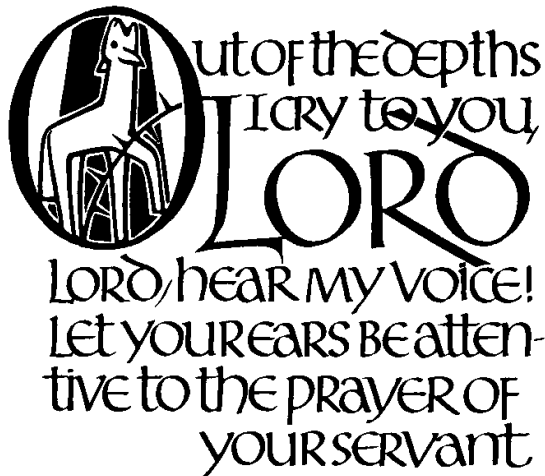
[M] Our anger when our selfish aims are denied and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves

[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 faith that is in us
- [C]** **We confess to you, O Lord.**
- [M]** Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. 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 differ from us,
- [C]** **Forgive us, O Lord.**
- [M]** For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,
- [C]** **Forgive us, O Lord.**
- [M]** Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.
- [C]** **Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.**



HYMN

In Hopelessness and Near Despair | CWS 738:1,2


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

ABSOLUTION

[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 forgive you all your sins 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 renewal and his Holy Spirit. 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 | CWS 738:3,4

3 I trem - ble as I feel your hand, Ex -
4 For - giv - en, free of guilt and shame, Grant
pec - ting re - tri - bu - tion, Yet hear no curse or
me some time to ren - der A gift to glo - ri -
re - pri - mand, But grace and ab - so - lu - tion: With
fy your name, Love to re - flect your splen - dor: This
you there is for - give - ness, Lord, You
world must know what I have learned, That
speak the sweet, con - sol - ing Word, And
you be - stow what none has earned: The
I joy am of sure you love me!
joy of full for - give - ness!

Be seated.



The Word

Having just received absolution for their sins, believers now gather around the Word of God to find encouragement and peace for their lives on earth.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 59:12-20

*The flood of offense has driven back justice, but
the LORD comes with his own flood of righteousness..*

FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS ARE multiplied before you,
and our sins testify against us;
for our transgressions are with us,
and we know our iniquities:
¹³ transgressing, and denying the LORD,
and turning back from following our God,
speaking oppression and revolt,
conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words.
¹⁴ Justice is turned back,
and righteousness stands far away;
for truth has stumbled in the public squares,
and uprightness cannot enter.
¹⁵ Truth is lacking,
and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey.
The Lord saw it, and it displeased him
that there was no justice.
¹⁶ He saw that there was no man,
and wondered that there was no one to intercede;
then his own arm brought him salvation,
and his righteousness upheld him.
¹⁷ He put on righteousness as a breastplate,
and a helmet of salvation on his head;
he put on garments of vengeance for clothing,
and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak.
¹⁸ According to their deeds, so will he repay,
wrath to his adversaries, repayment to his enemies;
to the coastlands he will render repayment.
¹⁹ So they shall fear the name of the LORD from the west,

and his glory from the rising of the sun;
for he will come like a rushing stream,
which the wind of the LORD drives.

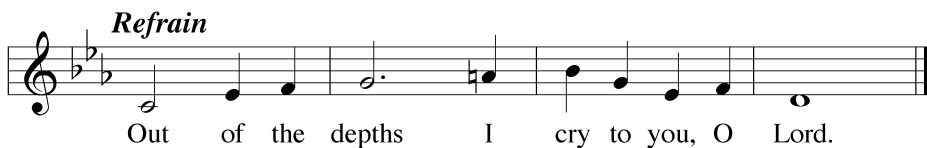
²⁰ “And a Redeemer will come to Zion,
to those in Jacob who turn from transgression,” declares the LORD.

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 130 | CW:OS p. 150



Refrain

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

O Lord, who could stand?

