

Order of Worship for Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023

On Ash Wednesday, we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our forehead at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

Gathering **Indicates to stand if you are able*

Prelude and Bell

* Welcome/Gathering

* “Just As I Am, without One Plea” #592

* Prayer of the Day

Word

Joel 2:1-2; 12-17 (pew Bible, page 800 NT)

Psalm 51:1-17 (on screen)

2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10 (pew Bible, page 160 NT)

* Gospel Acclamation **pg. 151**

* Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 (pew Bible, page 5 NT)

(after announcement of Gospel: Glory to you, O Lord)

(response after reading of Gospel: Praise to you, O Christ)

Message

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling” #608

* Invitation to Lent

Confession of Sin **pg. 252**

Imposition of Ashes **pg. 254**

Meal

Offering/Offertory

Offertory Prayer

* Words of Institution

* The Lord’s Prayer

Communion

Post Communion Prayer

Sending

Blessing & Dismissal

“O Lord, throughout These Forty Days” #319

In keeping with the somber nature of this day, please leave the sanctuary in silence. My God bless our Lenten journey.

Remember in your prayers

Braxton Beyer, Carol Voorhees, Steve Van Kempen, Carol Day, Anita Stoker, Marla Miller, Mick Rose, those affected by COVID-19, those who serve in the military, families of victims of war, natural disasters, violence, those in our nursing homes and those who are homebound. Continue to pray for the overseas missionary we support, Reverend Dr. Philip J. Knutson and Lou Knutson serving in South Africa.



All Mid-Week Lenten

Services at 7:00pm

- † Wed., March 1
- † Wed., March 8
- † Wed., March 15
- † Wed., March 22
- † Wed., March 29

In tonight's service:

Ushers: Al Harris, Tim & Kristin Grove family

Lector: Denise Odello

Communion Prep: Liz Harris

Communion Servers: Judy Buro, Laurie Feuchtenberger, Millie Tschetter

Acolyte: Wes Odello & Ian Grove

Nursery: Mike Odello

Video: Steve Wagner

TV slides: Tyson Grove



First Lutheran Church, ELCA

Chosen by Christ - Empowered to Serve

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