

# Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

**Ash Wednesday**

**February 17, 2021**

P=Presider **R=Responses**

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. The cross of ashes reminds us of our human mortality and frailty. With the cross on our brow, we look for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast ahead. We recognize that a sinner can fail to understand law. God's call to good work can become a way to justify the self rather than a means to bring hope to those in need. The sinner can also incorrectly understand grace, taking it as an excuse for behavior more than a means to bring it forth. We come to God as sinners, seeking forgiveness that we do not deserve.

## **BELLS**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*(Please prepare your heart and mind for worship)*

### **PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC**

*"Jesus Paid It All"* by John T. Grape & Elvina M. Hall

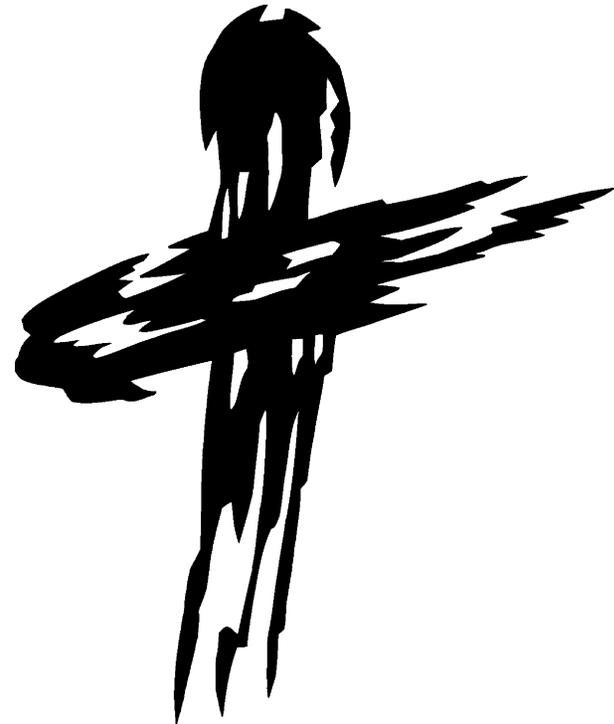
*(Please stand, kneel or remain seated)*

**HYMN** *"Alas! And Did My..."* (vs.1&2) **HYMN NO. 337**

**Alas! And did my Savior bleed,  
and did my sov'reign die?  
Would he devote that sacred head  
for sinners such as I?**

**Was it for sins that I had done  
he groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity, grace unknown,  
and love beyond degree!**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.



## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**R Amen**

P Because we walk into dark and dangerous places, hear us as we confess our sins.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Magnificent and merciful Father,

**R My feet take me to places of compromise and sinful ambition. My heart lingers in places of lust and lies. My words take me to places of anger, rage and hatred. My ears delight in going to places of gossip, deceit and ridicule. My mind takes me to places of selfishness and pride. My eyes lead me to places of envy and greed. Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

P 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. God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. Amen.

Do you believe that forgiveness of sins is from God?

**R Yes.**

P As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**R Amen**

*(Please be seated)*

## **IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

*“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return”*

### **DIALOGUE**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**R Amen**

**P** Let us ever walk with Jesus.

**R To see the depths of his love.**

**P** To behold the gift of his forgiveness.

**R To gaze upon the heights of his grace.**

**P** To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.

**R We walk with Jesus to the City of Jerusalem.**

**P** Because Passover is coming.

**R And the Son of Man will be crucified.**

**P** Faithful Lord, with me abide.

**R I shall follow where you guide!**

**P** Let us pray together.

**R Almighty and everlasting God, send forth your Holy Spirit that this Lent we may ever walk with Jesus, follow his example pure, through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

*(Please remain seated)*

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

***Ray Salinas***

### **BENEDICTION**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**R Amen**

**HYMN** *“The Glory of These...”* (vs1&4) **HYMN NO. 320**

**The glory of these forty days  
we celebrate with songs of praise;  
for Christ, through whom all things were made,  
himself has fasted and has prayed.**

**Then grant, O God, that we may, too,  
return in fast and prayer to you.**

**Our spirits strengthen with your grace,  
and give us joy to see your face.**

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862-1947, alt.

