

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21

“TOOLS FOR THE GARDENING OF OUR SOUL”

*Our Lord Jesus gives to us the tools of prayer, almsgiving, and fasting to
humble our egos, redirect our focus to our heavenly Father,
and to tend to what is most important in this journey -
our relationship with Him and one another.*

**ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 22, 2023**

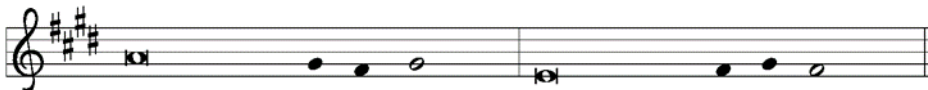
LUTHERAN CHAPEL
FEBRUARY 22, 2023
ASH WEDNESDAY

***BOLD** indicates congregational responses.
* Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.*

GATHER

PSALM 51

(In Unison)



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- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | stead-fast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my of-fenses.**
- ² Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.**
- ³ For I know | my of-fenses,
and my sin is ev- | er be-fore me.**
- ⁴ 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.**
- ⁵ Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my | mo-ther's womb.**
- ⁶ Indeed, you delight in truth | deep with-in me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep with-in.**
- ⁷ Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.**
- ⁸ Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may re-joice.**
- ⁹ Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.**
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it with-in me.**
- ¹¹ Cast me not away | from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.**

**12 Restore to me the joy of | your sal-va-tion
and sustain me with your boun- | ti-ful Spirit.**

**13 Let me teach your ways | to of-fenders,
and sinners shall be re- | stored to you.**

**14 Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of | my sal-va-tion,
and my tongue shall sing | of your righteousness.**

**15 O Lord, o- | pen my lips,
and my mouth shall pro- | claim your praise.**

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

**17 The sacrifice of God is a | trou-bled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will | not de-spise.**

**18 Favor Zion with | your good pleasure;
build up the walls | of Je-rusalem.**

**19 Then you will delight in the appointed sacrifices, in burnt | and whole offerings;
then young bulls shall be offered up- | on your altar.**

**Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son,
and to the | Ho-ly Spirit;
As it was in the be- | ginning is now,
And will be forever, | A-men.**

GREETING

P:The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(In Unison)

Almighty and ever-living God, 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

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 declares that God is gracious and asks God to spare the people lest the nations doubt God's power to save.

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?’ ”

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

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.

^{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,

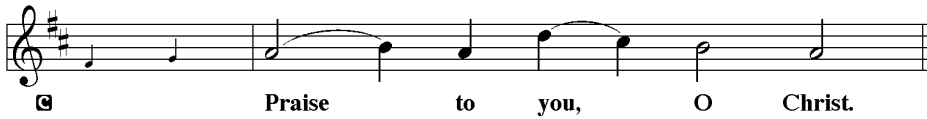
“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

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, 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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

“Tools for the Gardening of our Soul”

- Gift and Tool of Giving
- Gift and Tool of Praying
- Gift and Tool of Fasting

The Law is an aspect of God’s Word that shows sin and brokenness: I don’t give. I don’t pray. I don’t fast. My use of these spiritual tools is sad.

The Gospel is an aspect of God’s Word that comforts and saves in Christ: Jesus loves us, gives us the gift of spiritual exercises such as giving, praying, and fasting to grow us in Him.

So What? Claim the gifts! How will you practice giving, praying, and fasting to garden your soul and, by God’s grace, get closer to Him this Lent?



1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
 2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
 3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,

in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
 be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
 com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,

But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
 In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
 grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.

as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
 in glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
 Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929–2006

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

Text from *Resource Collection of Hymns and Service Music for the Liturgy*, © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.

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CONFESSION OF SIN

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

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

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

HYMN

“Savior, When in Dust to You”

ELW #601

1 Sav-ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom-age due;
2 By your help-less in-fant years, by your life of want and tears,
3 By your hour of dire de-spair, by your ag-o-ny of prayer,
4 By your deep ex-pir-ing groan, by the sad se-pul-chral stone,

when, re-pen-tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep-ing eyes;
by your days of deep dis-tress in the sav-age wil-der-ness,
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc-ing spear, and tor-tur-ing scorn,
by the vault whose dark a-bode held in vain the ris-ing God,

oh, by all your pains and woe suf-fered once for us be-low,
by the dread, mys-te-rious hour of the in-sult-ing tempt-er's pow'r,
by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread-ful sac-ri-fice,
oh, from earth to heav'n re-stored, might-y, re-as-cend-ed Lord,

bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!
turn, oh, turn a fa-v'ring eye; hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!
lis-ten to our hum-ble sigh; hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!
bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major/D minor). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

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 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.

C: Amen.

