

CROSS OF CHRIST
Lutheran Church

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

12099 Lowell Boulevard | Broomfield, Colorado 80020
303.469.4004 | www.cross-of-christ.org



February 17, 2021
Ash Wednesday

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude

Andreas Armsdorf

WELCOME

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PSALM 51

(tune: Wer nur den Lieben Gott) from St. Martin's Psalter by Thomas Pavlechko

desc. *ooh* *ooh*

Choir
Have mer-cy on me, O God, ac-cord-ing to your lov-ing-kind-ness.

The musical score for Psalm 51 consists of two parts. The first part, labeled 'desc.', is a descant in 3/4 time, featuring a melodic line with a long note and a series of eighth notes, with 'ooh' vocalizations. The second part, labeled 'Choir', is a setting of the text 'Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness.' in 3/4 time, with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment.

tone: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

The musical score for the tone 'WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT' is a piano accompaniment in 3/4 time, featuring a melodic line and a bass line.

- 1 Have mercy on me O God, ... according to your [lov]-ingkindness;*
in your great compassion, ... blot out [my] offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and [through from] my wickedness,*
and cleanse me [from] my sin.
- 3 **For I [know my] transgressions,***
and my sin is [ever] before me.
- 4 **Against you only [have] I sinned***
and done what is evil [in] your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified [when] you speak*
and upright [in] your judgment.
- 6 Indeed I have been wicked [from] my birth,*
a sinner from my [moth]-er's womb.

Antiphon

- 7 For behold, ... you look for [truth deep] within me,*
and will make me understand [wis]-dom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, ... and [I shall] be pure;*
wash me and I shall be [clean] indeed.
- 9 **Make me hear of [joy] and gladness,***
that the body you have broken [may] rejoice.
- 10 **Hide your [face from] my sins,***
and blot out [all my] iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean [heart] O God,*
and renew a right [spirit] within me.
- 12 Cast me not a-[way from] your presence,*
and take not your Holy [Spi]-rit from me.

Antiphon

- 13 Give me the joy of your saving [help] again*
and sustain me with your [bounti]-ful Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your [ways to] the wicked,*
and sinners [shall] return to you.
- 15 **Deliver me from [death] O God,***
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, ...
O God of [my] salvation.
- 16 **Open my [lips] O Lord,***
and my mouth shall pro-[claim] your praise.
- 17 Had you desired it, ... I would have [of]-fered sacrifice,*
but you take no de-[light in] burnt-off'rings.
- 18 The sacrifice of God is a [troub]-led spirit;*
a broken and contrite heart O God, ... you will [not] despise.

Antiphon

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST LESSON

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

The reading is from the book of Joel.

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near—a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. 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? Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’”

God has been revealed to us in the word.

Let us wait here and dwell in it.

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 5: 20b-6:10

The reading is from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

God has been revealed to us in the word.

Let us wait here and dwell in it.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Gospel according to Matthew, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever 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.

“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



HYMN OF THE DAY

Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: Irish traditional

SLANE
10 10 10 10

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 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

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most holy and merciful God,

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.

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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

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.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

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.

Amen.

We invite all you to take out your small purple container of ashes that you received from the church. If you do not have ashes, you may use water, oil, ashes from your fireplace, spices from your cupboard or just your finger. Open this up and place your finger in the ashes.

Now you are only yourself. Just you, God's beloved child. If you are alone, mark a cross on your forehead or the back of your hand, whichever you prefer. If you are with others, mark each other and hear and say these words.

“Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return”

Accomplish in us, O God the work of your salvation,
that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us 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.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Response

Hear us, O God

Your mercy is great.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

We invite you to give online at www.cross-of-christ.org/give or through texting at 1-866-601-2815 with \$(amount).

OFFERING MUSIC

Blest are the Eyes that Have Not Seen You

Soli Dei
Fred Gramann

Blest are the eyes that have not seen you,
Blest are the hands that have not touched you,
Blest are the ears that have not heard your voice, yet still believe.

Blest are the feet that have not walked with you,
Blest are the hearts that hold your teachings true,
Blest are all those who simply trust in you, and do believe.

