



Ash
WEDNESDAY

February 14, 2024

Guided *to the* CROSS Services for Lent

Ash Wednesday: Guided to Forgiveness

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:13-14

Opening Hymn ... “Savior, When in Dust to Thee” LSB 419

Invocation and Call to Repentance

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

P: In ancient times, people might display their sorrow over sin by scattering dust and ashes on their heads, a reminder that in Eden, God decreed death as the penalty for sin: “You are dust, and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19). Yet God also promised that a Savior would come to destroy the power of the tempting serpent who had brought sin and death into God’s creation. In his suffering, the inspired prophet Job spoke of his trust in the Lord’s promise: “I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth” (Job 19:25). Confident in his Redeemer’s love, Job confessed his sins, “I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes” (Job 42:6). Remembering that the promised Savior, Jesus our Redeemer, shed his blood on the cross for us, we take onto ourselves a mark of repentance. You are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive the mark of ashes, a reminder that we, like Job, repent in dust and ashes.

The Imposition of Ashes

(Participants are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive a mark of ashes.)

Hymn ... “I Lay My Sins on Jesus” LSB 606

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Having received the symbol of repentance, let us confess our sins to God our Savior, using the words of the psalmist David.

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!...Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean

heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”

P: God has had mercy on us, and for the sake of Christ Jesus our Redeemer, he has forgiven our sins. 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: “Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit!”

Prayer of the Day

P: Heavenly Father...Hear our prayer, and accept our praise in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

Old Testament Reading ... *Psalm 103:11-14*

Epistle Reading ... *Colossians 1:9-14*

Gospel Reading ... *Luke 23:33-34*

Hymn ... “Lord Jesus, Think on Me” *LSB 610; vrs. 1, 4*

Children’s Message

Sermon Hymn ... “Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing”

LSB 421; vrs. 1-2, 4

Sermon

Nicene Creed

Offering & Attendance/Involvement Cards

(The Offering of Peace is exchanged during Offering)

Prayers

P: (after each petition)... Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: Have mercy on us, and hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

Words of Our Lord

Communion / Distribution

"I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table" *LSB 618*

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord" *LSB 637*

The Blessing

P: We give thanks to God the Father, "who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

C: He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

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 ... "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"

LSB 609; vrs. 1-2