ANTHEM

CHANCEL CHOIR

“In All Our Grief and Fear We Turn to You”

Sylvia G. Dunstan/ arr. Thomas Keesecker

In all our grief and fear we turn to you.

O God, you know all that we think or do,

you know the pain we put each other through,

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, grant us peace.

Help us to put aside the angry word,

the clenching fist, the wish and will to hurt.

Teach us the way in which love best is served.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, grant us peace.

You did not even spare your only Son.

He lived our griefs and bore all evil done,

But through his cross, redemption has been won.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, grant us peace.

God, when we suffer all that we can bear,

then let us know that you in truth are near

and will not leave us lost in all our fear.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, grant us peace.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond **Hear our prayers.**

Prayers are commended in Jesus' Name.

P: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, the Man of Sorrows, who was tempted and suffered to save us.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24: Ephesians 4:1-3

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

2 Corinthians 13:11

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

C: And also with you.

THE MEAL

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

2 Timothy 4:22, Colossians 3:1, Psalm 136

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 FOR THE DAY AND THE HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** *Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9*

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

heav'n 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**

Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22, 1 Corinthians 11

P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is My body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, 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 sin. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

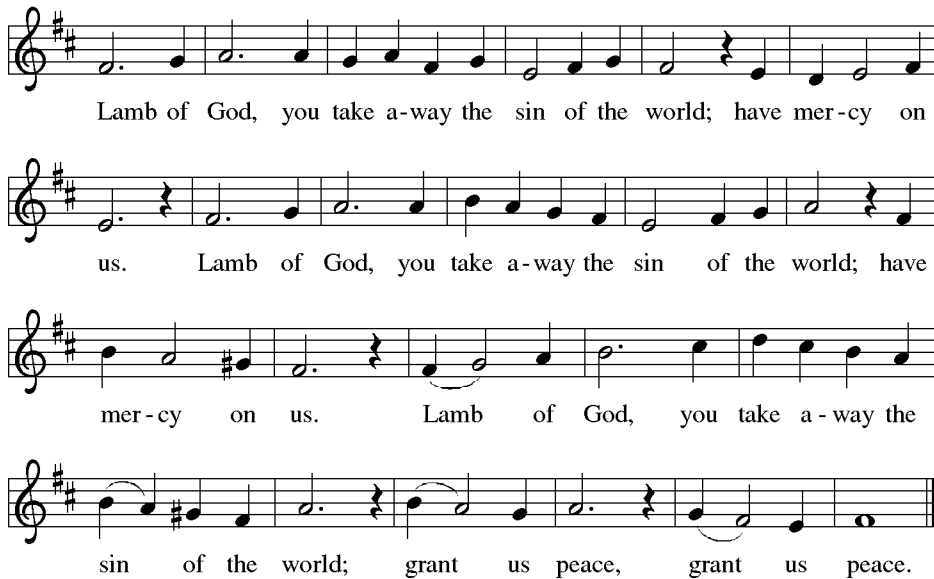
Matthew 6:9-13

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

*LAMB OF GOD

John 1:29



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, grant us peace.

*DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION AT THE BAPTISMAL FONT

All baptized Christians are welcome to Holy Communion. Here we receive forgiveness, the gift of abiding in Jesus, the remembrance of His sacrificial love for us on the Cross, and the promise of eternal life (Luke 24:13-35, John 6:22-59, 1 Cor. 11:23-26). Please request grape juice or gluten free bread if needed. Taste and see the LORD is good (Psalm 34:8)!

Please take your communion cup as you leave and discard in trashcan.

P: This is the body of Christ given for you. This is the blood of Christ shed for you.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

P: Merciful God, accompany 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.

SENDING

*THE BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a con - flict,
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
 4 Just as I am; thy love un-known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 man - y_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
 cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
 bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871
 Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

*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.

POSTLUDE

† † † † † † † †

THOSE SERVING AT LUTHERAN CHAPEL TODAY

MinistersPeople of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor.....Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant..... Kim Rundzieher
Choir DirectorKathie Riebe
Organist..... Lisa Burch
Head Ushers Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman

Wednesday Evenings during Lent

Please join us each Wednesday at 7:00pm in the Chapel for a Holden Evening Prayer service. Following the services, beginning **March 1**, Pastor Michael will lead a study of the book Visioneering by Andy Stanley for those who wish to participate. “God has crafted a unique vision for each of our lives---a voyage of discovery filled with fantastic riches that are embedded in the very journey itself. By exploring the ordinary life of Nehemiah and his vision for accomplishing the extraordinary, Visioneering by Pastor Stanley provides direction, motivation, and encouragement for your own amazing odyssey of self-discovery.” (Taken from the Christianbook website.) Contact Pastor Michael with any questions. We hope you’ll join us!

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL
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