

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Ash Wednesday



ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE

Explanation of Symbols

- P** Presiding minister
- A** Assisting minister
- C** Congregation
- ✠ The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of baptism
- ❖ You may bow as a sign of reverence

The congregation assembles in silence

Stand

L Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

Silence for reflection

LITANY

- L** O Lord,
C have mercy.
L O Christ,
C have mercy.
L O Lord,
C have mercy.
L O Christ,
C hear us.
L God the Father in heaven,
C have mercy.
L God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
C have mercy.
L God the Holy Spirit,
C have mercy.
L Be gracious to us.
C Spare us, good Lord.
L Be gracious to us.
C Help us, good Lord.

L By the mystery of Your holy incarnation;
by Your holy nativity;
by Your baptism, fasting and temptation;
by Your agony and bloody sweat;
by your cross and passion;
by Your precious death and burial;
by Your glorious resurrection and ascension;
and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

C Help us, good Lord.

L In all time of our tribulation;
in all time of our prosperity;
in the hour of death;
and in the day of judgement:

C Help us, good Lord.

L We poor sinners implore You

C to hear us, O Lord.

L To prosper the preaching of Your Word;
to bless our prayer and meditation;
to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith;
and to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

L To draw all to Yourself;
to bless those who are instructed in the faith;
to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely,
the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers;
to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy;
and to have mercy on us all:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

L To turn our hearts to You;
to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers;
and graciously to hear our prayers:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

L Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C we implore You to hear us.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C grant us Your peace.

L O Christ,

C hear us.

L O Lord,

C have mercy.

L O Christ,

C have mercy.

L O Lord,

C have mercy. Amen.

L O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

THE IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

The congregation remains seated during the imposition of the ashes. Each person stands to receive the ashes and then sits down.

The ashes are placed on the forehead of each sign in the sign of the cross, with the words:

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

During the imposition of the ashes, the Psalm is said

Psalm 51

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your
judgement.
- ⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- ⁶ Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.
- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.
- ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.
- ¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.
- ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

¹⁶For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

¹⁷The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

¹⁸Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
build up the walls of Jerusalem;

¹⁹then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole
burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

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.

CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P I will go to the altar of God,

C To God, my exceeding joy.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Sit

The pastor reads the Confessional Address, concluding as follows:

P May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

C Amen.

P Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God
our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

C Yes.

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

Approaching the altar, each penitent receives the absolution individually as follows:

P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.

C Amen.

When all have been absolved, they greet each other in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you."

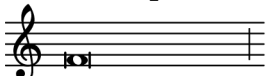
THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

THE INTROIT

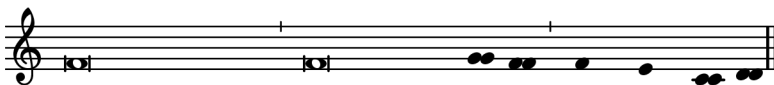
Ps. 71:1-3a, c; Antiphon: liturgical text



- A** You have mercy on | all, O Lord,*
and abhor nothing | you have made.
You look past the sins of men that they | may repent.*
You spare them all because you are our | Lord, our God.
- C** Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul
takes | refuge;*
in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till the
storms of destruction | pass by.
- A** I cry out to | God Most High,*
to God who fulfils his pur- | pose for me.
- C** He will send from heaven and | save me.*
God will send out his steadfast love and his | faithfulness!
- ❖ *Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit.*
As it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now and will be forever. | Amen.
- A** You have mercy on | all, O Lord,*
and abhor nothing | you have made.
- C** You look past the sins of men that they | may repent.*
You spare them all because you are our | Lord, our God.



A Lord, have mercy!



C Lord, have mercy Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with your spirit.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

C Amen.

Sit

THE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT READING—Joel 2:12–19

After the reading:

P This is the word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL—*Ps. 57:1a, 3a*

A Be merciful to me, O God, be merci- | ful to me,*
for in you my soul takes | refuge.

C He will send from heaven and | save me;*
he will put to shame him who tramples | on me.

EPISTLE READING—2 Peter 1:2–11

After the reading:

P This is the word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

TRACT—*Ps 103:10; 79:8a, 9a*

A He does not deal with us according | to our sins,*
nor repay us according to our in- | iquities.

C Do not remember against us our former in- | iquities;*
let your compassion come speedily to | meet us.

Help us, O God of our sal- | vation,*
for the glory | of your name.

THE HOLY GOSPEL—Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

P The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

THE CREED

C I believe in one ❖ *God*,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord ❖ *Jesus Christ*,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven

❖ *and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;*

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the
living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and of the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is ❖ *worshipped*
and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one Holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN: From Depths of Woe



1. From depths of woe I cry to Thee, In trial and trib - u - la - tion;
2. Thy love and grace a-lone a - vail To blot out my transgres-sion;
3. There - fore my hope is in the Lord And not in mine own mer - it;



Bend down Thy gra-cious ear to me, Lord, hear my sup - pli -
The best and ho-liest deeds must fail To break sin's dread op -
It rests up - on His faith - ful Word To them of con-trite



ca - tion. If Thou re-memb'rest ev' - ry sin, Who then could
pres-sion. Be-fore Thee none can boasting stand, But all must
spir - it That He is mer - ci - ful and just: This is my



heav-en ev - er win Or stand be-fore Thy pres - ence?
fear Thy strict de-mand And live a-lone by mer - cy.
com-fort and my trust. His help I wait with pa - tience.

