

For  
dust  
thou  
art,  
and  
unto  
dust  
shalt  
thou  
return



## What is the significance of Lent?

Early in the Church's history, the major events in Christ's life were commemorated with special observances, such as His birth, baptism, death, resurrection and ascension. As these observances developed, a period of time was set aside prior to the major events of Jesus' birth and resurrection as a time of preparation.

During Lent, the Church's worship assumes a more penitential character. The color for the season is purple, a color often associated with penitence. The "Hymn of Praise" is omitted from the liturgy. The word "Alleluia" is usually omitted as well. By not using the alleluia—a joyful expression meaning "Praise the Lord"—until Easter, the Lenten season is clearly set apart as a distinct time from the rest of the year. Additionally, it forms a powerful contrast with the festive celebration of Jesus' resurrection when our alleluias ring loud and clear.

## What is the significance of Ash Wednesday and ashes on the forehead?

*Lutheran Worship: History and Practice, a commentary on Lutheran Worship*, one of our Synod's hymnals, says this about ashes on Ash Wednesday:

"Other customs may be used, particularly the imposition of ashes on those who wish it. This ancient act is a gesture of repentance and a powerful reminder about the meaning of the day. Ashes can symbolize dust-to-dustness and remind worshipers of the need for cleansing, scrubbing and purifying. If they are applied during an act of kneeling, the very posture of defeat and submission expresses humility before God."

The use of ashes on Ash Wednesday is a more recent custom among most LCMS congregations, although some have done it for decades. The ashes are usually derived from the burned palms from the previous Palm Sunday. Experience will show, however, that in obtaining ashes this way, it doesn't take many ashes to "ash" a whole congregation. Like sin, they are very dirty and go a long way. One palm leaf will produce enough ashes for several years. Usually the pastor takes the ashes on the end of his thumb and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each worshiper, saying these words: "*Remember: you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*"

*Published by: LCMS Church Information Center ©The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod 1333 S. Kirkwood Road, St. Louis, MO 63122-7295 888-843-5267 • infocenter@lcms.org*

## WELCOME (ONLINE AND IN-PERSON)/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### AMAZING GRACE

#744

- 1 Amazing grace--how sweet the sound--  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see!
- 2 The Lord has promised good to me,  
His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;  
His grace has brought me safe thus far,  
His grace will lead me home.
- 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail  
And mortal life shall cease,  
Amazing grace shall then prevail  
In heaven's joy and peace.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.

### **INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES**

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: This is the day which the Lord has made;

**C: let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting

**C: the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

P: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

**C: slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

P: Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,

**C: let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.**

P: Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

**C: He was bruised for our iniquities.**

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C: the name of the Lord is to be praised. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*[We reflect on God's Word and our need for His forgiveness]*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

Gracious and merciful God and Father, Your mercy calls us to return to You time and time again to be reconciled and receive Your forgiveness.

**C: As we receive this free reward, lead us to live lives of righteous service in Your name;**

P: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **FIRST READING**                      *Genesis 35:9-15*

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **HOLY GOSPEL**                      *Mark 6:7-13*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

DCE Emily Sagissor

### **O CHRIST, YOU WALKED THE ROAD**

#424

- 1 O Christ, You walked the road  
Our wand'ring feet must go.  
You faced with us temptation's pow'r  
And fought our ancient foe.
- 2 No bread of earth alone  
Can fill our hung'ring hearts.  
Lord, help us seek Your living Word,  
The food Your grace imparts.
- 3 No blinding sign we ask,  
No wonder from above.  
Lord, help us place our trust alone  
In Your unswerving love.

- 4 When lures of easy gain  
With promise brightly shine,  
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first;  
Our wills with Yours align.
- 5 O Christ, You walked the road  
Our wand'ring feet must go.  
Stay with us through temptation's hour  
To fight our ancient foe.

**“JOSEPH: A CHILD OF ISRAEL”**

Pastor Sam Pitsch

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and  
with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the  
world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all  
to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the com-  
mon welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us  
pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Finally, for these and all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## **OFFERING**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: 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**

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

### CHRIST, THE LIFE OF ALL THE LIVING

#420

- 1 Christ, the Life of all the living,  
Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
Who, Thyself for me once giving  
To the darkest depths of woe:  
Through thy suff'rings, death, and merit  
I eternal life inherit.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
  
- 2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast taken on Thee  
Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;  
Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee,  
O Thou sinless Son of God!  
Thus didst Thou my soul deliver  
From the bonds of sin forever.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
  
- 3 Thou hast borne the smiting only  
That my wounds might all be whole;  
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely,  
Rest to give my weary soul;  
Yea, the curse of God enduring,  
Blessing unto me securing.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
  
- 4 Heartless scoffers did surround Thee,  
Treating Thee with shameful scorn  
And with piercing thorns they crowned Thee.  
All disgrace Thou, Lord, hast borne,  
That as Thine Thou mightest own me  
And with heav'nly glory crown me.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

- 5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,  
That from pain I might be free;  
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:  
Thence I gain security;  
Comfortless Thy soul did languish  
Me to comfort in my anguish.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 6 Thou hast suffered great affliction  
And hast borne it patiently,  
Even death by crucifixion,  
Fully to atone for me;  
Thou didst choose to be tormented  
That my doom should be prevented.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,  
For Thy sorrows deep and sore,  
For Thine anguish in the Garden,  
I will thank Thee evermore,  
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,  
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,  
For that last triumphant cry,  
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

**“THY BODY, GIVEN FOR ME, O SAVIOR”**

#619

- 1 Thy body, giv'n for me, O Savior,  
Thy blood which Thou for me didst shed,  
These are my life and strength forever,  
By them my hungry soul is fed.

**Refrain:**

Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!

- 2 With Thee, Lord, I am now united;  
I live in Thee and Thou in me.  
No Sorrow fills my soul, delighted  
It finds its only joy in Thee. **[Refrain]**

**Refrain:**

Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!

- 3 Who can condemn me now? For surely  
The Lord is nigh, who justifies.  
No hell I fear, and thus securely  
With Jesus I to heaven rise. **[Refrain]**
- 4 Though death may threaten with disaster,  
It cannot rob me of my cheer;  
For He who is of death the master  
With aid and comfort e'er is near. **[Refrain]**
- 5 My heart has now become Thy dwelling,  
O blessèd, holy Trinity.  
With angels I, Thy praises telling,  
Shall live in joy eternally. **[Refrain]**

**BENEDICTION**

P: We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the  
Righteous One.

**C: He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of  
the people.**

P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven; whose sin is  
covered.

**C: He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of  
the people.**

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy  
Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**C: Amen.**

## WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

#425

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride.
  
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.
  
- 3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
  
- 4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all!