

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

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February 22, 2023

12:15 & 6:30 PM

ASH WEDNESDAY



## PRELUDE

## GATHERING

*Please stand and face the back as the Sanctus bells are rung*

### HYMN

*“The Glory of These Forty Days”*

**ELW 320**

- 1 The glory of these forty days  
we celebrate with songs of praise;  
for Christ,  
through whom all things were made,  
himself has fasted and has prayed.**
- 2 Alone and fasting Moses saw  
the loving God who gave the law;  
and to Elijah, fasting, came  
the steeds and chariots of flame.**
- 3 So Daniel trained his mystic sight,  
delivered from the lions' might;  
and John, the Bridegroom's friend, became  
the herald of Messiah's name.**
- 4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too,  
return in fast and prayer to you.  
Our spirits strengthen with your grace,  
and give us joy to see your face.**

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.;  
tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862-1947, alt.

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal* ©  
Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

### INVITATION TO LENT

- P** Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent--self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love--strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

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

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** Most holy and merciful God,

**C** **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.**

**P** 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.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**P** 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.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

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

## IMPOSITION OF ASHES

All are welcome to come and receive ashes.

The ashes will be used to make a cross on your forehead and the words  
“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return” will be said.

During the imposition of ashes we sing:

*“Abide, O Dearest Jesus”*

**ELW 539**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1 Abide, O dearest Jesus,<br/>among us with your grace,<br/>that evil may not harm us<br/>nor we to sin give place.</b></p> <p><b>2 Abide, O dear Redeemer,<br/>among us with your word<br/>and thus now and hereafter<br/>true peace and joy afford.</b></p> | <p><b>3 Abide with heav'nly brightness<br/>among us, precious Light;<br/>your truth direct and keep us<br/>from error's gloomy night.</b></p> <p><b>4 Abide with richest blessings<br/>among us, bounteous Lord;<br/>let us in grace and wisdom<br/>grow daily through your word.</b></p> <p><b>5 Abide, O faithful Savior,<br/>among us with your love;<br/>grant steadfastness and help us<br/>to reach our home above.</b></p> |
|---|---|

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588-1632;  
tr. August Crull, 1845-1923

- P** Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,  
**C** that we may show forth your glory in the world.
- P** By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,  
**C** bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.
- P** Almighty God has mercy on us, forgives 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.  
**C** Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Almighty and ever-living God,  
**C** you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us  
new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God  
of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness 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

(sit)

## FIRST READING

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

*Because of the coming Day of the Lord, the prophet Joel calls the people to a community lament. The repentant community reminds God of his gracious character and asks God to spare the people, lest the nations doubt God's power to save.*

**B**low the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near—<sup>2</sup>a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

<sup>12</sup>Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; <sup>13</sup>rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. <sup>14</sup>Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God?

<sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; <sup>16</sup>gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. <sup>17</sup>Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, “*Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’*”

☞ The word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 51:1-17 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my offenses,  
and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence,

and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

<sup>13</sup>Let me teach your ways to offenders,  
and sinners shall be restored to you.

<sup>14</sup>**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

<sup>16</sup>**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.  
You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;  
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

## SECOND READING

## 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

*The ministry of the gospel endures many challenges and hardships. Through this ministry, God's reconciling activity in the death of Christ reaches into the depths of our lives to bring us into a right relationship with God. In this way, God accepts us into the reality of divine salvation.*

**W**e entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>6:1</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

☞ The word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

(stand)

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

- ☩ **Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**
- 📖 The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.
- ☩ **Glory to you, O Lord!**

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.*

Jesus said to the disciples: <sup>1</sup>*“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.*

<sup>2</sup>*“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*

<sup>5</sup>*“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*

<sup>16</sup>*“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*

<sup>19</sup>*“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

☩ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

*Pastor Hall*

(stand)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*“On My Heart Imprint Your Image”*

**ELW 811**

**On my heart imprint your image, blessed Jesus, king of grace,  
that life's troubles nor its pleasures ever may your work erase.  
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,  
is my life, my hope's foundation, all my glory and salvation!**

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703;  
tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856-1921, alt.

(sit)

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **P** Merciful God,  
**C** receive our prayer.

## THE PEACE IS SHARED

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**C** And also with you.

## MEAL

### THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

*We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this church possible. We encourage everyone to give. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online or place your offering in the plates that are located at the entrances to the Sanctuary. For those of you watching through our media outlets, if you are able, please mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!*



### THE TABLE IS PREPARED

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM 6:30 PM

“Create In Me”

arr. by Thomas R. Pearce

(stand)

#### OFFERTORY HYMN

“Lord Jesus Think on Me”

ELW 599 vs 1&3



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;  
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;



from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.  
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.

