

Offering - Gift of Music by Worship Pianist

*Eucharistic Prayer for Ash Wednesday

*Lord's Prayer: *Traditional Version*

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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, and 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. Gluten free wafers are also available.

Communion Hymn: "Just As I Am" #193

*Table Blessing

*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

***Hymn: "There's A Wideness in God's Mercy" #186**

*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
Feb. 26, 2020
6:00 p.m.

ReClaim Hymnal

** indicates stand as you are able*

Assembly gathers in silence

Call to Worship: Psalm 51

Pages 137-138

***Opening Hymn: "Softly and Tenderly" #177**

*Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And Also with you.

P: Let us pray: "Merciful God, turn our hearts toward you and bring us to repentance. Through your great mercy, grant us clean hearts and renew in us a right spirit; 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

***Lenten Verse: "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God" #179**

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

Sermon: "What's Your Story?" Rev. David Steffenson

***Hymn of the Day: "Chief of Sinners though I Be" #187**

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 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**".

WORSHIP SERVANTS:

Pianist: MarJean Damerval

Scripture Reader & Prayers: Deb Vomhof

Communion Server: Judy Caudill

Ushers: Larry Vomhof & Joe Vomhof

Acolyte: *Pending*

Sound: Don Holtan

Set up: Julie Steffenson

Take Down: Janet Sunde & Friends

FAITH STORIES—LENT 2020

Ash Wednesday: King David's Story (Psalm 51)

Lent I: Adam & Eve's Story (Genesis 3)

Tuesday, March 3: Julie Steffenson

Lent II: Nicodemus' Story (John 3)

Tuesday, March 10: Gary Melin

Lent III: The Samaritan Woman's Story (John 4)

Tuesday, March 17: Jean Wanek

Lent IV: The Story of the Man Born Blind (John 9)

Tuesday, March 24: Bob Harms

Lent V: Lazarus' Story (John 11)

Tuesday, March 31: Jana Pecinovsky—New Life Family Services

Palm Sunday-Easter: The Jesus Story (Philippians 2)

Women's Bible Study! Emmanuel is hosting a 6-Session Women's Study at the home of Jenna Serr. This Study begins on **Sunday, March 1 at 6pm**. Women will read and discuss Lysa TerKeurst's book, It's Not Supposed To Be This Way. Questions? Call Jenna Serr. Childcare will be provided.

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 8!

Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota
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The Emmanuel Weekly

February 26, 2020

Ash Wednesday - 6 pm

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

"Rend Your Hearts!"

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 on Tuesdays during the Season of Lent, we will be hearing Faith Stories from Scripture and from friends of Emmanuel. We will also be using the Holden Evening Prayer Liturgy. Midweek Lenten Worship Services (6pm) will be preceded by Soup Suppers at 5pm, beginning on Tuesday, March 3. Soup providers are welcomed.

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 & Epistle Newsletter are available in print this Saturday! Also, pick up your copy of the current "Our Daily Bread".



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26—Worship at 6pm
- Saturday, February 29 G.I.F.T. and Saturday School at 5pm; Lent I Worship at 6pm
- Tues, March 3—Men's Bible Study at 8am; Text Study (10:30am); Soup Supper at 5pm; Worship at 6pm
- Wed, Mar. 4—Madonna Towers Worship at 1pm
- Friday, March 6—Council Meeting at 1pm
- Saturday, March 7 G.I.F.T. and Saturday School at 5pm; Lent II Worship at 6pm
- Sunday, Mar. 8—Pastor Dave at Trinity Lutheran in St. Charles (9am)

Scripture Readings for Ash Wednesday

First Lesson: Joel 2:12-19

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

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, & yet are true; 9 as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, & behold, we live; as punished, & 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

[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 & 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.

PRAYERS

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

Brief silence

A: Heavenly Father, You do not want us to receive Your grace in vain. Because You are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, work in the lives of each of us so that we return to You with all our heart. Because where our treasure is, there will our hearts be also, set our hearts on You, on Your Son, Your Spirit and Your life-restoring Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Heavenly Father, on this Ash Wednesday, we beg You to send Your Holy Spirit to draw each of our hearts to Christ. Renew Your baptized people and cleanse us from all our sin, that we store up for ourselves the true treasures of heaven. Create in us new hearts and steadfast spirits, that we rededicate ourselves in this holy season to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Heavenly Father, by Your Word and Spirit, turn to faith in Christ the hearts of those who live without Him. Grant to them the joy of Your salvation and the peace of knowing Him who had no sin but became sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Heavenly Father, in the way & at the time You know is best, bring healing to all who are sick, injured, preparing for surgery, recovering or in distress [*especially those we name before you*]. Comfort all who mourn, provide for those who are seeking jobs and give peace to all who are anxious about the cares of life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Heavenly Father, turn our hearts as we come to the table of our Lord this day to recognize the enormity of our sins, so that our faith may be strengthened by the even greater forgiveness bestowed on us in Christ's body and blood. Inspire in each of us a life filled with good works that glorify You, so that others may see Your compassion and give You glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Hear our petitions, heavenly Father, for we pray in Your Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and only Savior.

C: Amen.