

ASH WEDNESDAY

“Quiet Practice” – Matthew 6:1a

7:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH and SCHOOL

8305 NOTTINGHAM PARKWAY

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40222

Vacancy Pastors: *Rev. Ron Richeson, Rev. Mark Whitsett*

DCE Intern: *Corrine Burmeister*

Deaconess: *Margy Whitsett*

Principal: *Chip Davidson*

Director of Music: *Scott Kamman*

Today's Organist: *Scott Kamman*

Church contacts

(502) 426-1130

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School contacts

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We warmly welcome you in the name of Jesus!

We are always glad to have you worship with us.

*If you do not have a regular church home,
we invite you to make our church home yours.*

- † Our worship services are on Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 11:00 AM. We also invite and encourage you to join us in Sunday School and Bible Study at 9:45 AM.
- † Assisted hearing devices, children's bulletins, and large print service folders are available -- please ask an usher for one.
- † While we encourage children to be present in worship, the upstairs cry room opposite the elevator is available for you.
- † Our worship services can now be viewed on the church's Facebook page (live or after the service), as well as on our YouTube channel. *The Lutheran Hour* can be heard on Sundays at 9:00 AM at KAWZ (102.7FM).

Prayer before worship:

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

AS WE GATHER As we begin another Lenten journey to the cross and to the empty tomb, we will pass the familiar route of Wednesday services, special devotions, and sacrificial acts. It all begins here with ashes, an old and biblical sign of repentance. From the Old Testament to the present, ashes have been an outward sign of inward contrition. While not sacramental, they are not mere ritual either; they bear witness to the internal sorrow over sin with which we come while asking for and expecting forgiveness from God. The mood of this service is somber as we reflect upon the shape of our lives of faith and recall the discipline or piety that accompanies that faith. We are dust and to dust we shall return but even in dust there is hope. The ashes are marked in the sign of that hope: a cross where Christ bore the weight of our sin so that we might be forgiven and restored to Himself.

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING 3

PREPARATION

Please stand.

Litany

P Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope. Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

P O Lord,

C **have mercy.**

P O Christ,

C **have mercy.**

P O Lord,

C **have mercy.**

P O Christ,

C **hear us.**

P God the Father, in heaven,

C **have mercy.**

P God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

C **have mercy.**

P God the Holy Spirit,

C **have mercy.**

P Be gracious to us.

C **Spare us, good Lord.**

P Be gracious to us.

C **Help us, good Lord.**

P By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; by Your Baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and Passion; by Your precious death and burial; by Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

C **Help us, good Lord.**

P In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

C **Help us, good Lord.**

P We poor sinners implore You

C **to hear us, O Lord.**

P To prosper the preaching of Your Word; to bless our prayer and meditation; to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith; to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

P To draw all to Yourself; to bless those who are instructed in the faith; to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers; to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy; and to have mercy on us all:

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

P To turn our hearts to You; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers:

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C **we implore You to hear us.**

P O God, You desire not the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Imposition of Ashes

Those who desire to receive ashes will come forward at this time and stand before the pastor. The pastor applies ashes in the shape of a cross on the forehead while saying to each person, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Hymn: LSB 419

Savior, When in Dust to Thee

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!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt., Tune: Joseph Parry, 1841–1903, Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand.

- 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 Lord,
- 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 Jesus Christ, our Lord, strengthen us in all goodness, and, by the power of the Spirit, keep us in eternal life.
- C** **Amen.**

Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

Prayer of the Day: Ash Wednesday

- P** Let us pray.
- Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

Old Testament Reading

Joel 2:12-19

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD,
 “return to me with all your heart,

with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
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.
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;
consecrate a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
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.
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?’”

Then the LORD became jealous for his land
and had pity on his people.
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.”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

by D. Mengal

Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10

We implore 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.

Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. 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. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand in reverence to the Gospel.

Verse

Joel 2:13b

C **Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

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



C **Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] "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.

"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. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"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. 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. . . .

"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. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 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.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where

neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Creed

C 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,
whose 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated.

Nicene Creed

Hymn of the Day: LSB 607 From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

1 From depths of woe I cry to Thee, In trial and
 2 Thy love and grace a - lone a - vail To blot out
 3 There - fore my hope is in the Lord And not in
 4 And though it tar - ry through the night And till the
 5 Though great our sins, yet great - er still Is God's a -

trib - u - la - tion; Bend down Thy gra - cious
 my trans - gres - sion; The best and ho - liest
 mine own mer - it; It rests up - on His
 morn - ing wak - en, My heart shall nev - er
 bun - dant fa - vor; His hand of mer - cy

ear to me, Lord, hear my sup - pli - ca - tion.
 deeds must fail To break sin's dread op - pres - sion.
 faith - ful Word To them of con - trite spir - it
 doubt His might Nor count it - self for - sak - en.
 nev - er will A - ban - don us, nor wa - ver.

If Thou re - mem - b'rest ev - 'ry sin, Who then could heav - en
 Be - fore Thee none can boast - ing stand, But all must fear Thy
 That He is mer - ci - ful and just; This is my com - fort
 O Is - rael, trust in God your Lord. Born of the Spir - it
 Our shep - herd good and true is He, Who will at last His

ev - er win Or stand be - fore Thy pres - ence?
 strict de - mand And live a - lone by mer - cy.
 and my trust. His help I wait with pa - tience.
 and the Word, Now wait for His ap - pear - ing.
 Is - rael free From all their sin and sor - row.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt. Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546, Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

“Quiet Practice”

Matthew 6:1a

Offering

During this time, we invite you to sign and pass the Friendship Book. All communicants are invited to read and prayerfully consider the following.

