

Ash Wednesday

114 E. Blue Earth Avenue

Fairmont, MN 56031

Sunday Worship: 9:30am

Sunday School and Bible Class: 10:45am

www.shepherdofthelakes.net

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Ash Wednesday

March 2, 2022

Welcome to Shepherd of the Lakes

We're here to shepherd Christ's flock and seek the lost sheep by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with all. Come, let us worship!

For Your Convenience...

A room for any parents with children in need of a quiet place is located just outside of the back of the sanctuary. Restrooms are located in the hallway toward the front of the sanctuary. Please ask if you have any further questions or concerns.

Prayer before worship

Heavenly Father, as I worship you today, curb my wandering thoughts. Speak to my heart. Encourage me with your Word, that my faith is strengthened, my confidence and hope renewed, and I am recommitted to serve you faithfully. In Jesus' name, amen.

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the season in the Church Year known as Lent.

The word “Lent” comes from an Old English word for Spring (“lencten,” the time of the year when the days grow longer). For the last 1700 years, the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of special preparation. It is a time of repentance and renewal. (For the precise counters in the congregation, the Church speaks of *40 days of Lent* because they did not count the Sundays, which retained their significance as “little Easters.”)

Historically, it was a period of time during which the Christian would deny himself certain luxuries or behaviors in order to focus more clearly on the tremendous sacrifice that Christ made for us on the cross.

The Christian Church developed the church calendar, including the season of Lent, in Christian freedom. That means that there is no command of God to celebrate Lent, but there are many good reasons to observe the season of Lent. In Christian freedom we use the forty days of Lent as a special time to consider the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, that love which leads to repentance (Romans 2:4), (a change of heart and a mind about sin). Focusing on the passion also leads us to prepare our hearts to observe the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead during Holy Week.

During Lent, our rejoicing is muted as we remember our Lord’s suffering and death. But it is with a purpose: we know that the Lord who died took up his life again on Easter Sunday morning. So our 40 days of Lent are ones lived in the certain hope of the resurrection.

The color of the season is purple. Purple is the ancient color of royalty. We have this kind of king: he wore a crown of thorns carried a cross for us.

Thanks be to God!

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Pre- and post-service music is omitted on Ash Wednesday. The minister and people gather in silence for prayer and meditation.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION WITH INSTRUCTION FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT

(Responses sung by congregation to the tune of CW 303, With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh)

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us.

**C: All mankind fell in Adam's fall; One common sin infects us all.
From one to all the curse descends, And over all God's wrath impends.**

M: By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

**C: Let those who stings of conscience bear, Whom sin would drive to dark despair,
To Jesus come with trustful mind, And peace in absolution find**

M: During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle.

**C: Far off I stand with tearful eyes Nor dare uplift them to the skies,
But you can all my anguish see--O God be merciful to me!**

**With broken heart and contrite sigh, A trembling sinner, Lord, I cry.
Your pard'ning grace is rich and free--O God be merciful to me!**

**No gifts, no deeds that I have done Can for a single sin atone.
To Calvary alone I flee--O God be merciful to me!**

**I smite upon my troubled breast, With deep and conscious guilt oppressed,
Christ and his cross my only plea--O God, be merciful to me!**

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: "As surely as I live," God said, "I would not have the sinner dead,
But that he turn from error's ways, Repent, and live through endless days."**

**C: And when redeemed from sin and hell, With all the ransomed souls I dwell,
My joyous song shall ever be: God has been merciful to me!**

M: During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Praise God the Father and the Son And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
As was , is now, and so shall be Forever and eternally!**

SALUTATION

M: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, you never despise what you have made and always forgive those who turn to you. Create in us such new and contrite hearts that we may truly repent of our sins and obtain your full and gracious pardon; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: 2 Samuel 12:1-13

¹The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, “There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. ²The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, ³but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

⁴“Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.”

⁵David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this must die! ⁶He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.”

⁷Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. ⁸I gave your master’s house to you, and your master’s wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. ⁹Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.’

¹¹“This is what the LORD says: ‘Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. ¹²You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.’ ”

¹³Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.”

Nathan replied, “The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.

PSALM OF THE DAY: 51a (*p. 86 in the front part of your hymnal*)

SECOND LESSON 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2

²⁰We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹As God's co-workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. ²For he says,
"In the time of my favor I heard you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you."

