

Ash Wednesday

March 5, 2014

Ash Wednesday begins Lent, the church's 40-day journey of repentance and renewal in preparation for Holy Week. Because of its unique character and place in the church calendar, we celebrate Ash Wednesday as a separate festival. Because it is an important festival, the order of Holy Communion serves as the liturgy. To emphasize the penitential nature of the day we will use the rite for the Imposition of Ashes to begin our service.

Communion is a part of worship today. Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. All WELS or ELS members are welcome to commune with us.

Remain Seated

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PSALM 51 read in unison

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.
Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are proved right when you speak
and justified when you judge.
Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.
Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.
Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Syn-
od

*Our mission is to
Glorify God
as we help people*

Grow
in the
Gospel
and
Go

with the
Gospel

Welcome! We thank God that
you have joined us at worship to-



day. Restrooms are located in the
basement. Hearing loop head-
phones and Large Print Hymnals
are available from an usher.

Today we gather together in the
presence of God. He is present
among us in a special way through
his Word and Sacrament. We hum-
bly acknowledge our sin and re-
joice in the good news of for-
giveness through the life and death
of Christ. This is the focus of our
worship.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will turn back to you.
Save me from bloodguilt, O God,
the God who saves me,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
The sacrifices of God are ^{cl} a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart,
O God, you will not despise.
In your good pleasure make Zion prosper;
build up the walls of Jerusalem.
Then there will be righteous sacrifices,
whole burnt offerings to delight you;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Silence for meditation

INSTRUCTION FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT

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

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 neighbor 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: 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 you 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.

Those who desire to make the sign of the cross in ashes on the banner will come forward by the middle aisle and return down the outside aisle on the lectern side of the church.

IMPOSITITON OF ASHES

As each person takes the ashes the minister says:

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

After all return to their pew, the minister says:

M: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation

C: That we may show forth your glory in the world.

M: By the cross and suffering of your Son, O Lord,

C: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

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 o 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 last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN

“With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh” Hymn 303

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty and merciful God, you never despise what you have made and always forgive those who turn to you. Create in us such new and contrite hearts that we may truly repent of our sins and obtain your full and gracious pardon; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea,^[a] to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!”

⁶Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸The LORD said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.”⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived. (New International Version)

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 32 (page 78 of CW)

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 7:8-13a

⁸Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. Though I did regret it—I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while—⁹yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. ¹⁰Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. ¹¹See what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what concern, what readiness to see justice done. At every point you have proved yourselves to be innocent in this matter. ¹²So even though I wrote to you, it was neither on account of the one who did the wrong nor on account of the injured party, but rather that before God you could see for yourselves how devoted to us you are. ¹³By all this we are encouraged. (NIV)

VERSE OF THE DAY

Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. (Joel 2:13)

Stand

GOSPEL

Luke 18:9-14

⁹To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

¹³“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

¹⁴“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” (NIV)

Be Seated

HYMN

“In Adam We Have All Been One” Hymn 396

SERMON

2 Corinthians 7:8-13a

“I Do Not Regret It”

After the sermon, the congregation stands and sings:

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.

Be Seated

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Just As I Am Leah Ihlenfeldt

Stand

RESPONSIVE PRAYER FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

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, 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.

Time for silent meditation follows.

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.

C: We offer our humble thanks and praise, our prayers and petitions, and ourselves in body and spirit to you, Lord God. Hear us, according to your promise, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: (spoken) And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: (spoken) We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: (spoken) It is good and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

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 brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

C: (sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts: heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

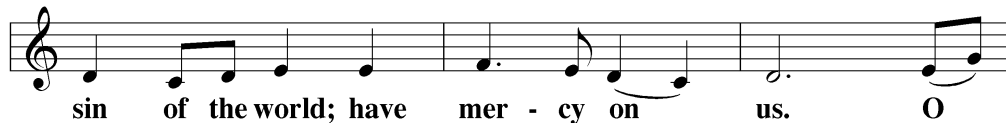
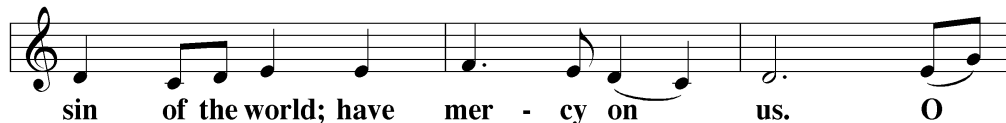
M: Our Lord Jesus, Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

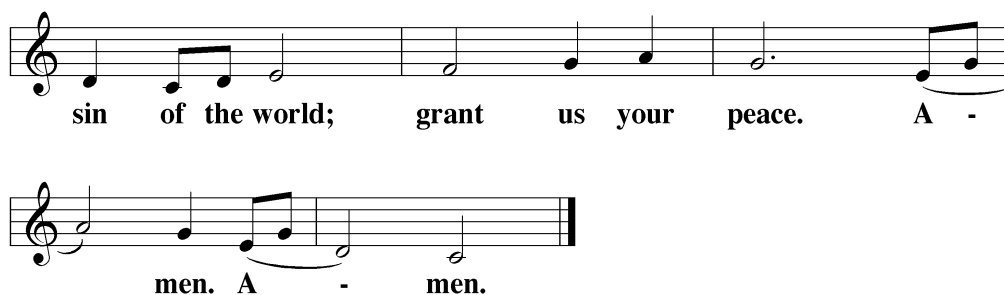
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: (spoken) **Amen.**

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD





Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION

*My Savior Jesus
Is This the Savior*

Junior Choir 11:00 a.m.
Choir 700 p.m.

HYMNS

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded Hymn 105
In Hopelessness and Near Despair Hymn 738

Stand

SONG OF SIMEON

C: (sung) **Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace according to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.**

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

C: (spoken) **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: (spoken) **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

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: (spoken) **Amen.**

Be Seated

HYMN:

“O Lord, We Praise You” Hymn 317:2

Midweek Lenten Worship 2014
Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

March 12

It's No Secret!
John 18:19-24

March 19

It's God's Plan From Beginning to End!
Mark 14:61,62

March 26

Shed No Tears for Jesus!

Luke 23:26-31

April 2

Glory Be to Jesus!

John 17:1-5

April 9

Our King Is Crucified!

John 18:36,37

Soup and sandwich meals will be served in the basement after the 11:00 a.m. service and at 6:00 p.m. before the 7:00 p.m. service. Please join us!



SEE HIS CROSS!

SURPRISING WORDS FROM OUR SAVIOR'S PASSION



Questions/Comments about Zion? Contact:

Pastor Randy Ott	home: 864-2348; mobile: 362-7118; otrr@mzluth.org
Principal Brian Humann	864-2349, school@mzluth.org
President Charles Edinger	606-2119, candmedinger@icloud.com
Elders: Howard Schultz	864-2789
School Board: Jeff Krueger	336-7282
School Faculty: Joan Wegner, Brenda Kuchenbecker, Brian Humann, Tim Pingel, Rick Muchka	
Website: www.mzluth.org	Synod : www.wels.net
Custodian: Beverly Leiterman	864-2355
Secretary: Nancy Pantzlaff	864-7334
Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service (WELS counseling)	
Kathleen Jasman, Appleton	731-9798
Living Hope Counseling Ministries (WELS counseling)	
Dr. John Johnson, Director, De Pere	338-8699