We believe that...

- † Holy Communion is a Sacrament since it was instituted by Christ Himself.
- † We are truly worthy and well prepared to partake of Holy Communion when we repent of our sins and have faith in these words, "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins."
- † We receive the bread and wine and the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ when, as repentant, true believers we partake of Holy Communion.

Our Savior Lutheran Church practices close communion.

What does this mean?

Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are welcome to commune with us. If you are not a confirmed member of our church or one of our sister congregations, we encourage you to speak to the pastor about preparing to participate in communion at Our Savior.

- † Children and those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing (indicated by folded hands), or to remain seated for individual prayer. When the wine is offered, communicants have the choice of an individual cup or the common cup. Individual cups containing DARK WINE are alcohol-free for those with medical need only, please.

Please stand.

Offertory

LSB 192

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

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

SACRAMENT

Preface

LSB 194



The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Ash Wednesday

[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

[P] It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus ~ Holy, Holy, Holy

printed music found in LSB on p. 195

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

*Sabaoth (SAH-bay-oath) is Hebrew for "heavenly hosts."
Hosanna is a Hebrew word of praise meaning "save us now."*

Lord's Prayer *The first section is spoken by the pastor.*

Matthew 6:9-13

[P] 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.

[C] For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the
 glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My [†] body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My [†] blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C A - men.

Agnus Dei ~ Lamb of God

printed music found in LSB on p. 198

ALL: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world,

have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world,

have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world,

grant us Thy peace. Amen.

John 1:29

Distribution *Please be seated. If you are communing, please come forward at the bidding of the ushers.*

Distribution

Anthem

Create in Me a Clean Heart

by H. Willan

Hymn: LSB 915

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,

How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n-ly gates.
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
 The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
 No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
 When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre-cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
 A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
 Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
 We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816-78, alt.
 Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812-after 1857, Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand.

Nunc Dimitiss ~ Song of Simeon

printed music found in LSB on p. 199

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
 for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face
 of all people,
 a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. **Amen.**

Luke 2:29-32

Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - - er.

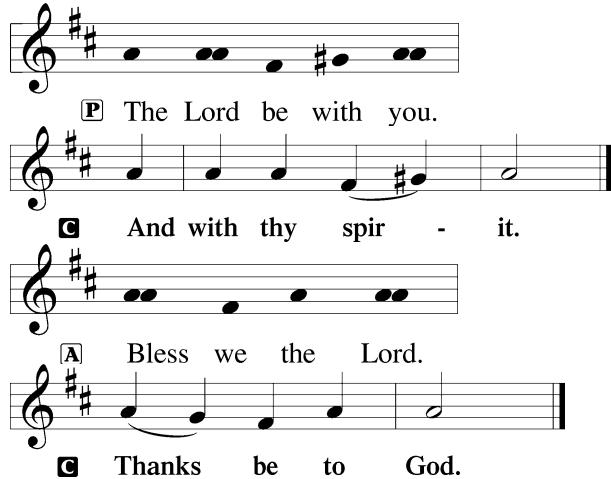
Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P O God, merciful Father, You do not turn away from the sighing of a contrite heart nor the
 desires of those who in sorrow for their sins cry to You for mercy. Hear the prayers of
 Your people who in the midst of their troubles call to You for relief. Graciously hear us that
 the evils which burden our souls and the sins which weigh greatly on our hearts may
 know peace and forgiveness. Rekindle within us Your new life imparted in Baptism and
 restore to us the holy joy that belongs to all Your people, that we may keep Your
 commandments and do on earth Your heavenly will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.



C A - men.

Salutation and Benedicamus



P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spir - it.
A Bless we the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

2 Timothy 4:22

[Psalm 103:1]

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



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

Closing Hymn

We Keep Again This Solemn Feast

tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR



1 We keep a - gain this sol - emn fast And stand with
2 The law and proph - ets call a - gain To live by
3 In faith and deep hu - mil - i - ty May we more
4 In Word and prayer let us be found, That faith and
those of a - ges past; These for - ty days of
faith and die to sin; With Christ as Sav - ior
Christ - like ev - er be; A - wake, a - sleep, at
works in us a - bound; Let pen - i - tence mark
Lent we strive To live in faith and prac - tice love.
and our guide, May we be dai - ly sanc - ti - fied.
work and home Guard lips and lives for Christ a - lone.
ev - 'ry day That we a - void the sin - ful way.

- 5 Pour out on us from Your great love
Your grace and mercy from above;
That frail and weak though we may be,
Still Your own handiwork are we.
- 6 Forgive the sin that we have done,
Make us grow up in Christ, Your Son;
Until, at last, our days pass by
And we shall dwell with You on high.

△ 7 O blessed Holy Trinity,
One God, eternal Unity;
May thus our Lenten forty days
Prepare us for eternal praise.

Text: Attr. Gregory the Great, ca. 540–604; Tr. Larry A. Peters, Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1543, ed. Joseph Klug
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Silent Prayer and Postlude

Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2.

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Our mission is to teach, love, and connect...teach all ages about Jesus, love one another as God loves us, and connect with others in a hurting world.