

Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021



PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG: "Bless Now, O God, the Journey" (ELW #326 vs. 1-2)

**1 Bless now, O God, the journey
that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence,
the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert
and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters,
the road where faith is found.**

**2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims
who share this winding way;
your hope burns through the terrors,
your love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom
while often we are bound;
together we are seeking
the road where faith is found.**

GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

FIRST READING: Psalm 51:1-17

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.



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HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: "All Things of Dust to Dust Return" (ACS #920, *Kingsfold*)

- 1 All things of dust to dust return on earth and in the sky.
The hottest, brightest suns that burn in time grow dim and die.
The fish that leap, the birds that soar, the newborn young that play,
The leaves that fill the forest floor revert to dust and clay.
- 2 Lord, mark with dust and ash my brow so I may comprehend
that ev'ry moment here and now links me to that same end
I share with all that breathe and burn, that flare and fade and tire
yet by their waning light discern your own undying fire.
- 3 Lord, mark upon my brow this sign: a stark and barren cross
reminding me that though divine you know my pain and loss,
and at the touch of dust and ash awake my heart to view
how death itself is but a flash that dies away in you.

INVITATION TO LENT

CONFESSION OF SIN

1* 2

Re - mem - ber that you are dust, and to

dust you shall re - turn.

Most holy and merciful God,

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.

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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

(sung) **Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.**

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

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

(sung) **Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.**

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

that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive 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.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE

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

OFFERING <https://onrealm.org/mp/c/-/give/now>

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as our Savior teaches us...

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.

BLESSING

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. Amen.

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Preacher: Pastor Krista Zimmerman; Leader: Vicar Chip Lutz

Musician: Michael Becker

Video Producer: Pastor Beth Ann Stone

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