### **SENDING**

**L** Jesus invites us to walk with him to Jerusalem, a place of great suffering and a place of great love.

**R Let us ever walk with Jesus!**

*“Now the Light Has Gone Away”*

~Music: *Müde Bin Ich*; Lyrics: Frances R. Havergal

**+++**

Thank you for your generosity which enables Zion to continue the work of God in our community and beyond. There are a few ways you can make a financial offering for Ash Wednesday:

- by using our online giving tool (*add web address*)
- by bringing your offering to the church office
- by mailing it to the church office

P Deliver the erring from their darkness, the doubting from their uncertainty, and the wandering from their ways, and return them to you. Deliver us from the terror of death and the grave. Lord in your mercy.

**R Lord, hear our prayer.**

P Deliver us from selfish desire, from the tyranny of things, and from the wasteful use of the resources you have entrusted to our care. Deliver us from ingratitude for all your mercies and restore our hearts to hope and joy. Lord in your mercy.

**R Lord, hear our prayer.**

P Hear our spoken and silent prayers, O God, and reveal yourself to us, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.

**R Amen**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**R 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**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING Exodus 12:1-13**

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. <sup>4</sup>If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <sup>11</sup>This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on 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: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. (NRSV)

L The Word of the Lord. **R Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 5:6-8**

<sup>6</sup>Your boasting is not a good thing. Do you not know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough? <sup>7</sup>Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch, as you really are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. (NRSV)

L The Word of the Lord.  
R **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** "Return to..." **HYMNAL p. 142**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful,



slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 26<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

R **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL** **Matthew 26:1-5**

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, <sup>2</sup>"You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified." <sup>3</sup>Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, <sup>4</sup>and they conspired to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. <sup>5</sup>But they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people." (NRSV)

P The gospel of the Lord.

R **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON** "Places of the Passion: The City of Jerusalem"  
**Rev. Ron Windecker**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**HYMN** "Savior, When in Dust..." (vs.1&3) **HYMN NO. 601**

**Savior, when in dust to you  
low we bow in homage due;  
when, repentant, to the skies  
scarce we lift our weeping eyes;  
oh, by all your pains and woe  
suffered once for us below,  
bending from your throne on high,  
hear our penitential cry!**

**By your hour of dire despair,  
by your agony of prayer,  
by the cross, the nail, the thorn,  
piercing spear, and torturing scorn,  
by the gloom that veiled the skies  
o'er the dreadful sacrifice,  
listen to our humble sigh;  
hear our penitential cry!**

Text: Robert Grant, 1779-1838, alt.

**PRAYERS**

P Let us pray. Onward in Christ's footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above. Full of faith and hope and love. Let us do the Father's bidding. And so we pray. Jesus, you will finally deliver us from every storm so we lift our prayers and raise our petitions to you. Lord in your mercy.

R **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P Deliver us from pride and arrogance, lest we fail to acknowledge our sins and confess them. Deliver the world from the enemies of peace and from injustice and give us good and faithful leaders. Lord in your mercy.

R **Lord, hear our prayer.**



## **ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

Fredericksburg, Texas

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### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

**February 17, 2021**

**Video on Zion's YouTube Channel at 9:00AM**

**Broadcast on KNAF (910AM) at 4:00PM**

*(go to [www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube](http://www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube))*

**Podcast available [www.zion-lutheran.com](http://www.zion-lutheran.com) under sermons tab**

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Associate Pastor – Rev. Lisa Hoelscher; [pastorlisah@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlisah@gmail.com)

Accompanist – Sheri Robinson; Director of Music – Ray Salinas

Videographer – Peter Ray

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