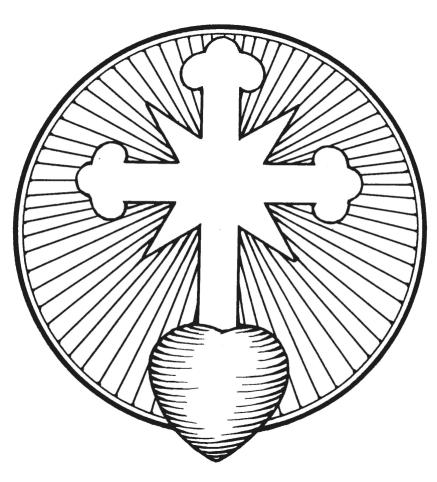
Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Ash Wednesday February 17, 2021

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The Order of Service

Divine Service Setting Three (LSB 184) (Please stand if you are able for portions of the liturgy marked with an *)

Lenten Address

The Litany (Congregational Response is in Bold) O Lord, have mercy. O Christ, have mercy. O Lord, have mercy. O Christ, hear us. God the Father in heaven, have mercy. God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy. God the Holy Spirit, have mercy. Be gracious to us. Spare us, good Lord. Be gracious to us. Help us, good Lord. By the mystery of Your holy incarnation...and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter: Help us, good Lord. In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment: Help us, good Lord. We poor sinners implore You to hear us, O Lord. To prosper the preaching of Your Word; to bless our prayer and meditation; to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith; and to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance: We implore You to hear us, good Lord. To draw all to Yourself...and to have mercy on us all: We implore You to hear us, good Lord. To turn our hearts to You; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers: We implore You to hear us good Lord. Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, we implore You to hear us. Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **have mercy**. Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy. Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us Your peace. O Christ, hear us. O Lord, have mercy. O Christ, have mercy.

O Lord, have mercy, Amen.

Prayer

Imposition of Ashes (For those who desire this, please form a line down the center aisle.) What does this mean? The ashes placed upon our foreheads are a sign of our mortality and death. "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Yet, notice how the ashes form a cross. This helps us to remember the first time the sign of the cross was made on us at our Baptism. In these Baptismal waters, the stain of sin is washed away.

Hymn: Savior, When in Dust to Thee

LSB 419

Old Testament Reading: Jonah 3:1-10

¹ Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ² "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." ³ So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. ⁴ Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"⁵ And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. ⁶ The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸ but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹ Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish." ¹⁰ When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Epistle: 2 Peter 1:2-11

^{2}May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. ³His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, ⁴ by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. ⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, ⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, ⁷ and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.⁸ For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.¹¹For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Tract

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 6th chapter. Glory be to Thee O Lord.

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. This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed*	LSB 191
Hymn: From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee	LSB 607
Sermon	
Offertory*	LSB 192
Offering	
Prayer of the Church*	
Service of the Sacrament*	LSB 194
Distribution Hymns: 609, 440, 579, 613	
Nunc Dimittis*	LSB 199
Benediction	
Closing Hymn: Lord Jesus, Think on Me	LSB 610

Announcement

Church Services: While it is our desire to gather as one body, the church has decided to offer again a second service on Sundays at 7:30am. This second service will continue until Easter. As the coronavirus vaccine is becoming more available, this will allow members more time to get the vaccine. If you or someone you know have any concerns, please feel free to contact Pastor Jennings or stop by the church throughout the week to schedule a time to receive God's gifts.

Congratulations: Congratulations to Madisyn Nolte on completing level 3 of the Catechism Learn-by-Heart program. Level 3 includes the primary text of confession and the Lord's Supper. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

Lutheran Hour Ministries: Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) is looking for a person/s to help spread the news of LHM to their local Church. The requirements are to have a computer to receive emails from LHM and willing to share the information from LHM to

their Church members through bulletin articles, newsletters, or just personal conversations. So, if you are interested in helping LHM contact Jim Roeckeman at: 610-5855 or email to: jroeckeman@yahoo.com.

Private Confession and Absolution: Our Lutheran Confessions state that private absolution should be retained and not abolished in the churches (Augsburg Confession, XI). With this in mind, if at any time you desire private confession and absolution, please give Pastor Jennings a call to set-up a time to meet privately.

Find Bethlehem on Podbean: Listen to our sermons and other studies online. Download the app 'Podbean' to your smartphone. Search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church and begin listening.