#### OFFERING PRAYER

**P** God of good gifts,  
**C** receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.



## HOLY COMMUNION

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**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 our thanks and praise.

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - - na in the high - est.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**P** Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you . . .

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**P** O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us . . .

Grace our table with your presence.

**C** **Come, Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit.**

**P** Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread . . . burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C** **Come, Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit.**

**P** With your holy ones of all times and places, . . . blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

☑ Amen.

## AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy  
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

(sit)

### DISTRIBUTION

*All baptized Christians who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and his Real Presence in, with and under the bread and wine, are welcome to the Lord's Supper. We believe that this is the Lord's table and is he who invites you. So you who are strong in faith, come with gratitude. You who feel weak in faith, come to be strengthened. And you who feel you have no faith, come so that the God of steadfast love will touch your heart with hope and joy. The form of distribution is intinction: you will receive the consecrated bread and then you may dip the bread into the wine. Gluten free bread is available upon request.*

**1** Come down, O Love divine;  
 seek thou this soul of mine and  
 visit it with thine own ardor glowing;  
 O Comforter, draw near;  
 within my heart appear and  
 kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

**2** Oh, let it freely burn,  
 till worldly passions turn  
 to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
 and let thy glorious light  
 shine ever on my sight, and  
 clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

**3** Let holy charity  
 mine outward vesture be,  
 and lowliness become mine inner clothing--  
 true lowliness of heart,  
 which takes the humbler part, and  
 o'er its own shortcomings weeps with  
 loathing.

**4** And so the yearning strong,  
 with which the soul will long, shall  
 far outpass the pow'r of human telling;  
 no soul can guess Love's grace  
 till it become the place  
 wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434;  
 tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833-1890

*"Thee We Adore, O Savior"*

**1** Thee we adore, O Savior, God most true,  
 thy glory clothed in bread and wine anew;  
 our hearts to thee in true devotion bow,  
 in humble awe, we hail thy presence now.

**2** O true remembrance of Christ crucified,  
 the bread of life to us for whom he died;  
 lend us this life then; feed and feast our mind,  
 be thou the sweetness we were meant to find.

**3** Fountain of goodness, Jesus, Lord and God,  
 cleanse us, O Christ, with thy most cleansing  
 blood:  
 increase our faith and love, that we may  
 know  
 the hope and peace which from thy presence  
 flow.

**4** Jesus, by faith we see thee here below;  
 send us, we pray thee, what we thirst for so:  
 someday to gaze upon thy face in light,  
 blest evermore with thy full glory's sight.  
 Amen.

Text: Thomas Aquinas, 1227-1274;  
 tr. Gerard Manley Hopkins, 1844-1889,  
 and James R. Woodford, 1820-1885, alt.

**1** Now we join in celebration  
at our Savior's invitation,  
dressed no more in spirit somber,  
clothed instead in joy and wonder;  
for the Lord of all existence,  
putting off divine transcendence,  
stoops again in love to meet us,  
with his very life to feed us.

**2** Lord, as round this feast we gather,  
fill our hearts with holy rapture!  
For this bread and cup of blessing  
are for us the sure possessing  
of your loving deed on Calv'ry,  
of your living self, our vict'ry,  
pledge of your unfailing presence,  
foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.

**3** Lord, we share in this communion  
as one fam'ly of God's children,  
reconciled through you, our brother,  
one in you with God our Father.  
Give us grace to live for others,  
serving all, both friends and strangers,  
seeking justice, love, and mercy  
till you come in final glory.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen

Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*(stand)*

## **THE BLESSING**

### **THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** Embodied God,

**C** at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. Amen.

# SENDING

## BLESSING

- P** God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.
- G** Amen.

## HYMN

*“O Lord, throughout These Forty Days”*

ELW 319

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1 O Lord, throughout these forty days<br/>you prayed and kept the fast;<br/>inspire repentance for our sin,<br/>and free us from our past.</b></p> <p><b>2 You strove with Satan, and you won;<br/>your faithfulness endured;<br/>lend us your nerve, your skill, and trust<br/>in God's eternal word.</b></p> | <p><b>3 Though parched and hungry, yet you prayed<br/>and fixed your mind above;<br/>so teach us to deny ourselves<br/>that we may know God's love.</b></p> <p><b>4 Be with us through this season, Lord,<br/>and all our earthly days,<br/>that when the final Easter dawns,<br/>we join in heaven's praise.</b></p> |
|--|---|

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838-1898;  
para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*,  
admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace. Serve in love.
- G** Thanks be to God

## POSTLUDE

† † †

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