

Ash Wednesday
February 22, 2023
Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church
Glenview, IL
Office: 847-724-1034

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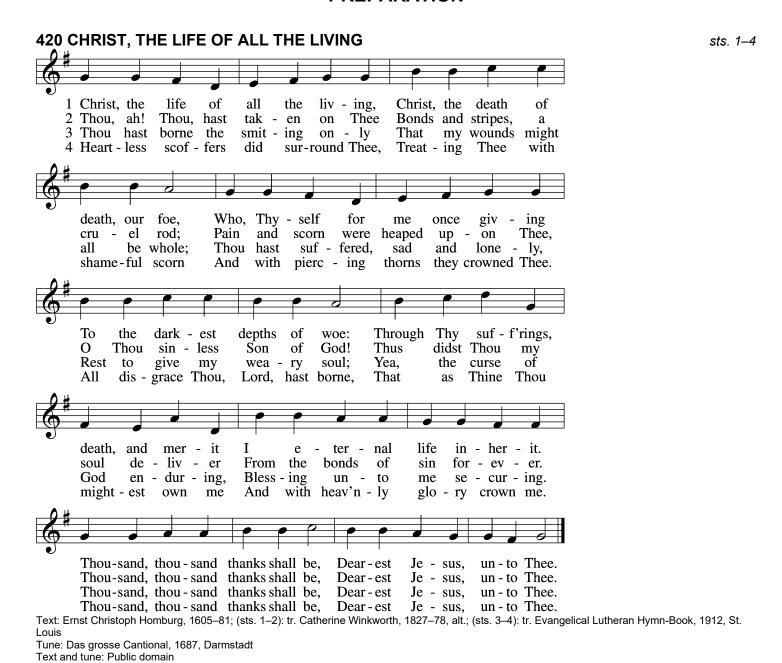
An offering is collected during the service.

# RINGING OF THE BELL SITTING IN DUST AND ASHES

# **AS WE GATHER**

Lent begins with ashes. The wearing of ashes on our forehead may seem like an unusual tradition, but it is rich with meaning. From the earliest days, God's children have repented before Him in sackcloth and ashes, a visual reflection of their hearts turning to Him for forgiveness and restoration. Fixing our eyes on Jesus during the forty-day season of Lent, we journey with Him to Calvary's cross where, enduring the "ashes" of our sins and the penalty they deserve, He grants to us the beauty of His forgiveness, full and free. Let us be renewed in our hearts and minds this day as we gather in the Lord's house. His Word will show us our great need for His saving love and deliver to us the treasures He has promised.

# + PREPARATION +



INVOCATION Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

# **OPENING SENTENCES**

2 Corinthians 5:21, alt.; Isaiah 53:5

- P For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin,
- so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.
- **P** But He was wounded for our transgressions;
- **C** He was crushed for our iniquities;
- P upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
- and with His stripes we are healed.

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Based on Philippians 2:1-11

Lord Jesus, search our hearts and minds that we may receive Your Word, share in Your Spirit, and be renewed in our relationships with You and with one another.

We observe a moment of silence for personal prayers of confession.

- **P** With humble hearts, let us pray together:
- Lord Jesus, the Father's only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, hear us as we pray.
- You endured the dust and the ashes, the nails, and the spear. By Your suffering and death, You bore in Your body the punishment our deeds deserve.
- Our rebellion against You in thought, word, and action is why You died for us—
- **P** to forgive our sins, to redeem our lives, and to cancel the debt we owe to God.
- With hearts that are humble and lives ever grateful, help us to receive Your grace, bow before You in worship, and confess that You alone are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.
- Almighty God our heavenly Father shows His mercy to us in the sending of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who endured the "ashes" of Calvary's cross so that we are given remission of all our sins, full and free. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

# **IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

As each person comes forward, the pastor makes the sign of the cross on his or her forehead or hand with ashes, saying:

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

After receiving the ashes, each person returns to his or her place in silence.



+ WORD +

Mark 10:47

KYRIE

P Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

P Lord, have mercy.

