

Ash Wednesday

February 17, 2021

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Zachary W. Johnson, Pastor

Donna Menzies, Assistant to the Pastor, Visitation & Spiritual Care

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Bob Menzies, Guest Organist

Michelle Tune, Soprano

Rev. Brenda Bos, Guest Pastor

Order of the Liturgy

GATHERING

In keeping with the solemnity of this day of devotion, the people and the ministers assemble in silence.

PSALM *Psalms 51:1–12 The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**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.**

⁵Indeed, I was born guilty,

a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

⁷**Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.**

¹¹**Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your holy spirit from me.**

¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

In the name of the Father, and ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



Hill Ave Grace
Lutheran Church



Centennial Celebration 1919-2019

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

¹Blow 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—²a 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.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³rend 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. ¹⁴Who 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?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather 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.

¹⁷Between 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.**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

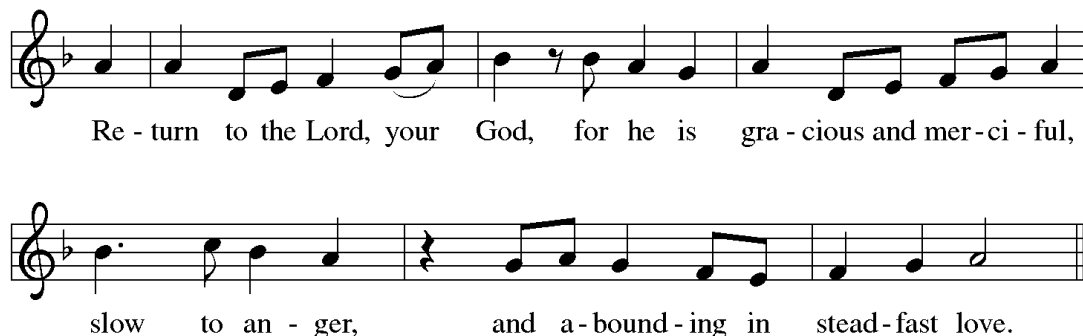
²For he says,

"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! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity,

knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love,⁷ truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left;⁸ in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true;⁹ as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed;¹⁰ 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.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

[Jesus said to the disciples:]¹ “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.

² “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. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵ “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. ⁶ 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.

¹⁶ “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. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ 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.

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

The Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Brenda Bos

SERMON HYMN

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

ELW 321

1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,

walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
 so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
 you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;

led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
 we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
 and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,

moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
 know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
 glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,

far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
 so we are dead and live with you in God.
 so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–2003
 Music: OLD 124TH, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551
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INVITATION TO THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

CONFESSION

Let us *stand* before God, our creator and redeemer, and confess our sin.

Silence for self-examination.

Most holy and merciful God,

we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, 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 not listened 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.

We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess to you our self-indulgence, and our exploitation of other people.

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

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

Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Bless these ashes and those who receive them. May this sign of our mortality and penitence remind us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

People may kneel or stand to receive the ashes.

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

The presiding minister leads the conclusion to the confession:

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 Christ's 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

Assistant Anita Mork

*Each petition ends with "Lord in your mercy," The assembly responds with "**Hear our prayer.**"*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The presiding and the assembly share a virtual sign of peace.

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

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

Spoken by the presiding minister.

It is indeed right...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

All speak the words together.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord. Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The presiding minister begins the prayer.

Holy one, the beginning and the end, the giver of life...

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The presiding minister and the assembly speak the following words together.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread (each plate of bread may be raised at this time), and gave thanks; broke it, and give it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me (bread plate may be lowered).

Again, after supper, he took the cup (cup of wine/grape juice may be raised at this time), gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me (cup of wine/grape juice may be lowered).

The presiding minister continues the Eucharistic prayer.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

With this bread and cup...We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your spirit...Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us...

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are invited into a time of reflection before they receive communion. During this time, you may prepare your hearts to receive the sacrament. Once ready, you may commune yourself and those around you with the bread and wine/grape juice. A representative from each household may say the following—bread: **"The body of Christ given for you."** Wine/grape juice: **"The blood of Christ shed for you."***

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep in his grace, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All speak the prayer together.

God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

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 \dagger that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

ELW 326

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
 2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
 3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
 your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
 We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,

The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
 We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
 but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.

then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
 to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
 Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

+++++

Join us this Wednesday at 7 pm for our Virtual Worship via Zoom!

You may also join us on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together!

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Ash Wednesday Service

Time: Feb 17, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94848729269>

Meeting ID: 948 4872 9269

One tap mobile

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