

*Ash Wednesday Service*  
*March 2, 2022*



**March 2, 2022**  
*Ash Wednesday Communion Service 7:00 p.m.*

**Prelude**

**Ringing of the Church Bells**

**Announcements**

L When the days drew near for him to be taken up, Jesus set his face to go to Jerusalem to die on the cross for us.

**C So we set our faces to the cross of Christ this Ash Wednesday, and there we face our sins.**

L Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

**C The Law makes us face our sins head on, and we come to the cross of Christ confessing.**

L For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

**C We face our sins this day.**

L But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

**C We who have faced our sins and confessed them, are now forgiven.**

L We are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

**C We thank you, Jesus, for facing the cross and facing our sins for us.**

**Amen.**

Opening Hymn

*“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”*

LBW #439

**What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
Oh, what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!**

**Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Are we weak and heavy laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you;  
You will find a solace there.**

**P** Gracious Lord, ashes remind us of our human frailty and mortality. You are eternal, but we are limited in our days. Someday we will return to dust and ashes. You remind us of this in your Word.

**C** **Dust we are and to dust we shall return.** (Genesis 3:19, Psalm 90:3)

**P** Ashes speak of condemnation for sin. When Adam fell into sin, judgment and death came to all. Since we all are born into sin we are marked for death and ashes.

**C** **Dust we are and to dust we shall return.**

**P** Ashes speak of our total dependence upon you, O God. We are but frail human beings who must rely upon you, Father. We think we are capable of taking care of ourselves and make our own plans for greatness. However, so often these plans fail and crumble into ashes.

**C** **Dust we are and to dust we shall return.**

**P** Ashes speak of our humiliation and repentance. As people in the Bible humbled themselves and expressed their repentance and mourning in the signs of sackcloth and ashes, we also humble ourselves before you, O God, as we ask you to forgive our sins through Jesus Christ, our Lord. As we repent we put on dust and ashes.

**C** **Dust we are and to dust we shall return.**

**P** People of God, as we see the meaning of ashes and dust for us as Christians, we now make our earnest confession unto the Lord.

**C** **Almighty God, you have always warned your people against trusting in false gods. We are sinful and this nature has given birth to sinful deeds: things we have done and things we have left undone. We are but dust and ash of the ground and we deserve nothing more than to return to the dust. Though we deserve your stern judgment, but for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, Forgive and renew us. Amen**

You have heard the Word of the Lord, "Repent and believe the gospel."

With these words, Jesus began His ministry and now directs us to make repentance and hear his good news. Therefore, as you have made repentance, now hear the gospel. I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce to you the grace of God. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*The imposition of ashes will follow. Those who desire to receive ashes may come forward at the Usher's direction. The minister applies ashes to the forehead of each person with these words:*  
**REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE DUST, AND TO DUST YOU SHALL RETURN.**

### First Reading: Exodus 12:1–14

<sup>12</sup> Now the LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, <sup>2</sup> “This month shall be the beginning of months for you; it is to be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup> Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, ‘On the tenth of this month they are, each one, to take a lamb for themselves, according to the fathers’ households, a lamb for each household. <sup>4</sup> Now if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his neighbor nearest to his house are to take one according to the number of persons *in them*; in proportion to what each one should eat, you are to divide the lamb. <sup>5</sup> Your lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup> You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup> Moreover, they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>8</sup> They shall eat the flesh that *same* night, roasted with fire, and they shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup> Do not eat any of it raw or boiled at all with water, but rather roasted with fire, *both* its head and its legs along with its entrails. <sup>10</sup> And you shall not leave any of it over until morning, but whatever is left of it until morning, you shall completely burn with fire. <sup>11</sup> Now you shall eat it in this way: *with your garment* belted around your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it in a hurry—it is the LORD’S Passover. <sup>12</sup> For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and fatally strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the human *firstborn* to animals; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments—I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup> The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will come upon you to destroy *you* when I strike the land of Egypt. <sup>14</sup> ‘Now this day shall be a memorial to you, and you shall celebrate it *as* a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations you are to celebrate it *as* a permanent ordinance.

### Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20–6:10

<sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin in our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

**6** And working together *with Him*, we also urge you not to receive the grace of God in vain—<sup>2</sup> for He says,

“AT A FAVORABLE TIME I LISTENED TO YOU,  
AND ON A DAY OF SALVATION I HELPED YOU.”

Behold, now is “A FAVORABLE TIME,” behold, now is “A DAY OF SALVATION”—<sup>3</sup> giving no reason for *taking* offense in anything, so that the ministry will not be discredited, <sup>4</sup> but in everything commending ourselves as servants of God, in much endurance, in afflictions, in hardships, in difficulties, <sup>5</sup> in beatings, in imprisonments, in mob attacks, in labors, in sleeplessness, in hunger, <sup>6</sup> in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in genuine love, <sup>7</sup> in the word of truth, *and* in the power of God; by the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left, <sup>8</sup> by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; *regarded* as deceivers and yet true; <sup>9</sup> as unknown and *yet* well known, as dying and *yet* behold, we are alive; as punished and *yet* not put to death, <sup>10</sup> as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and *yet* possessing all things.

*Stand*

**Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

**Gospel Reading: Luke 22:1–13**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 22<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you O Lord**

<sup>22</sup> Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was approaching. <sup>2</sup> And the chief priests and the scribes were trying to find a way to put Him to death, since they were afraid of the people. <sup>3</sup> And Satan entered Judas, the one called Iscariot, who belonged to the number of the twelve. <sup>4</sup> And he left and discussed with the chief priests and officers how he was to betray Him to them. <sup>5</sup> And they were delighted, and agreed to give him money. <sup>6</sup> And *so* he consented, and *began* looking for a good opportunity to betray Him to them away from the crowd. <sup>7</sup> Now the *first* day of Unleavened Bread came, on which the Passover *lamb* had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup> And *so* Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, so that we may eat *it*.” <sup>9</sup> They said to Him, “Where do You want us to prepare *it*?” <sup>10</sup> And He said to them, “When you have entered the city, a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you; follow him into the house that he enters. <sup>11</sup> And you shall say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, “Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?’” <sup>12</sup> And he will show you a large, furnished upstairs room; prepare *it* there.” <sup>13</sup> And they left and found *everything* just as He had told them; and they prepared the Passover

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ!**

*Sit*

Sermon ~ Pastor John Boor

Hymn

***“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”***

LBW #107

**Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I long to take my stand;  
The shadow of a mighty rock  
Within a weary land,  
A home within the wilderness,  
A rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noontide heat  
And the burdens of the day.**

**Upon the cross of Jesus,  
My eye at times can see  
The very dying form of one  
Who suffered there for me.  
And from my contrite heart, with tears,  
Two wonders I confess:  
The wonders of his glorious love  
And my unworthiness.**

**I take, O cross, your shadow  
For my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than  
The sunshine of his face;  
Content to let the world go by,  
To know no gain nor loss,  
My sinful self my only shame,  
My glory all, the cross.**

Let us confess our faith together through the Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,  
The Father, the Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
Of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in on Lord, Jesus Christ,  
The only Son of God,  
Eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
True God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
Of one being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
He came down from heaven;  
By the power of the Holy Spirit  
He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again'  
In accordance with the scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven;  
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
And his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.  
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
And the life of the world to come.  
Amen**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.** (share this peace)

Offering

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on our fallen humanity, revealing to us your holy will and sending your only Son to fulfill it in our stead. With repentant joy we receive the gracious salvation you provide through the sacrifice of his body and blood on the cross.

Strengthen us as we gather in remembrance of Jesus grant us to grow in faith and love; and gather us together with all the faithful to rejoice together around your throne in eternity. To you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all praise and glory now and forever.

**Amen**

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.

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**

**P** Come for the table is ready.

The Distribution (Please follow directions of the ushers)

**P** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** Amen

**P** Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen

### **Blessing**

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Hymn

### *“The Old Rugged Cross” (1<sup>st</sup> Verse)*

**On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,  
The emblem of suff’ring and shame;  
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain.**

### **Refrain:**

**So I’ll cherish the old rugged cross,  
Till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross,  
And exchange it some day for a crown.**

(The Congregation is asked to depart quietly)