# **SALUTATION**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

#### **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

- P Let us pray.
  - Lord Jesus Christ, You exchanged the ashes of our sin for the beauty of Your holiness when You died and rose again for us.
- Renew our hearts and minds during this Lenten season as we receive the promised treasures of Your Word;
- P for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

# PSALM 51:1-4, 10-12

Psalm 51:1-4, 10-12

- P Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
- according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- P Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!
- **©** For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
- P Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,
- so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.
- P 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.
- P Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
- and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

JOB 30:11–19

- The Old Testament Reading is from Job, the thirtieth chapter.
  - <sup>11</sup>Because God has loosed my cord and humbled me, they have cast off restraint in my presence.
  - <sup>12</sup>On my right hand the rabble rise;

they push away my feet;

they cast up against me their ways of destruction.

<sup>13</sup>Thev break up my path;

they promote my calamity;

they need no one to help them.

<sup>14</sup>As through a wide breach they come; amid the crash they roll on.

<sup>15</sup>Terrors are turned upon me;

remors are turned upon me

my honor is pursued as by the wind,

and my prosperity has passed away like a cloud.

<sup>16</sup>"And now my soul is poured out within me;

days of affliction have taken hold of me.

<sup>17</sup>The night racks my bones.

and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest.

<sup>18</sup>With great force my garment is disfigured;

it binds me about like the collar of my tunic.

<sup>19</sup>God has cast me into the mire,

and I have become like dust and ashes.

P The Epistle is from Second Corinthians, the fifth and sixth chapters.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>1</sup>Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,

"In a favorable time I listened to you,

and in a day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

VERSE Joel 2:13b

Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 11:20–30

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>20</sup>Then he began to denounce the cities where most of his mighty works had been done, because they did not repent. <sup>21</sup>"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. <sup>22</sup>But I tell you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. <sup>23</sup>And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You will be brought down to Hades. For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. <sup>24</sup>But I tell you that it will be more tolerable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom than for you."

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup>Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.



# **SERMON**

CREED Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for blessing us with the opportunity to meditate again on the cross of Christ and receive Your promised treasures.
- Grant that the message of the Lamb of God slain for our salvation bring us the riches of Your pardon and peace.
- Lead us to see that our sins caused Jesus' great agony in the garden, that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary,
- that He was forsaken by His Father so that we might never be forsaken, and that He died so that we may live.
- P Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who come to You in repentance and faith.
- Create in us clean hearts to receive from You the promised treasures of Your mercy and forgiveness.
- P Holy Spirit, lift up troubled souls everywhere. Grant wholeness to those hurting in heart, body, and mind. Work Your healing power in the lives of those in need, [especially . . .], and in the lives of all we name before You in our hearts.
- All glory, honor, and praise be to You, with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

# **LORD'S PRAYER**

Matthew 6:9-13

- 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.

#### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

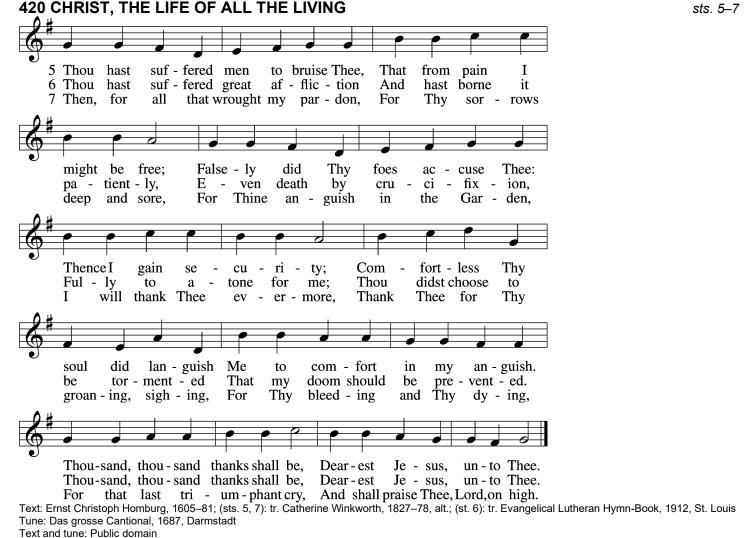
O God the Father, who in love and mercy sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, grant us the faith to always trust that because of Your Son's death and resurrection. You have taken the ashes of our sin and given us the beauty of Your forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

# **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. 

Amen.  $\mathbf{C}$ 



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