

ASH WEDNESDAY



Meaning of the Ashes

The day of ashes draws its symbolism and meaning from the first day of ashes, the day of the fall, when Lord God said to our first parents, “You are dust and unto dust you shall return.” The ashes are a confession, a mark of the severity and deadly reality of our sin and our frailty because of it. But even as that first indictment of the dustiness of man was pronounced in the shadow of the promise to send enmity between Satan and man, so likewise we stand with ashes on our foreheads but with our eyes firmly fixed on the resurrection. We stand on the threshold of Lent. Easter is a mere forty weekdays away. Remember, O man, that you are dust, from dust you came, to dust you shall return, and by the grace of God in Christ Jesus, from dust you shall rise!

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

LCMS

GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CHAPEL

Sauk Rapids, Minnesota

February 18, 2026

Good Shepherd TV: Channel 900-Apartments

Channel 64 Nursing Home and Cottages

CONTACT US

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About Holy Communion at Good Shepherd

The Lord's Supper is celebrated here every Sunday, Wednesday, and Feast Day in the belief and glad confidence that our Lord gives us as He says, not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, and share our belief in all his teaching. Partaking of the Body and Blood Christ together confesses our common faith and belief in the teachings of our Lord, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures. If this is your belief, we welcome you to join us at the Lord's Table. If you would like to confess your faith with us as a member of the Congregation, please speak with the Pastor about membership.

*Because we are called to examine ourselves before receiving the Lord's Supper (I Cor. 11:28-29), we encourage you to consider the state of your soul according to the Ten Commandments. Please see the **Christian Questions and Their Answers**, available at the entrance of the chapel. If you have questions regarding the Sacrament, or would like to schedule private confession and absolution, please speak with the pastor. If you would prefer a blessing instead of Holy Communion, please let the Pastor know as he approaches you, or simply cross your arms over your chest.*

PASTORAL WELCOME / RINGING OF THE BELL

OPENING HYMN

Savior, When in Dust to Thee LSB 419



1 Sav - ior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the a -
2 By Thy help - less in - fant years, By Thy life of
3 By Thine hour of dire de - spair, By Thine ag - o -
4 By Thy deep ex - pir - ing groan, By the sad se -



dor - ing knee; When, re - pen - tant, to the skies
want and tears, By Thy days of deep dis - tress
ny of prayer, By the cross, the nail, the thorn,
pul - chral stone, By the vault whose dark a - bode



Scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes; O, by all Thy
In the sav - age wil - der - ness, By the dread, mys -
Pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn, By the gloom that
Held in vain the ris - ing God, O, from earth to



pains and woe Suf - fered once for us be - low, Bend - ing
te - rious hour Of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r, Turn, O
veiled the skies O'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice, Lis - ten
heav'n re - stored, Might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord, Bend - ing



from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
turn a fa - v'ring eye; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
to our hum - ble sigh; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

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PART I : PREPARATION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P I will go to the altar of God,

C To God my exceeding joy.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C Who made heaven and earth.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

The Pastor prays, concluding:
....one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PSALM

Psalm 51

P Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

C Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

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.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
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.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. (ESV)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.

KYRIE



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

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.”

(ESV)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:2

²⁰We 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. 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.

(ESV)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 6th Chapter.



☐ Glo - ry 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. (ESV)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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.**

His kingdom will have no end.

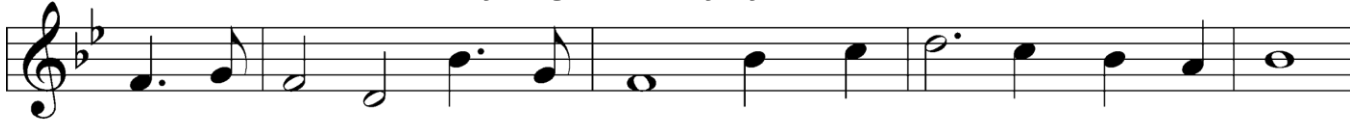
**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified,**

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.**

SERMON HYMN

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me LSB 761



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de-mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;
When I soar to worlds un-known, See Thee on Thy judg - ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
Foul, I to the foun-tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

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SERMON “RETURN TO THE LORD, WHO IS GRACIOUS”

JOEL 2:12-19

CONFESSION OF SINS

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You and Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter, sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.
C Amen.

Dust we are and to dust we go, The fruits of good and evil we know. “Ashes to ashes” reminds us all We are but frailty, cursed by the fall.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Worshipers may receive the imposition of ashes upon their forehead or on their hand. During the imposition of ashes, the congregation may meditate on the opening hymn, “Savior, When in Dust to Thee” LSB 419.

ABSOLUTION

P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God’s?
C Yes.

P Let it be done for you as you believe.
In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

On My Heart Imprint Your Image LSB 422



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev-er may Your work e-raise;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

+ + + + +

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bles - ed is He, bles - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Remember us in Thy kingdom, Lord, 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.**

THE CONSECRATION

THE PEACE



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

THE AGNUS DEI



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

THE COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

The Pastor will approach you in your seat to distribute Holy Communion. If you prefer to receive a blessing rather than Holy Communion, please fold your arms across your chest as the Pastor approaches or tell him as he nears you.