We long for faith, more precious than gold,
That we may one day your presence behold.
And when we doubt, as Thomas did,
May we remember what you have said:

On the last day our eyes will see you,
On the last day our hands will touch you,
On the last day our ears will hear your voice, this we believe.
(text adapted from John 20:24-29; I Peter 1:6-8)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Faithful God,
you walk beside us in desert places,
and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.
Accompany us in this meal,
that we may pass over from death to life
with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY HOLY HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are welcome at Jesus' table. He gives of himself in the bread and wine, and invites us to receive it for the forgiveness of sin. We invite you to share in your homes the sacrament of the Lord's table.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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 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 DISTRIBUTION

Give to one another the bread, "Body of Christ given for you."
Give to one another the wine, "Blood of Christ shed for you."

COMMUNION MUSIC

Adagio

John Stanley

BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
bless you and keep you always in God's grace.

Amen.

PRAYER

God of steadfast love,
at this table you gather together your people
into one body for the sake of the world.
Send us in the power of your Spirit,
that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.

God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

Amen.

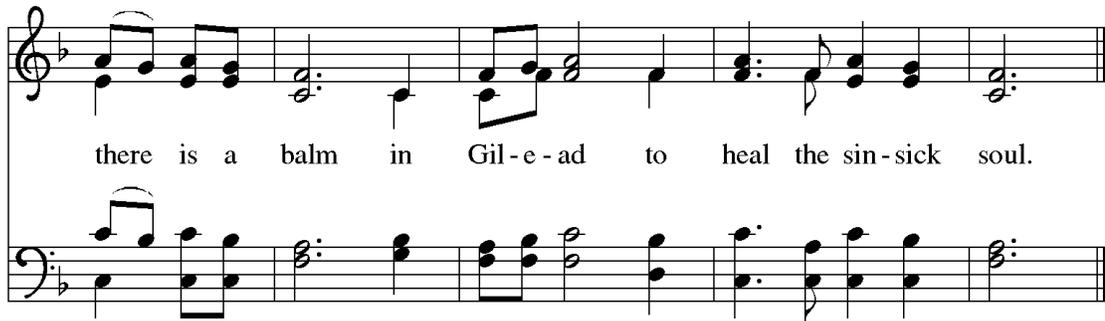
CLOSING HYMN
There is a Balm in Gilead

Proclaim
Spiritual

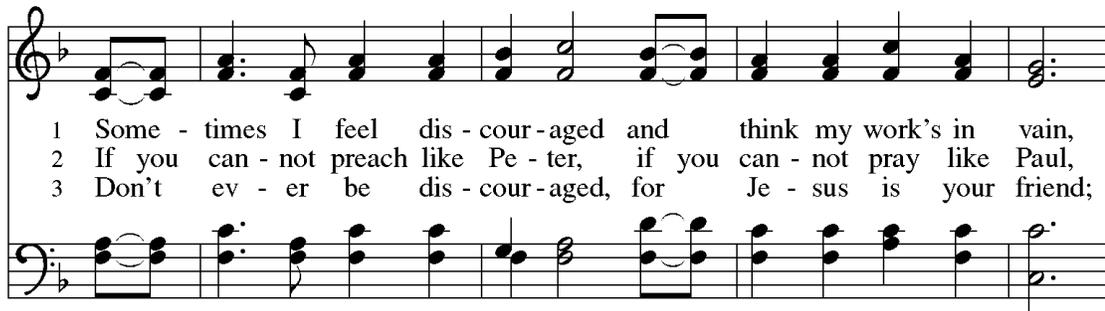
Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

Dismissal

Go in peace. Joined together in Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Paen

Gordon Young

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Assistant Minister

Mary Ellen Steele

Audio & Visual Ministers

Scott Elvington & Rick Bobbitt

PROCLAIM

Kathy Pierce

Emily Chesnic

Sue Carter

Alec Scheele

Tina Ramey

Tim Armstrong

Kurt Headrick

Eetung Rauh

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Will Johnson

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