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## ASH WEDNESDAY

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February 14, 2018  
12:00 & 7:00 p.m.



Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
8249 Jumpers Hole Road  
Millersville, MD 21108

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*As you silence your cell phone, take a moment to check in on Facebook or Twitter,  
and let your friends know how much you love worship at Christ Lutheran!*

*And check us out online - [celc1908.org](http://celc1908.org) or [facebook.com/celc1908](https://facebook.com/celc1908)  
Wireless network name: Celc1, Celc2. Password for either network is: celc1908 (text is lower case).*

P: Ash Wednesday is a solemn day of prayer that begins the season of Lent. During Lent's forty days we are invited to carry out Lenten discipline-practices of fasting, prayer, and works of love. On this day we confess our sin in a litany of repentance as we receive the sign of ashes placed upon our foreheads. This ancient symbol of repentance reminds us of our mortality. Returning to God's mercy and grace, marked with the cross of Christ, we make our way through Lent, longing for the baptismal waters of Easter, our spiritual rebirth.

(*We stand as we are able.*)

## PSALM 51: 1-17

(*We read responsively.*)

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

C: **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.**

P: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

C: **Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.**

P: Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

C: **You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

P: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

C: **Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

P: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

C: **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.**

P: Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.

C: **Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing Spirit.**

P: Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

C: **Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.**

P: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

C: **For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.**

P: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

C: **Amen.**

## THE EXHORTATION

P: Brothers and sisters: God created us to experience joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all of his creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. Also, by our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment, but to turn to him and live.

As disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love – the disciplines of Lent – heavenly Father help us to wage our spiritual warfare. We commit ourselves to this struggle and confess our sins, asking our Father for strength to persevere in our Lenten discipline.

*(Silence is offered for reflection and self-examination.)*

*(We kneel or sit as we are able.)*

## THE CONFESSION

P: Most Holy and merciful Father:

C: **We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole community of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own 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, Lord.**

P: 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 your Holy Spirit.

C: **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

P: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

C: **we confess to you, Lord.**

P: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

C: **we confess to you, Lord.**

P: Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,  
C: **we confess to you, Lord.**

P: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

C: **we confess to you, Lord.**

P: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

C: **we confess to you, Lord.**

- P: Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
- C: **accept our repentance, Lord.**
- P: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
- C: **accept our repentance, Lord.**
- P: For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
- C: **accept our repentance, Lord.**
- P: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.
- C: **Hear us Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen.**

(*We Sit*)

## THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

- P: All who desire to receive ashes placed upon their forehead in the sign of the cross are welcome to come forward at this time. We approach the altar steps from the center aisle and return down the side aisles. Please sit in silent meditation and prayer.

*(The ashes are applied to the forehead of each person with the words...  
Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.)*

(*We stand as we are able.*)

- 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 Lord,
- C: **bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**
- P: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore we implore him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, that the rest of our life may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: **Amen.**

**HYMN**

*“Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us”*

ELW 789

## GOD'S WORD

(We Sit)

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Romans 5:1-8

1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup>And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

### **GOSPEL READING**

Luke 23:32-38

<sup>32</sup>Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. <sup>33</sup>When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. <sup>34</sup>Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

<sup>35</sup>The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."

<sup>36</sup>The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar <sup>37</sup>and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

<sup>38</sup>There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

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P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**HOMILY** *The Seven Last Words Of Jesus: “Father Forgive Them”* Pastor Dave Simpson

**HYMN**                   *“The King Of Love My Shepherd Is”*                   ELW 502 (vs 1-4)

(We stand as we are able.)

## NICENE CREED

P: Joined together as a community of faith, we profess our faith through the “*Nicene Creed*”.

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, Begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again, in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: (Each prayer ends with) Lord in Your mercy,

C: (Reply) **Hear Our Prayer.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: **And also with you.**

*(Let us share the Lord’s peace with those around us.)*

*(We Sit)*

## OFFERING

### OFFERING OF MUSIC

*Cindy Berger*

*(We stand as we are able.)*

### OFFERTORY

“Let the vineyards...”

ELW 184

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather the harvest from the seeds that were sown,

that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with your presence,

and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray,

C: **Merciful God, we cry out for the hope and healing you offer. Guide us continually to your service. Make us your hands to feed the hungry and prepare us to receive the bread of life, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.**

*(We Sing)*

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 152

“*Holy, Holy, Holy*”

ELW pg. 153

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg. 154

P: Let us pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples and us,

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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*(We Sit)*

## **INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

We receive communion by procession. The ushers will invite you to come forward a by the center aisle. After receiving the bread, take an empty cup from the tray held by the acolyte if you wish to receive wine. The Communion Assistant will fill your cup with wine from the pouring chalice. If you desire grape juice, the Communion Assistant will give you a pre-filled cup. There is a tray at the entrance to the side aisle for discarding your empty cup. Use the side aisle to return to your seat. All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Those who do not commune are invited to come forward for a blessing.

## **COMMUNION HYMNS**

*"Lamb of God"*  
*"Let Us Break Bread Together"*  
*"What Feast Of Love"*

ELW pg. 154  
ELW 471  
ELW 487

(We stand as we are able.)

P: The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Let us pray,

Merciful God, accompany us on our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

P: As we die and rise with Christ in baptism, Almighty God, Father, <sup>†</sup>Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN**

*"The Lord's My Shepherd"*

ELW 778

## **DISMISSAL**

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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## GIVING OPTIONS

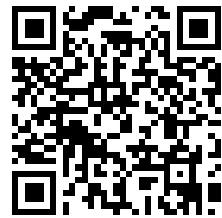
We collect an offering at every service, but not everyone carries cash or checks. You can also:

- Sign up to make automatic contributions to Christ Lutheran weekly or monthly. You can sign up on our website ([celc1908.org](http://celc1908.org)) or by contacting Julie Harding, Financial Secretary,

at ([julielharding1@gmail.com](mailto:julielharding1@gmail.com)).

- You can make contributions via the Christ Lutheran website by clicking “Donate” at the top of the homepage.

- If your smartphone has a QR code scanner, scan this code to be taken directly to online giving options.



Each Wednesday during LENT, please join us for our  
Soup & Bread Suppers through *March 21, 2018*.  
6:00 p.m. Soup and Bread Supper in Zick Hall  
7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship Service

Also, please join us for Morning Prayer, every morning at  
7 a.m. Monday at Panera Bread.  
7 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday at the Church.