Upon receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, the Communicant may say:
AMEN.

PRAYERS DURING HOLY COMMUNION

To be prayed silently before receiving Communion.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, Who according to the will of the Father, and by the cooperation of the Holy Ghost, hast by Thy death given life to the world: deliver me by this Thy Most Holy Body and Blood from all mine iniquities and from every evil, and make me ever to cleave unto Thy commandments, and suffer me never to be separated from Thee, Who with the Father and the Holy Ghost live and reign, ever one God, world without end. AMEN.

To be prayed silently after receiving Communion.

Grant, O Lord, that Thy Body which I have received and Thy Blood which I have drunk may adhere to my members; and grant that no stain of sin remain in me whom Thou hast refreshed with this pure and holy Sacrament; for Thou dost live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. AMEN.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve Thee to life with God that hath no end. Depart + in peace. **C Amen.**

NUNC DIMITTIS

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING & POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Let us pray.

The Pastor prays, concluding:
 now and forever.

C A - men.

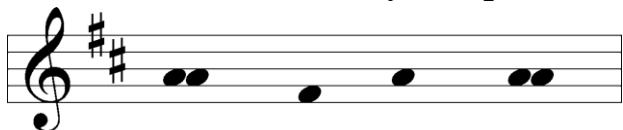
SALUTATION, BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

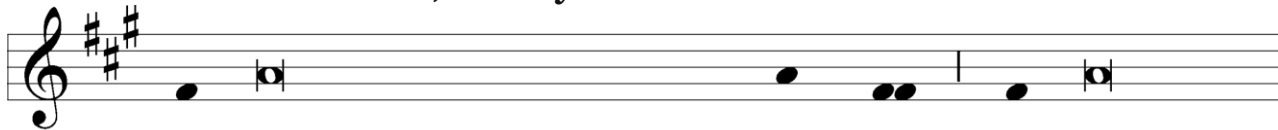


A Bless we the Lord.

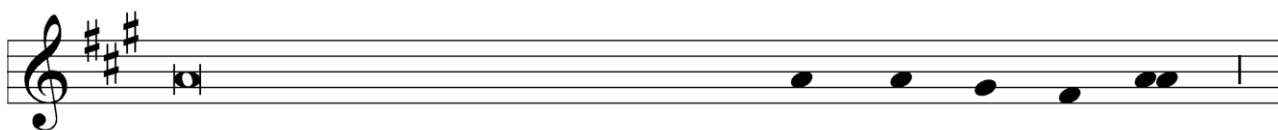


C Thanks be to God.

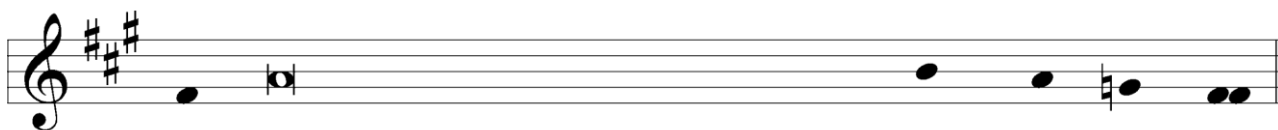
Brothers and sisters, bow your hearts.



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary LSB 423



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

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POSTLUDE

SILENT PRAYER

You may remain in the chapel and pray as long as you desire. You may depart as soon as you are prepared to do so. God's blessings on you until He gathers us again by His Spirit to receive His divine gifts and praise His holy Name.

THIS WEEK AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Sunday **10 AM** **Chapel Worship**
Also broadcast on Channel 64 (Nursing Home)/Channel 900(Apartments)
 11 AM **Roman Catholic Mass**
 Channel 45 and 59

Monday **10 AM** **Bible Study on Micah**
Nursing Home residents meet in person in the Event Center.
 1:30 PM **Rosary**
 2:00 PM **Roman Catholic Mass in the Chapel**
Hosted by Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Sauk Rapids.
Also broadcast on Channel 64(Nursing Home)/Channel 900(Apartments)

Wednesday **10:15 AM** **Midweek Lenten service in the Chapel**
Also broadcast on Channel 64(Nursing Home)/Channel 900(Apartments)
 2 PM **Bible Study on Micah**
Apartment and Patio Home residents meet in the Chapel.
Also broadcast on Channel 64(Nursing Home)/Channel 900(Apartments)
 3: 30 PM **Memory Cottage Worship**

ALL ARE WELCOME.

Please join us for the Worship Services and other Spiritual Programs.
*Attendance at Worship and other events **in The Chapel** is determined by*
Official Government Regulations for Health Care Facilities.
This Schedule is subject (and likely) to change at any time.

Offerings

Your gifts and offerings in support of the ministry of the Gospel at The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd are welcome and appreciated. Please place them in the basket at the entrance to the chapel as you arrive or leave.

Next Wednesday's readings: Isaiah 44:21-28; Galatians 3:6-14; John 8:31-36
Next Wednesday's sermon theme and text: "Return to the Lord, Who Has Redeemed You." Isaiah 44:21-28

Those interested in membership in The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd are asked to speak with the pastor.