

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21

"Disciplines and Gifts of Lent"

ASH WEDNESDAY

MARCH 5, 2025

**lutheranchapelchurch.org
(704) 864-6491**

LUTHERAN CHAPEL
SERVICE OF ANTE COMMUNION

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

GATHER

PSALM 51

(In Unison)

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your ¹stead-fast love;
in your great compassion blot out ¹my of-fenses.
- ² Wash me through and through ¹from my wickedness,
and cleanse me ¹from my sin.
- ³ For I know ¹my of-fenses,
and my sin is ev- ¹er be-fore me.
- ⁴ Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil ¹in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right ¹in your judgment.
- ⁵ Indeed, I was born ¹steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my ¹mo-ther's womb.
- ⁶ Indeed, you delight in truth ¹deep with-in me,
and would have me know wisdom ¹deep with-in.
- ⁷ Remove my sins with hyssop, and I ¹shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- ¹er than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear ¹joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken ¹may re-joyce.
- ⁹ Hide your face ¹from my sins,
and blot out ¹all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean ¹heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- ¹it with-in me.
- ¹¹ Cast me not away ¹from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- ¹it from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of ¹your sal-vation
and sustain me with your boun- ¹ti-ful Spirit.
- ¹³ Let me teach your ways ¹to of-fenders,
and sinners shall be re- ¹stored to you.
- ¹⁴ Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of ¹my sal-vation,
and my tongue shall sing ¹of your righteousness.
- ¹⁵ O Lord, o- ¹pen my lips,
and my mouth shall pro- ¹claim your praise.
- ¹⁶ For you take no delight in sacrifice, or ¹I would give it.
You are not pleased ¹with burnt offering.
- ¹⁷ The sacrifice of God is a ¹trou-bled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will ¹not de-spise.
- ¹⁸ Favor Zion with ¹your good pleasure;
build up the walls ¹of Je-rusalem.
- ¹⁹ Then you will delight in the appointed sacrifices, in burnt ¹and whole offerings;
then young bulls shall be offered up- ¹on your altar.
Glory be to the Father, and ¹to the Son,
and to the ¹Ho-ly Spirit;
As it was in the be- ¹ginning is now,
And will be forever, ¹A-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.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

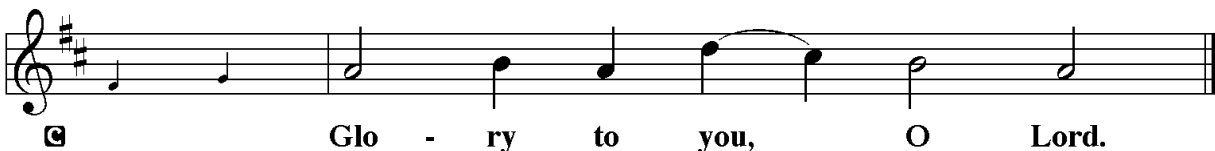
Joel 2:13

***GOSPEL**

MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.

Response after the announcement:



In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.

[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.

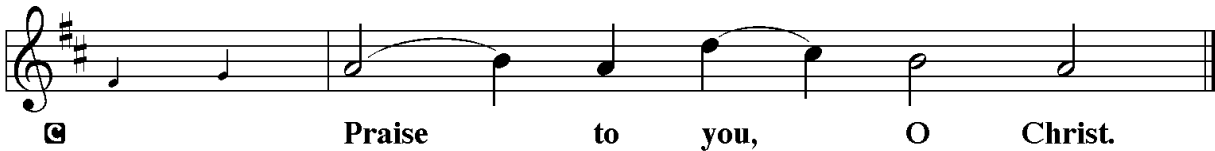
²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

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. 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.

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. 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.

¹⁹“Do 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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

Disciplines of Lent 2025

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“Savior, When in Dust to You”

ELW #601

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.

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.

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 OFFERING

Malachi 3:10, Matthew 23:23, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

MUSICAL OFFERING

"In All our Grief"

Arr. by Thomas Keesecker

*OFFERTORY

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Psalm 51

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

(In Unison)

C: Blessed are You, O God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with Your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Lift up your hearts.

C. We lift them to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE FOR THE DAY AND THE HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9* ELW #144

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

***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 ELW #146

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

***DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

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.

COMMUNION MUSIC

*“Eat This Bread”
“Where True Charity and Love Abide”*

**ELW #472
ELW #642**

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.

*SONG OF SIMEON

Luke 2:29-32

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people:

A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace.

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

AM: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Just As I Am, Without One Plea"

ELW #592

*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

"On My Heart, Imprint Your Image"

Arr. By Ruth Garchow Mac



Savior, When in Dust to You

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-ri-ous 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!

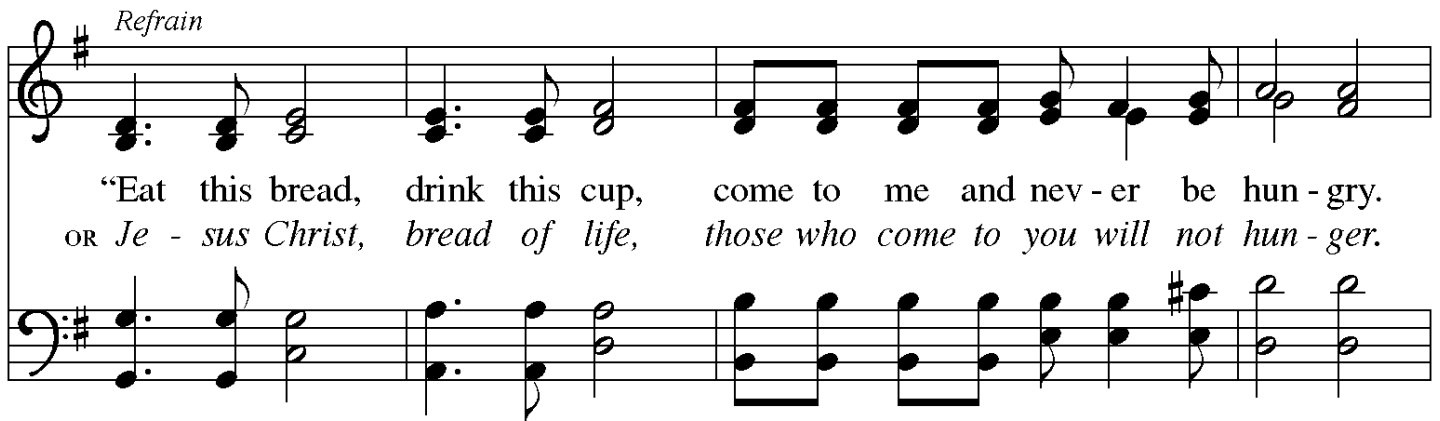
The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with clear harmonic support for the lyrics.

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt.
Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1841–1903

Eat This Bread

Jesus Christ, Bread of Life

Refrain



“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR *Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.*



Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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Ubi caritas et amor

Where True Charity and Love Abide

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, / Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,". The piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues with: "u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est. / God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there." The piano accompaniment continues. There is a triplet of eighth notes in the vocal line for "i - bi" and "dwell - ing" in the second system.

Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. *With One Voice*

Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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Just As I Am, without One Plea

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