Text: Martin Luther (1483–1542); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827–78)

Music: Martin Luther

SERMON

Stand

P Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Sit

After the sermon:

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.



C And with your spirit.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



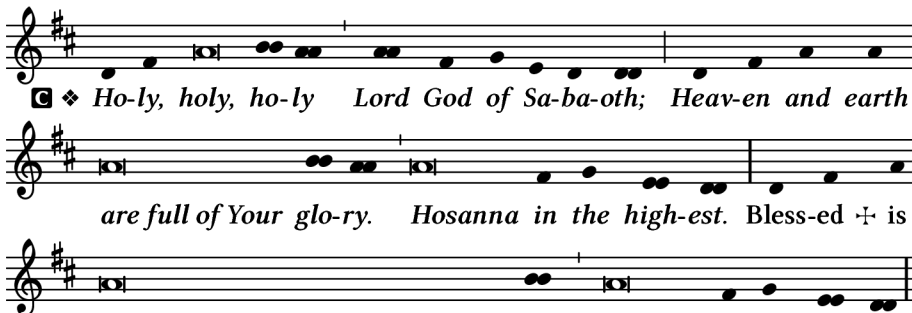
P Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly meet, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you ... evermore praising you and saying:

SANCTUS



C ❖ *Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sa-ba-oth; Heav-en and earth*

are full of Your glo-ry. Hosanna in the high-est. Bless-ed † is

He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the high-est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

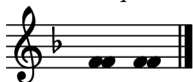
- C** Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom Come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who
trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but † deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever
and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

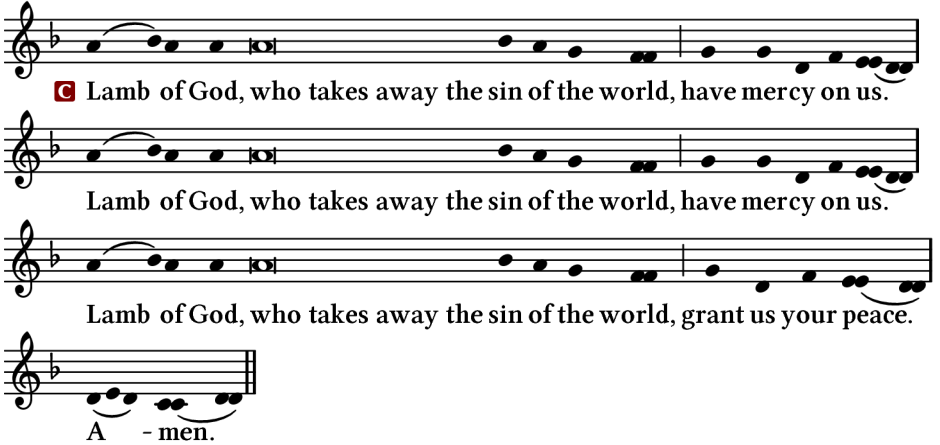


P The peace of Lord be with you al - ways.



C A-men.

AGNUS DEI



C Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

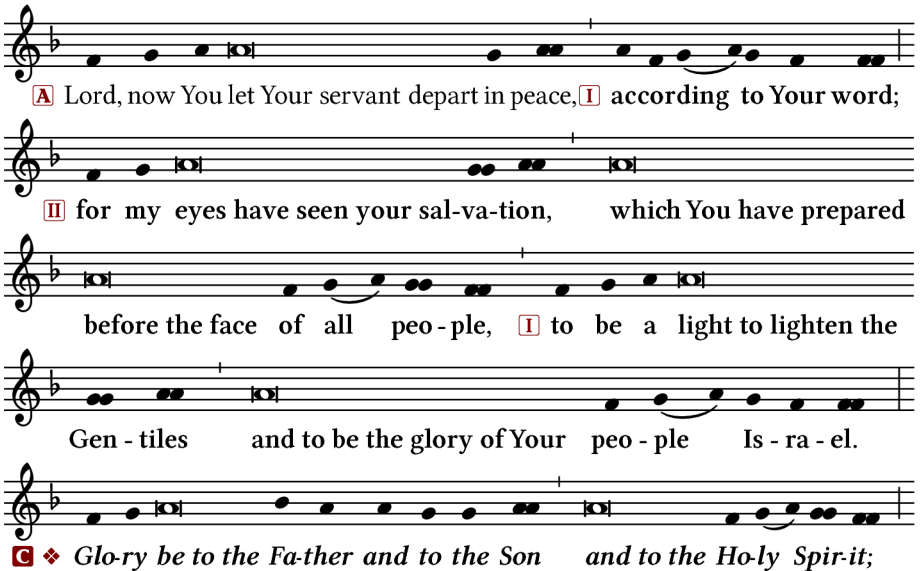
A - men.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS



A Lord, now You let Your servant depart in peace, **I** according to Your word;

II for my eyes have seen your sal-va-tion, which You have prepared

before the face of all peo-ple, **I** to be a light to lighten the

Gen - tiles and to be the glory of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

C ❖ *Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;*

as it was in the beginning is now, and will be for ev-er. A-men.

THANKSGIVING

P O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C And His mercy endures forev-er.

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith towards You and in fervent love towards one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P The Lord be with you.


C And with your spirit.

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and  give you peace.

C Amen. Amen. Amen.

The service concludes in silence.