

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Setting Three

The First Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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The Rev. Steven Woyen

Pastor

Ruth Patrick

Organist

Tim Whitman

Choir Director

Chris Wood

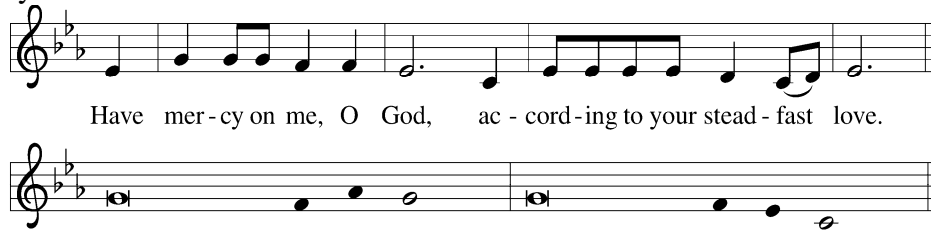
Office Secretary

GATHERING

The assembly gathers in silence.

The Psalmody

Psalm 51



- ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your¹ steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out¹ my offenses.
- ²**Wash me through and through¹ from my wickedness,
and cleanse me¹ from my sin.**
- ³For I know¹ my offenses,
and my sin is ev-¹er before me.
- ⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil¹ in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right¹ in your judgment. *Refrain***
- ⁵Indeed, I was born¹ steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my¹ mother's womb.
- ⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth¹ deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom¹ deep within.**
- ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I¹ shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur-¹er than snow.
- ⁸**Let me hear¹ joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken¹ may rejoice. *Refrain***
- ⁹Hide your face¹ from my sins,
and blot out¹ all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰**Create in me a clean¹ heart, O God,
and renew a right spir-¹it within me.**
- ¹¹Cast me not away¹ from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir-¹it from me.
- ¹²**Restore to me the joy of¹ your salvation
and sustain me with your boun-¹tiful Spirit. *Refrain***
- ¹³Let me teach your ways¹ to offenders,
and sinners shall be re-¹stored to you.
- ¹⁴**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of¹ my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing¹ of your righteousness.**
- ¹⁵O Lord, o-¹pen my lips,
and my mouth shall pro-¹claim your praise.
- ¹⁶**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or¹ I would give it.
You are not pleased¹ with burnt offering.**
- ¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a¹ troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will¹ not despise. *Refrain*

The Prayer of the Day

ELW p. 142

The assembly is seated

WORD

The First Reading

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Blow 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 Senior Choir

The Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

Chapter 5

^{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.

Chapter 6

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, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see — we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The assembly stands

The Lenten Acclamation

ELW p. 142

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

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.

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

⁵And 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. ⁶But 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.

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

¹⁹Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures

in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The assembly is seated.

The Sermon

Silence for reflection.

The assembly stands

The Hymn of the Day

“Out of the depths I cry to you”

ELW 600

The Invitation to Lent

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 our Father grieves, who does not desire us to come under his judgment, but to turn to him and live.

As disciples of the Lord Jesus 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 discipline of Lent—help us to wage our spiritual warfare. I invite you, therefore, to commit yourselves to this struggle and confess your sins, asking our Father for strength to persevere in your Lenten discipline.

The assembly kneels. Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most holy and merciful Father:

**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 own 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, Lord.

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.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.
The pride, hypocrisy, impatience and apathy that have infected our lives,
we confess to you, Lord.

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

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

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
we confess to you, Lord.

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

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,
accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.
Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen

The assembly is seated.

The IMPOSITION OF ASHES

People may come forward to receive the ashes. Silence is kept for meditation. The forehead of each person is marked with a cross of ashes with the worship leaders saying:

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

After those who desire ashes have received them, all kneel as the Pastor continues.

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 Lord,

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

The Pastor stands and addresses the assembly

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.

Amen

The Prayers & Peace ELW p. 143

The assembly is seated

MEAL

The Offering

The assembly stands

“Create in me a clean heart” **ELW 186**

The Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 144

The Thanksgiving at the Table (VII) ELW p. 67

The Lord’s Prayer ELW p. 145

The assembly is seated

The Lamb of God ELW p. 146

The Distribution

*Believing in the Real Presence of Christ, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America practices Eucharistic Hospitality. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord, presented through the Church to those who are baptized. **The Sacrament is distributed by coming up the center aisle and moving to the far end of the altar rail. Please kneel as you are able.** Those who do not wish to receive the Sacrament may approach with their arms crossed to receive a blessing.*

Music during Distribution

“The Glory of these forty days” **ELW 320**

“Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling” **ELW 608**

“Just as I am, without one plea” **ELW 592**

The assembly stands.