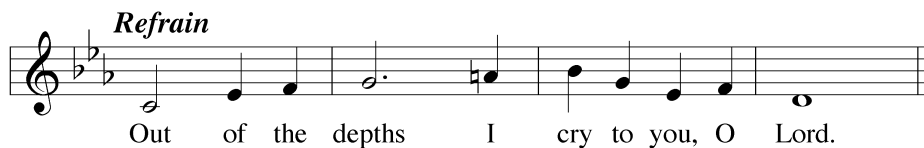
But with you there is forgiveness;

therefore you are feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

and in his word I put my hope.

Refrain



My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.
O Israel, put your hope in the Lord,
for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

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

Refrain

Silence for meditation.

PSALM PRAYER

[M] God of might and compassion, open your ears to the prayers of your people, who wait for you. Do not leave us in the depths of our sins, but listen to your Church pleading for the fullness of your redemption; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

[C] Amen.

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:2
*Reconciliation between God and his creation has
been accomplished through Jesus Christ.*

THEREFORE, WE ARE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1} Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ² For 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.

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

VERSE OF THE DAY

Joel 2:13b [RSV]

M 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

*Those who humble themselves before the
Lord's throne of grace will be justified and
declared truly righteous before him.*

Please stand.

M The Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter eighteen.

C Praise be to you, O Lord!

HE ALSO TOLD THIS PARABLE to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: ¹⁰ "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,

and became fully human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We believe in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

In Adam We Have All Been One | CW 396

SERMON

Luke 18:9-14

HE ALSO TOLD THIS PARABLE to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: ¹⁰ “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

“God, I come before you...”

CREATE IN ME

Please stand.

Cre - ate in me a
pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -
in me. Do not cast me a - way from your
pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from
me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The musical score is written on six staves in treble clef. The melody is simple and melodic, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The score ends with a double bar line.

Be seated.

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Please stand.

[M] Holy and righteous God, as we begin again the solemn spiritual journey of Lent, we come before you in deep humility. We confess that we are sinners, both by the nature we inherit and by the sinful thoughts and desires, words and actions that nature produces. Because of our sins, we deserve only your wrath and punishment. Yet you reveal yourself, not only as a God of holiness and justice but as a God of mercy and love. Despairing of our own merits and worthiness, and in response to your gracious invitation, we come pleading for your forgiveness.

[C] **Lord, have mercy on us for your holy name's sake.**

[M] You have revealed your love and mercy for us sinners in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. You sent him into our world to be the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all people. Help us grasp by faith the great truth that the pain and suffering, the mockery and ridicule, and the death and punishment he endured should have been ours. Help us understand that in incomprehensible love he suffered and died for us.

[C] **Lord, have mercy on us for Jesus' sake.**

[M] In silent meditation let us reflect on our sins, praise our Savior for the forgiveness he has won for us, and ask for God's continued grace to remove any doubt that we are forgiven.

Silence for meditation.

[M] God of grace and mercy, may your Spirit continue to be with us as we follow the way of the cross. As we contemplate the story of our Savior's passion, build us up in our faith. Renew in us the zeal to serve you by reflecting your love in our lives. Give us the desire and the ability to boldly proclaim the grace in which we stand, so that all for whom you lived and died may join us in fellowship now and in your presence forever. We offer our humble thanks and praise, our prayers and petitions, and ourselves in body and spirit to you, Lord God.

[C] **Hear us, O Lord, according to your promise, for Jesus' sake. Amen.**



The Sacrament

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

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 good and right so to do.

