

Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.
¹⁷Between 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?'"

PSALM: Psalm 51:1-17

Have 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 ever 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 purer than snow.
⁸**Let me hear ¹joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken ¹may rejoice.**
⁹Hide your face ¹from my sins,
and blot out ¹all my wickedness.
¹⁰**Create in me a clean ¹heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**
¹¹Cast me not away ¹from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
¹²**Restore to me the joy of ¹your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**
¹³Let me teach your ways ¹to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.
¹⁴**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of ¹my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing ¹of your righteousness.**

¹⁵O LORD, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
¹⁶**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or ¹I would give it.
You are not pleased ¹with burnt offering.**
¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a ¹troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will ¹not despise.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

*The ministry of the gospel endures many challenges and hardships.
Through this ministry, God's reconciling activity in the death of Christ
reaches into the depths of our lives to bring us into a right relationship with
God. In this way, God accepts us into the reality of divine salvation.*

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our
sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might
become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the
grace of God in vain. ²For 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!
³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be
found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have
commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in
afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots,
labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience,
kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the
power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand
and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute.
We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet
are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and
yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet
making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

[Stand]

Gospel Acclamation: - "Jesus, Remember Me" ELW 616
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

The holy Gospel According to Matthew the 6th Chapter

Glory to you, O LORD (spoken)

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "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.

²"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. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵"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. ⁶But 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.

¹⁶"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. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so 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.

¹⁹"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

[Sit]

Sermon

Silence for reflection

[Stand]

CONFESSION OF SIN AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES

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

Silence is kept 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.

People may come forward to receive the ashes. Ministers mark the forehead of each person with a cross of ashes, saying:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

After those who desire ashes have received them, all may kneel or sit, and the minister continues.

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, of Savior,

bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

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.

Amen.

[Sit]

Prayers of Intercession

Gathered by the Spirit, let us return to the Lord our God and pray for the church, the world, and all who yearn for new life.

Each petition ends Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you have commanded us to pray, and you promise to hear us. Hear the prayers of your people and grant us all that we need, for the sake of the one in whose name we pray, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

.Offering
[Stand]

Offertory "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord" ELW 184

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, gracious and merciful,
you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who are hungry, come and eat the bread of life.
All who are thirsty, come and drink the cup of salvation.

Great Thanksgiving

Pages 152-154

Thanksgiving and Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy

Distribution Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Lamb of God

[Sit]

Hymns During communion -

1 "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" ELW 335

2 "Just As I Am, without One Plea" ELW 592

3. "Lord Jesus, Think on Me" ELW 599

[Stand]

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

SENDING

Blessing

The God who formed us in love, who renews us through grace, and who will transform us into glory, + bless you this day and always.

Amen.

Hymn **“O Lord, throughout These Forty Days”** *ELW 319*

Dismissal

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.

Amen.

You are dismissed: Depart in silence.

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Serving Us Today...

St Matthew	
Organist	Frances Scheffer
Reader	Michelle Lampe
Ushers	John Dana Mark Niebuhr Stanley Sommer
Communion Assistant	
Acolyte	John Dana

Date	St Matt / Imm
Feb 24 Immanuel	David Hansen Thanking God
March 3 St Matthew	Alan Kethan Listening
March 10 Immanuel	Charles Parnell Intercession
March 17 St Matthew	Steve Cox Supplication
March 24 Immanuel	Jim Abbott Blessing
April 1- Maundy Thursday St Matthew	Jim Abbott- Maundy Thurs @ “home”



**Ash Wednesday
February 17, 2010**

St Matthew Lutheran Immanuel Lutheran

Worship 7:00 pm

Rev. Jim Abbott

Ministers – All Members of the Congregation

Ash Wednesday February 17, 2010

Gathering

Congregation responses and songs in **Bold**

INTRODUCTION

Lent begins with a solemn call to return to the roots of our faith, and practice with greater fervor the disciplines that turn our hearts and minds away from sin and toward our Father in heaven. Among the actions Jesus recommends are repentance, almsgiving (benevolence), and prayer. This year the offerings collected at St Matthew will be given to Faith Mission. And in the weeks to come we will hear about five types of prayers that are a part of our lives together as disciples of Christ. We begin the season of Lent with a reflection on our sinfulness, our need for repentance, and God’s gracious forgiveness.

[Stand]

Greeting

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hymn “Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling” ELW 608

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.

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