

intended for us. Also, by our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under His judgment, but to turn to him and live. As disciples of the Lord Jesus we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love--the discipline of Lent--help us to wage our spiritual warfare. I invite you, therefore, to commit yourselves to this struggle and confess your sins, asking our Father for strength to persevere in your Lenten discipline.

Silence for reflection & self-examination precedes the confession.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most holy and merciful God,

C: 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 most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

P: 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.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: 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.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

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

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

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

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

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

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

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

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

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

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

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

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

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

C: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

P: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Worshippers may come forward to the altar and kneel (or stand) to receive the ashes; a mark of our mortality and cleansing. Worship leaders mark the forehead of each person with a cross of ashes, saying: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." After those who desire ashes have received them, the Confession continues.

P: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

C: That we may show forth your glory in the world.

P: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

C: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of His resurrection.

P: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

C: Amen.

SILENCE

***Prayers:** Each petition ends with "Lord in your mercy," followed by the congregational response, "Hear our prayer".

Offering - gift of music by MarJean

*Eucharistic Prayer for Ash Wednesday

*Lord's Prayer: *Traditional Version* Page 91

Invitation & Distribution: Holy Communion is the Lord's Supper for the Lord's People: "All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father & of the Son & of the Holy Spirit, & believe that Jesus Christ, crucified & risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation." Communion tonight is by Intinction.

Lamb of God Page 92

Communion Hymn: "*Just As I Am*" #296

*Table Blessing Page 92

*Post-Communion Cantic: "Abide with Me" (Vs. 1 & 5) #272

*Post-Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray: Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in our baptism, that we may practice our piety, 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.

C: Amen.

*Benediction

*Dismissal — *Assembly departs in silence*

Thanks for worshiping with us this evening. Your presence is your gift to us. We pray that our Service of Word & Sacrament is a blessing to you. Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are praising, proclaiming, and practicing Emmanuel – God with us – in daily life! May God grant us repentant hearts during the 40 Days of Lent. **Visit us at:** www.emmanuelofrochester.org.



Worship
Ash Wednesday
March 1, 2017
6:00 p.m.

Lutheran Book of Worship—Setting II

** indicates stand as you are able*

Assembly gathers in silence...

Call to Worship: Psalm 51:1-13

*Opening Hymn: "I Lay My Sins on Jesus" #305

*Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And Also with you.

P: Let us pray, Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, & you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Lesson: Joel 2:12-19

Second Lesson: II Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

*Gospel Verse: "Return to the Lord" Page 83

*Holy Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Sermon: "Sound an Alarm!" Rev. David Steffenson

*Hymn of the Day: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" #499

Confession of Sin and Imposition of Ashes

P: Brothers and sisters: God created us to experience joy in communion with Him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all of His creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, & creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator

WORSHIP SERVANTS:

Pianist: MarJean Damerval

Scripture Reader, Prayers, & Communion: Julie Steffenson

Ushers: LeRoy Quam and Rich Sunde

Acolyte: Cabe Siebenaler

Sound: Don Holtan

Set up: Julie Steffenson

Take Down: Janet Sunde & Friends

Communication Cards - Offering Envelopes: The offering envelope, in your bulletin is also being used as a visitor and communication card. If you are visiting with us, please know that your presence is your gift to us. We have a generous congregation & ask only that you share your contact information with us. Members & visitors may use the communication envelopes to indicate a desire for a pastoral visit, a prayer concern, or changes in contact information. Envelopes may be placed in the offering basket. Thanks.

MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP: Signposts guide our way! Disciples seek to pray daily, worship weekly, grow spiritually, read & study Scripture on a regular basis, serve others, share the good news, and give generously.

Men's Bible Study Breakfast: Each week, Emmanuel Men are meeting on Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. at Oasis Church for Bible Study and a continental breakfast. We are currently reading and discussing the Bible (Genesis-Revelation). Read pages 228-230 of the NIV Once A Day Bible (DAY 66) in preparation for this week's study (i.e. Numbers 9:15-11:3; Mark 13:32-14:16; & Psalm 31:1-8).