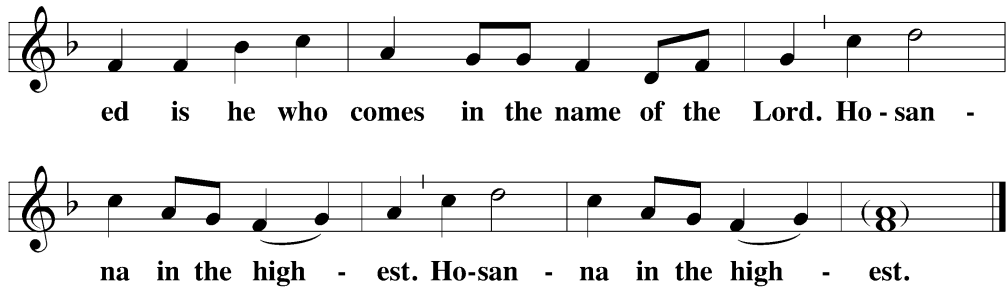
M It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who willingly died under the curse of this world's sin so that we may live forever in the light of God's blessing. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY — *Sanctus*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,

God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -

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



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

[M] Blessed are you, O Lord, because you have brought us from death to life. With humble and repentant hearts, we praise and thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ. Through his body and blood, once given and poured out for us, forgive our sins and strengthen us for our journey heavenward. Unite us to our crucified and risen Lord, that we may believe in him, confess him, call on his name, and finally be delivered from this world to the feast of the Lamb, whose kingdom has no end.

[C] Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

[C] 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

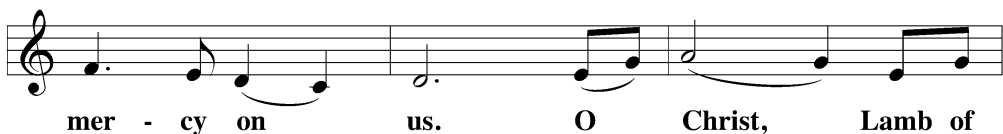
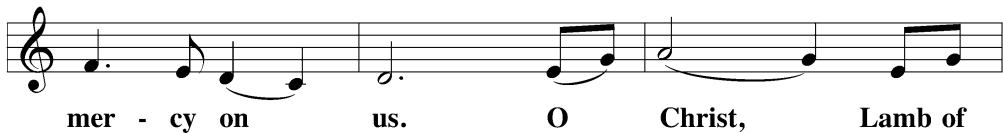
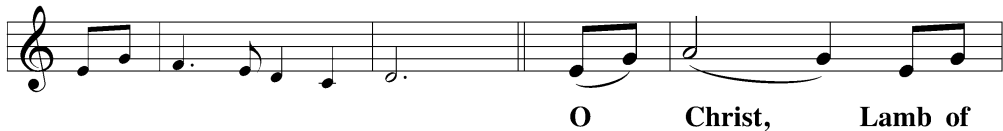
M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

LAMB OF GOD — *Agnus Dei*





Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

We ask that only members of the Wisconsin Synod [WELS] or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS] join us at the Lord's Table. If you have questions concerning our communion practice, or would like to inquire about how you, too, can commune with us, please speak with the Pastor following the service.

SONG OF SIMEON — *Nunc Dimittis*

Please stand.





[M] O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

[C] And his mercy endures forever.

[M] We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

[C] Amen.

BLESSING

[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.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

What Wondrous Love Is This | **CW 120**





A LAMB GOES UNCOMPLAINING FORTH

Lent 2016

Wednesday, February 10 | Ash Wednesday

7a-8:30a · Imposition of Ashes (Individual Rite)

11:30a-1p · Imposition of Ashes (Individual Rite)

6:35p · Imposition of Ashes (Corporate Rite)

7:00p · Divine Service with the Lord's Supper

Wednesday, February 17 | The Savior in Victorious Prayer

6:00p · Lenten Potluck Supper

7:00p · The Daily Office: Compline

Wednesday, February 24 | The Savior Betrayed

6:00p · Lenten Potluck Supper

7:00p · The Daily Office: Compline

Wednesday, March 2 | The Savior Accused & Condemned

6:00p · Lenten Potluck Supper

7:00p · The Daily Office: Compline

Wednesday, March 9 | The Savior Lamented

6:00p · Lenten Potluck Supper

7:00p · The Daily Office: Compline

Wednesday, March 16 | The Savior Forsaken

6:00p · Lenten Potluck Supper

7:00p · The Daily Office: Compline



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