



**February 17, 2021  
Online Worship  
Service**

#### **INVITATION TO LENT**

During this season of Lent we begin by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to resist whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. You are invited to take on the disciplines of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of Jesus' word and the meal of Holy Communion. We continue our journey through these forty days as we prepare to remember and celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection.

#### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

##### **OPENING PRAYER**

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

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

##### **PSALM 51:1-5,10-12,17**

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

<sup>2</sup>Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

<sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup>Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

<sup>11</sup>Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

#### THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Because we have a God who is merciful, we have the chance to make to return to God every single day to ask for forgiveness. We are able to speak the truth of our failings before God and know that in Jesus we are not defined by our sin, but instead by the unending love of our God. So with confidence, let us speak the truth of our brokenness. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. We confess our all our selfishness and all the times we have ignored or been indifferent to the needs of our neighbors. We confess our envy of others, our dishonesty and our anger. We confess all our false judgments of others, all our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us. We confess that we have loved the things of this world more than you. And we have neglected to pray and worship as you would have us do. Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. Restore us and accomplish in us the work of your salvation that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

Our God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and does not delight in punishing. Through Christ, God grants a new beginning for each of us as we turn again toward God. So, hear these blessed words, "By the mercy of almighty God, I therefore declare the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**"



1 Sav-ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom-age due;  
 2 By your help-less in-fant years, by your life of want and tears,  
 3 By your hour of dire de-spair, by your ag-o-ny of prayer,  
 4 By your deep ex-pir-ing groan, by the sad se-pul-chral stone,



when, re-pen-tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep-ing eyes;  
 by your days of deep dis-tress in the sav-age wil-der-ness,  
 by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc-ing spear, and tor-turing scorn,  
 by the vault whose dark a-bode held in vain the ris-ing God,



oh, by all your pains and woe suf-fered once for us be-low,  
 by the dread, mys-te-rious hour of the in-sult-ing tempt-er's pow'r,  
 by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread-ful sac-ri-fice,  
 oh, from earth to heav'n re-stored, might-y, re-as-cend-ed Lord,



bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!  
 turn, oh, turn a fa-v'ring eye; hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!  
 lis-ten to our hum-ble sigh; hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!  
 bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt.

Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1841–1903

## IMPOSITION OF ASHES—AT HOME

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

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 Lord,  
**bring us with all your saints to the joy of his Resurrection.**

Almighty God looks upon us with mercy, and by water and the word joins us to the saving death of Jesus Christ. Through the Holy Spirit, God raises us with Christ to new life. For the sake of the Savior, who is Christ the Lord, who lived and died and rose for us, God forgives us all our sins and delights to call us beloved children. God creates in us new and honest hearts so that we may live in the love of Christ.  
**Amen.**

*Silence for reflection...*

### READINGS

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

### MESSAGE

Seminarian Amy Mambu

### HYMN

*LORD JESUS, THINK ON ME*

ELW 599



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;  
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;  
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;  
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,



from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.  
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.  
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.  
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375–430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808–1896, alt.  
Music: SOUTHWELL, W. Damsan, *The Psalms of David*, 1579, alt.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

...Lord, in your mercy.

*Congregational response after each petition:*

**Hear our prayer.**



**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, who taught 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.**

**BENEDICTION**

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share Christ's Love.

**Thanks be to God.**

Join us for Mid-Week Services during Lent  
Online—Wednesday's at 7:00 p.m.

We are very happy to announce that we will offer a Mid-Week Lenten Series. The services will be recorded and available on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. with the following schedule:

February 24<sup>th</sup> – Deliverance from the Lions Den

March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Deliverance at Jericho

March 10<sup>th</sup> – Deliverance from Circumstance

March 17<sup>th</sup> – Deliverance at the Red Sea

March 24<sup>th</sup> – Deliverance from Pharaoh

Pastor Diane Day and Pastor Matt Day will be offering this series. Look for full details in the weekly newsletter for each week's focus

**Holy Week Dates**

Palm Sunday ~ March 28th

Maundy Thursday ~ April 1st

Good Friday ~ April 2nd

Holy Saturday ~ April 3rd

Easter Sunday ~ April 4th