The Post-Communion Prayer ELW p. 146

SENDING

The Blessing ELW p. 146

The Sending Hymn

“On my heart imprint your image” **ELW 811**

The Sending ELW p. 146

The assembly departs in silence.

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Acknowledgements

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Assisting Minister

Sam D. Seward

Lector

Carol Rouse

Ushers:

Rick Lautenschleger, Rick West, Linda West, Ted Shetler

Altar Guild:

Stephanie Lautenschleger, Harv Flickinger

PRAYER CONCERNS—Eva Weisgarber, Janet Schenk, Tim Schram, Jane Woyen, the family and friends of Donna Norris (mother of Carol Lautenschleger), Margaret Baker, Debbie Himes, and all nursing home residents.



The Social Missions committee has chosen to once again support PAL, the Homeless Shelter and Harbor House with a Community Help Tree for the months of January, February & March 2009. Please take a tag from the tree located in the Narthex to purchase items and when returning items placing in box under the tree for these worthy organizations. Any money given in the months of January, February & March to Social Missions will be divided between the three organizations. As always thank you for your generous support of this mission

If you are a **former Church Council member** and still have a front door key to the church we ask that you please turn them in to the Church Office. If you serve on another committee or in some other capacity and need the key we ask that you still contact the Church Office so that we may have an accurate accounting of all the keys. Thank You.



PANCAKE SUPPER—to benefit the participants in the National Youth Gathering of the ELCA is going to be held **Tuesday, February 24, starting at 6:30pm** at St. Paul, Bolivar. Strasburg has a member travelling to New Orleans next summer. It's an excellent send-off dinner prior to beginning your Lenten discipline. Free will donation to offset the cost of the Gathering.



Midweek Lenten Worship

Who will it be? Five pastors from area ELCA congregations will be visiting and preaching on the elements of *The Small Catechism*. Lent is traditionally time to learn from the Word of God and the chief elements of the Christian faith found the Catechism. The Catechism serves as a handbook for Christian discipleship along with the Word of God.

Each pastor will be preaching on one element of the Catechism in five different sites during our Lenten Midweek. Each pastor brings their own gifts of preaching and teaching and it's an opportunity to hear them bring the Word of God to you during Lent.

Which pastor will be visiting on which Wednesday? Ah, you will have to come to worship beginning Wednesday, March 4 at 7pm and find out!

The Small Catechism *In no particular order*

The Rev. Stephen Patrick (Emmanuel, New Philadelphia)	<i>The 10 Commandments</i>
The Rev. Blanche Tyree (St. James, Tuscarawas)	<i>Holy Baptism</i>
The Rev. Jim Lewis (Grace, Dover)	<i>The Apostle's Creed</i>
The Rev. Mike Pozzuto (St. Paul, Bolivar)	<i>The Lord's Prayer</i>
The Rev. Steven Woyen (First, Strasburg)	<i>Holy Communion</i>

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN (Week of 2/22—3/1)

Sunday	<u>Transfiguration of Our Lord—Last Sunday after Epiphany</u> 9 AM—Christian Education/Catechism (Various locations) 10:15 AM—Holy Communion (Sanctuary) Farewell to Alleluia
Monday	No Scheduled Activities
Tuesday	9 AM—Busy Bees (Quilter's Room) 5 PM—6:30 PM—Youth Pancake Supper (St. Paul, Bolivar)
Wednesday	<u>Ash Wednesday</u> 10 AM— <i>The Divine Drama</i> 7 PM—Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes (Sanctuary)

Thursday	7 PM— <i>The Divine Drama</i>
Friday	No Scheduled Activities
Saturday	10 AM—First Communion (Social Hall)
Sunday	<u>First Sunday in Lent</u> 9 AM—Christian Education/Catechism (Various locations) 10:15 AM—Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

Pastor Steven, now serving part-time (75% time or 30 hours), office hours for this week

Sunday	Worship
Monday	DAY OFF
Tuesday	1-9
Wednesday	9-9
Thursday	1-9 (includes <i>The Divine Drama</i>)
Friday	DAY OFF
Saturday	10-Noon

*These hours include sermon/worship preparation, meetings, and visitation. **Of course these hours do not apply if a pastoral emergency occurs.***