



The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer

1515 Boundary Street • Newberry, South Carolina 29108 • Tel: (803) 276-2003

February 14, 2018

Ash Wednesday

7:00 pm

+ GATHERING +

The assembly gathers in silence

<We stand.>

GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray, Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy 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.**

<We sit.>

FIRST READING

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Pew Bible page 740

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM (Read Responsively)

Psalm 51:1–17

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your ¹steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out ¹my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through ¹from my wickedness,
and cleanse me ¹from my sin.**

³For I know ¹my offenses,
and my sin is ev- ¹er before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil ¹in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right ¹in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born ¹steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my ¹mother's womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth ¹deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom ¹deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I ¹shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- ¹er than snow.

**⁸Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**
⁹Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.
**¹⁰Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me.**
¹¹Cast me not away | from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.
**¹²Restore to me the joy of | your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.**
¹³Let me teach your ways | to offenders,
and sinners shall be re- | stored to you.
**¹⁴Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of | my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing | of your righteousness.**
¹⁵O Lord, o- | pen my lips,
and my mouth shall pro- | claim your praise.
**¹⁶For you take no delight in sacrifice, or | I would give it.
You are not pleased | with burnt offering.**
**¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a | troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will | not despise.**

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Pew Bible page 940

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

<We stand.>

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

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

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

Pew Bible page 787

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

<We sit.>

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Munib Younan

*Bishop Emeritus of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in
Jordan & the Holy Land*

<We stand.>

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

ELW Hymn 599

<We sit.>

INVITATION TO LENT

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

<We kneel>

P: 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 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.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

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.**

People may come forward to receive the ashes

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

ELW 609

<We kneel>

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Response after each petition: P: Lord in your mercy C: **Hear our Prayer**

P: Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. C: **Amen.**

<We stand>

THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

<We sit>

RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING

ANTHEM

O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

Ralph C. Schultz

OFFERTORY

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW HYMN 186

<We stand>

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise... *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding...*
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW PAGE 207

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age...

... With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: ... Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. ... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

With all your holy ones of all times ... blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

<We sit>

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Participation in Holy Communion is open to all the baptized of this and other Christian congregations. We come in faith that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and the wine. We receive this gift knowing that we are forgiven and are nourished to be sent to proclaim God's love to the world.

At The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, we receive communion by intinction, receiving the bread and then dipping it into the chalice of wine.

COMMUNION HYMN

O Christ, Lamb of God

ELW Hymn 196

TABLE BLESSING

<We stand>

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may 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. **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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Worship Leadership

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Matthew Titus

Preaching Minister: The Rev. Dr. Munib Younan

Organist: Huger Caughman, Jr.

Choir Director: Gayle Lindley

Lector & Communion Asst.: Kathy Riggan

Greeters: Helen Fellers, Andy Sidden, & the Community of The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Ushers: Members of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

You are invited to continue the journey through Lent with us at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer.

Worship on Sunday mornings is at 8:45 and 11am.

On the Wednesdays in Lent we will gather for *Holden Prayer Around the Cross* at 7pm.

Join us for this intentional time of break and contemplation on February 21, 28,
March 7, 14, and 21.

Holy Week Services will be held on Maundy Thursday (March 29)
and Good Friday (March 30) at 7pm.

Easter Sunday services will be held on April 1 at 7am and 11am.