LENT! The tone of Ash Wednesday is one of repentance as the cleansing ashes of Christ's love are inscribed upon our foreheads, the same place where in our baptism we were anointed, washed, and claimed as God's own. Jesus reminds his followers that they are to approach their acts of piety with humility and gratefulness, rather than publicly for the praise of others. Christ is our one true treasure that gives life.

Thank you to those who provided our simple supper tonight!

Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota
Contact Information: 1815—38th Street NW, Rochester, MN
Phone: 507-206-3048 **www.emmanuelofrochester.org**

The Emmanuel Weekly

March 1, 2017
Ash Wednesday - 6 pm

***"Praising, Proclaiming and Practicing
Emmanuel—God with us—in daily
life!"***

"Faith Practices!"

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent. The ashes (last year's palm fronds) remind us that we are dust. The Season of Lent is forty days long. Sundays are days in Lent, but not days of Lent. During the forty days we remember our baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus. We confess our sins.

This year during the Season of Lent we will be studying Luther's Catechisms. "They are 'the layman's Bible' and contain everything which Holy Scripture discusses at greater length and which a Christian must know for his salvation" (Epitome, Rule and Norm, 5).

Pretzels are Lenten reminders of our need for prayer, fasting & alms-giving.

During the Season of Lent our Baptismal Font will be located at the entrance of our Worship Space, reminding us that baptism is our entrance into the Kingdom of God. Dip your finger into the waters of baptism and trace the cross on your forehead. Remember that you are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. God's Word. God's Promise!

**The March Emmanuel Prayer
Calendar and Epistle Newsletter are
available in print! Also, pick up a copy
of the "Our Daily Bread Devotional".**



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Ash Wednesday, March 1 — Madonna Towers Worship @ 1pm; Soup Supper @ 5pm; Lenten Worship @ 6pm
- Friday, March 3—Council Meeting at 1pm
- Saturday, March 4 - Saturday School @ 5:10pm; GIFT at 5:15pm; Lent I Worship at 6pm with Installation of Church Council
- Tues, March 7 - Men's Bible Study (8am) — Day 66 (pp 228-230); Text Study (10:30am); Soup Supper (5pm); Lenten Worship (6pm)
- Sun, March 12—Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Wed, Mar. 15 - Madonna Towers Worship (1pm)

PRAYERS

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence

A: Heavenly Father, the instrument of war has been replaced with a means of grace. The bow has been hung up in the sky and we have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus now saves us. Grant that we may walk with you in newness of life, letting our lights shine to the praise of your glory. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Holy Spirit, you clothe us with power from above and distribute spiritual gifts for the common good of all. Teach us to be practice of our faith, living the marks of discipleship in daily life. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Gracious God, our sin makes you weep. Your tears produce a flood of redemption for all creation. Grant that our sinful selves may be drowned through daily repentance and that day after day new selves may arise to live with Christ in righteousness and purity forever. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Holy Spirit breathe the gift of healing upon all who suffer or are afflicted by illness or disease, especially those we name before you (*names*). Restore us, that we may rise up and serve others with the compassion of Christ. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

*Other prayers may be offered, each ending with... LORD IN YOUR MERCY, followed by **C: Hear our prayer.***

P: Into your hands, merciful Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYERS

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence

A: Heavenly Father, the instrument of war has been replaced with a means of grace. The bow has been hung up in the sky and we have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus now saves us. Grant that we may walk with you in newness of life, letting our lights shine to the praise of your glory. Lord in your mercy,

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C: Hear our prayer.

*Other prayers may be offered, each ending with... LORD IN YOUR MERCY, followed by **C: Hear our prayer.***

P: Into your hands, merciful Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Scripture Readings for Ash Wednesday

First Lesson: Joel 2:12-19 - Julie Steffenson

12 “Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; 13 and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. 14 Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord your God? 15 Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; 16 gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. 17 Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep and say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’” 18 Then the Lord became jealous for his land and had pity on his people. 19 The Lord answered and said to his people, “Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations.”

L: The Word of the LORD. C: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: II Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 - Julie Steffenson

5:20b We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 6:1 Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. 2 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. 3 We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, 4 but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, 5 beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; 6 by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; 7 by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8 through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; 9 as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; 10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

L: The Word of the LORD. C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 - Pastor Dave

[Jesus said,] 1 “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. 2 Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. 5 And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 6 But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ... 16 “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 17 But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18 that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. 19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.