



Ash Wednesday: David

February 22, 2023

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Psalm 51:1

Opening Hymn ... "I Lay My Sins on Jesus" LSB 606

Confession and Absolution

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: King David sinned against the Lord, committing adultery and murder. When he was confronted by the prophet Nathan, the king repented of his sins. In the Spirit-inspired words of a psalm, David expressed his sorrow over his sins and his trust in God's mercy: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions." God, in his grace, forgave the repentant king. As we begin our Lenten journey on this Ash Wednesday, we repent of our sins and, using the words of David's psalm, we seek God's amazing grace and ask him to have mercy on us.

C: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight ... Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities" (Psalm 51:1-4, 9).

P: Just as he did in the life of his servant David, God has showered us with his grace, his undeserved favor for sinners. God sent his Son into the world to be our Savior. On the cross Jesus took onto himself the penalty of death that we deserved for our sins and now those sins are washed away in his blood. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C: "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 a willing spirit”
(Psalm 51:10-12).**

Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, you showed grace and mercy to your servant David, granting him forgiveness. According to your perfect plan, David the king became an ancestor of a greater King, the Savior called the Son of David, Jesus the Messiah. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we too know and experience your amazing grace. During this season of Lent, lead us to true repentance and renew your Spirit within us that we might serve you by sharing your love with others and living as witnesses to Jesus’ love. Hear our prayer in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Imposition of Ashes

P: In repentant humility, the Old Testament figure Job said, “I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes” (Job 42:6). In ancient times, God’s people often demonstrated sorrow for their sins by putting dust and ashes on their heads, a reminder of the penalty of death decreed in Eden, when God said, “You are dust, and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19). Today on Ash Wednesday, as we begin our journey to the cross with Jesus, we remember that we are sinners and that we need a Savior. We receive a mark of ashes in the sign of a cross, remembering that, on the cross, Jesus took onto himself the penalty of death for our sins. You are invited to come forward and receive the mark of ashes.

Participants are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Hymn ... “Savior, when in dust to thee” LSB 419

Old Testament Reading ... 2 Samuel 12:1-13

Epistle Reading ... Romans 4:4-8

Gospel Reading ... *Luke 15:8-10*

Sermon Hymn ... “To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All” *LSB 613*; vrs. 1

Sermon

**Hymn of Response ... “To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All”
LSB 613; vrs. 3**

Nicene Creed

Offering & Attendance/Involvement Cards

Prayers

P: (*after each petition*)...Gracious Lord,

C: Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Lord’s Prayer

Words of Our Lord

Communion / Distribution Hymns:

“Go to Dark Gethsemane” *LSB 436*

“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain” *LSB 435*

“O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” *LSB 439*; vrs. 1-4

Benediction

P: Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;

C: **Blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **C: Amen.**

Closing Hymn ... “Amazing Grace”