



Ash Wednesday Service
March 5, 2025

**The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.
Philippians 4:23**

Prelude “Wondrous Love”

D. Johnson

Greeting & Welcome

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sin.
His mercy endures forever.

**To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.
Philippians 4:20**

Opening Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

***Hymn of Worship** “My Song is Love Unknown”

LUYH 148, vs 1,2,6

The Psalm

O Lord, don't rebuke me in your anger or discipline me in your rage!
Your arrows have struck deep, and your blows are crushing me.

Because of your anger, my whole body is sick; my health is broken because of my sins.
My guilt overwhelms me— it is a burden too heavy to bear.

My wounds fester and stink because of my foolish sins.

I am bent over and racked with pain. All day long I walk around filled with grief.

A raging fever burns within me, and my health is broken.

I am exhausted and completely crushed. My groans come from an anguished heart.

You know what I long for, Lord; you hear my every sigh.

My heart beats wildly, my strength fails, and I am going blind.

My loved ones and friends stay away, fearing my disease. Even my own family stands at a distance. Meanwhile, my enemies lay traps to kill me.

Those who wish me harm make plans to ruin me.

All day long they plan their treachery. But I am deaf to all their threats.

I am silent before them as one who cannot speak.

I choose to hear nothing, and I make no reply.

For I am waiting for you, O Lord. You must answer for me, O Lord my God.

I prayed, "Don't let my enemies gloat over me or rejoice at my downfall."

I am on the verge of collapse, facing constant pain.

But I confess my sins; I am deeply sorry for what I have done. I have many aggressive enemies; they hate me without reason. They repay me evil for good and oppose me for pursuing good.

Do not abandon me, O Lord. Do not stand at a distance, my God.

Come quickly to help me, O Lord my Savior.

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.

Choral Song of Confession: "Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God"

C. Mueller

**Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Philippians 1:2**

Call to Confession

Dearly beloved, the Scriptures teach us to acknowledge our many sins and offenses, not concealing them from our heavenly Father, but confessing them with humble and obedient hearts that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy. We ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before Almighty God, but especially when we come together in his presence to give thanks for the great benefits we have received at his hands, to declare his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things which are necessary for our life and our salvation. Therefore, draw near with me to the throne of heavenly grace.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

**Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ.
Philippians 1:27**

Song of Confession “Kyrie Eleison”

Iona

Assurance of Salvation

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,

confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Imposition of Ashes

Songs for Imposition of Ashes “Be Still for the Presence”

LUYH 532

“I Sought the Lord, and Afterward I knew”

LUYH 685

**Holding fast to the word of life.
Philippians 2:16**

Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading Philippians 2:19-30

p. 981

The Sermon “Nearly Dead”

Prayer of Response: The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

**Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is
above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth.
Philippians 2:9-11**

***Song of Response** “O Love that will not let me Go”

LUYH 457, vs 1,2,4

*Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell.
 The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
 From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection and the life everlasting.
Amen.

*Benediction

Postlude "I Sought the Lord, and Afterward I Knew"

Finlandia

Credits & Liturgical Notes

Preaching: Rev. Tim Blackmon
Organ & Choir: Jean Schuitman

Welcome Guests:

Welcome visitors, we are glad you are here! Please fill out a Guest Registration Card (in the pew rack) or scan the bottom of this bulletin for an online form.

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