

*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
*The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*  
Rev. Dr. Matthew W. Rueger  
Hubbard, Iowa

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Church Office: 641-864-2672

Parsonage: 641-864-2766

Church Website: [www.stjohnhubbard.com](http://www.stjohnhubbard.com)

Sunday School-9:00am

Adult Bible Class-9:00am

Sunday Worship-10:00am

# Ash Wednesday

March 2, 2022

*Due to the solemn character of Ash Wednesday, pre-service music and a hymn of invocation are omitted.*

*The pastor enters in silence.*

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**Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution: p. 290**

**Div. Serv. 1, p 156 ff.**

**Sermon Hymn: 418**

**Distribution Hymns:, 607, 743**

**Concluding Hymn: 887**

P: 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.

P: O Lord

C: HAVE MERCY.

P: O Christ,

C: HAVE MERCY.

P: O Lord,

C: HAVE MERCY.

P: O Christ

**C: HEAR US.**

P: God the Father in heaven,

**C: HAVE MERCY.**

P: God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

**C: HAVE MERCY.**

P: God the Holy Spirit,

**C: HAVE MERCY.**

P: Be gracious to us.

**C: SPARE US, GOOD LORD.**

P: Be gracious to us.

**C: HELP US, GOOD LORD.**

P: 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.**

P: In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

**C: HELP US, GOOD LORD.**

P: We poor sinners implore You

**C: TO HEAR US, O LORD.**

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

**C: WE IMPLORE YOU TO HEAR US.**

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C: HAVE MERCY.**

P: Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,

**C: HAVE MERCY.**

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C: GRANT US YOUR PEACE.**

P: O Christ,

**C: HEAR US.**

P: O Lord,

**C: HAVE MERCY.**

P: O Christ,

**C: HAVE MERCY.**

P: O Lord,

**C: HAVE MERCY. AMEN.**

P: 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, on God, now and forever.

**C: AMEN.**

**The service continues with the confessional address in the service of Corporate Confession and Absolution, p. 290.**

**Following the service of Corporate Confession and Absolution, the service continues with the readings on page 156.**

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**The Readings:**

**JONAH 3:1-10**

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, <sup>2</sup> “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup> So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three-day journey in extent. <sup>4</sup> And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day’s walk. Then he cried out and said, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”<sup>5</sup> So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them. <sup>6</sup> Then word came to the king of Nineveh; and he arose from his throne and laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes. <sup>7</sup> And he caused it to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying,

Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; do not let them eat, or drink water. <sup>8</sup> But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to God; yes, let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. <sup>9</sup> Who can tell if God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish?

<sup>10</sup> Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.

*P: This is the Word of the Lord*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **2 PETER 1:2-11**

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, <sup>3</sup> as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, <sup>4</sup> by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

<sup>5</sup> But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, <sup>6</sup> to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, <sup>7</sup> to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. <sup>8</sup> For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

<sup>10</sup> Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; <sup>11</sup> for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

*P: This is the Word of the Lord*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21**

“Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup> Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. <sup>3</sup> But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup> that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

<sup>5</sup> “And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of

the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. <sup>6</sup> But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

<sup>16</sup> "Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. <sup>17</sup> But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup> so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. <sup>19</sup> "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

*P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.*

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**