



Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021
Peace Lutheran Church of Plymouth
Jesus Turns to Jerusalem

GATHERING

*You are invited to receive ashes on your forehead before entering the Sanctuary.
Please pick up the Communion elements as you enter, and an usher will help you find a seat.*

PRELUDE

INVITATION TO THE CROSS

ONE: Almighty God, who created us from the dust of the earth, invites us to live courageously. Bringing our true selves--hardened, broken, empty, fearful, unfaithful--God welcomes us and breathes into us the Spirit of Christ's love. Receive the ashes, a sign of our mortality, a reminder of our need for the life given to us in Christ.

Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

+GREETING

ONE: The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

MANY: And also with you.

+CALL TO WORSHIP

We are gathered here to pray. Our prayer is woven with silence, scripture, ashes and song.
Let us be still in the presence of God.

We are gathered here to be emboldened through Sacred Word, which opens our hearts to our true selves and to one another.
Let us be still in the presence of God.

We are gathered here to be welcomed into communion with Jesus Christ, receiving the ashes of humility and mortality.
Let us be still in the presence of God.

Rest in the darkness and silence of the evening. God is near.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus, Great Teacher,

You place tremendous responsibility upon those who follow you. You demand more than we are often willing to give. You promise no safety, only that the way will be rough. Make us ready and willing to walk your rocky path and carry your subversive word to hostile ears.

MANY: AMEN

WORD

Please be seated in silence for reflection.

MUSIC

Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed

ELW 337

SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:51-56

A Samaritan Village Refuses to Receive Jesus

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. 52 And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; 53 but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. 54 When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" 55 But he turned and rebuked them. 56 Then they went on to another village.

Luke 9:57-62

Would-Be Followers of Jesus

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." 58 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." 59 To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." 60 But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." 61 Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." 62 Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

ONE: Return to the Lord Your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

MANY: Thanks be to God.

Silence for reflection

SERMON

Rev. Kjell Ferris

MUSIC

Abide With Me

ELW 629

+INVITATION TO LENT

ONE: Friends in Christ, today we enter a time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life. In order to rise strong we must reckon with pain and loss and death. We have stumbled; we could have done better; we know where we have failed. We are marred by dust and sweat and blood; we need repentance, and we need to own our broken stories.

God invites us to the disciplines of life in Christ: self-examination, repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving, and works of love. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great day when Jesus Rises Strong.

+CONFESSION OF SIN

ELW p. 252

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most holy and merciful God,
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.

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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Silent prayer and reflection.

MUSIC

Have Mercy on Us, Lord

ELW Setting 10 Kyrie,
p. 203

+PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

ONE: We come before God with prayers on behalf of creation, the nations of the world, Christ's church, and all who are in need. Let us pray.

ONE: May our Lenten practices renew us in faith and become actions that create justice and joy in the world. Lord in your mercy...

MANY: Hear our prayer.

ONE: God of the Journey, you set out with courage and vulnerability, giving yourself as the ultimate sacrifice for the healing of the world. Yet, still there is discord between parties and nations, cultures and governments, that continues to tear your peace and justice apart. Lord in your Mercy...

MANY: Hear our prayer.

ONE: Make us vulnerable in our journey, that we might see not only how we participate in these divisions, but how we might contribute to resolution. Lord in your Mercy...

MANY: Hear our prayer.

ONE: Christ, you cannot help but stop along the way to heal and restore, to lift up and renew, to comfort all who are in need. We name before you, aloud and in our hearts, those we know who are in need of your healing comfort ...

ONE: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

MANY: AMEN

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you always.

MANY: And also with you.

ONE: Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

MEAL

OFFERING

Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory

ELW 561

Please bring your offering to the doors of the Sanctuary when you depart.

+OFFERTORY PRAYER

ELW p. 64

ONE: Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

MANY: AMEN

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT US

ONE: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever.

MANY: AMEN

+WELCOME TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Lamb of God

ELW p. 154

COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

BENEDICTION

ONE: Let us pray.

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.

MANY: AMEN

DISMISSAL

ONE: 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.

MANY: Thanks be to God.

Please remain in your seats until an usher dismisses you.

POSTLUDE

We depart in silence.

Acknowledgements:

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Serving today:

Preacher

Organist & Pianist

Instrumentalists

Lectors

Worship Assistants

Zoom & Livestream Coordinators

Rev. Kjell M. Ferris

Anne Phillips

Peter Leppa, *guitar*

Sonja Leppa, *violin and cello*

Sylvi Leppa, *violin*

Janelle Leppa, Mark Stavrum, Lisa Novak, Bob Samuelson

Eleanor Ferris, Heidi Ferris, Iris Ferris

Stefanie Fiser Kleven, Steve Johnson, Scott Rusten,

Bob Samuelson & Jason Tofteland

