



Ash Wednesday
February 17, 2021

Welcome

Gathering Song

Psalm 51

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

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

Let us pray. **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, raise up in us acts of loving-kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality and our failings with confidence in your mercy and hope in your power, the power shown 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.**

Word

Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Lift us up, O God, from self-hewn dusty graves.

Broken hearts and bones rejoice as we learn to rise, as we learn to rise.

Gospel: Matthew 9:10-15

The holy gospel according to Matthew 9:10-15

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ And as [Jesus] sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners." ¹⁴ Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?" ¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, "The wedding guests cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon - Pastor Rory "*Dry Bones in the Valley*"

Hymn of the Day

Restore in Us, O God

ELW 328

Invitation to Lent

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most holy and merciful God,

we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous 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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We have shut our ears 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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Imposition of Ashes

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth.

May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Anthem: *“Christ Is Our Life”*

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 Savior,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Offering

Offertory music: Alle Menschen müssen sterben - J.S. Bach

Prayer for Lent

Let us pray.

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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Sending

Blessing

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

Amen.

Dismissal

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

Sending Hymn***Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death*****ELW 451****Worship Leaders**

Preaching

Pastor Rory Philstrom

Presiding

Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert

Lector

Brittany McDonald

Assisting Minister

Ally Starks

Organist/Music Director

Bjorn Gustafson

Special Music

Covid Singers – Akiko Durbin, Pastor Maria, Verla Olson