I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

PLEASE STAND

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 18:9-14

M: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, chapter 18.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

⁹To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

¹³"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

¹⁴"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

M: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY: 378.....*All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall*

SERMON –*I Will Keep The Passover*

Matthew 26:18 (ESV)

*He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand. **I will keep the Passover** at your house with my disciples.'"*

SERMON RESPONSE: *Create in Me*

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

OFFERING Offerings can be placed in the offering plate in the back of our sanctuary. They can also be mailed to our church office at **114 E. Blue Earth Avenue, Fairmont, MN 56031** or made on our website under the "Donate" tab at the top of the homepage or taken to Profinium Bank in Fairmont

To our visitors: Our offering is not a debt we owe God, but a way that we return to God a portion of what he generously gave to us. Our motivation, then, is not obligation, but love for God. The members of Shepherd of the Lakes have joined together to spread God's message both in this community and around the world. As our guest, please do not feel obligated to contribute. We're happy that you're with us to hear about God's love for you.

THANK OFFERING HYMN: CW 485vv1,2.....*We Give Thee but Thine Own*

**We give thee but thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.**

**May we thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as thou blessest us, To thee our firstfruits give.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Holy and righteous God, as we begin again the solemn spiritual journey of Lent, we come before you in deep humility. We confess that we are sinners, both by the nature we inherit and by the sinful thoughts and desires, words and actions that nature produces. Because of our sins, we deserve only your wrath and punishment. Yet you reveal yourself, not only as a God of holiness and justice but as a God of mercy and love. Despairing of our own merits and worthiness, and in response to your gracious invitation, we come pleading for your forgiveness.

C: Lord, have mercy on us for your holy name's sake.

M: You have revealed your love and mercy for us sinners in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. You sent him into our world to be the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all people. Help us grasp by faith the great truth that the pain and suffering, the mockery and ridicule, and the death and punishment he endured should have been ours. Help us understand that in incomprehensible love he suffered and died for us.

C: Lord, have mercy on us for Jesus' sake.

M: In silent meditation let us reflect on our sins, praise our Savior for the forgiveness he has won for us, and ask for God's continued grace to remove any doubt that we are forgiven.

Time for silent meditation follows.

M: God of grace and mercy, may your Spirit continue to be with us as we follow the way of the cross. As we contemplate the story of our Savior's passion, build us up in our faith. Renew in us the zeal to serve you by reflecting your love in our lives. Give us the desire and the ability to boldly proclaim the grace in which we stand, so that all for whom you lived and died may join us in fellowship now and in your presence forever.

C: We offer our humble thanks and praise, our prayers and petitions, and ourselves in body and spirit to you, Lord God. Hear us, according to your promise, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

HYMN CW268 v. 3.....Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross did suffer,

Ever patient and lowly, Yourself to scorn did offer.

All sins you carried for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:

Your peace be with us, O Jesus!

DISTRIBUTION *To our visitors: Scripture teaches us that those who commune together are expressing a unity in faith and all of Scripture's teachings. This is called close communion. Therefore, if you are not a member of Shepherd of the Lakes, the Wisconsin Synod, or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, you will want to wait to commune with us until you've had the opportunity to learn more about what we believe and teach and then publicly express that unity at your confirmation. This is not a judgment in any way on your faith. Rather, we want you to be sure you agree with us before you express that unity at the Lord's Table. If you are interested in learning more about what we believe and teach or if you have any questions, please talk with our Pastor.*

PRAYER

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you
The Lord look on you with favor + and give you peace.

C: Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN: CW 98vv1,3,5,6.....*Jesus, I Will Ponder Now*

Depart in silence.

2022 Midweek Lenten Worship Schedule

March	9	6:00pm Potluck Supper
		7:00pm Lenten Worship Service
	16	6:00pm Potluck Supper
		7:00pm Lenten Worship Service
	23	6:00pm Potluck Supper
		7:00pm Lenten Worship Service
	30	6:00pm Potluck Supper
		7:00pm Lenten Worship Service
April	6	6:00pm Potluck Supper
		7:00pm Lenten Worship Service

2022 Holy Week Worship Schedule

April	10	Palm Sunday 9:30am
April	14	Maundy Thursday 7:00pm
April	15	Good Friday 7:00pm

April 17, 2022 Easter Sunday Worship

7:00am Easter Breakfast

9:30am Easter Worship

