

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024

AS WE GATHER

Marked. During this special service for the beginning of our Lenten journey, we will be marked - marked with ashes. These ashes stand as a stark reminder of the dust of death, which is the wages of sin - Adam's sin, the world's sin, and our personal sin. But notice the shape in which the ashes are applied to our foreheads: the shape of the cross. "Remember that you are dust," we hear. Powerful words, yes. But may we also have ears to hear the words even more powerful: "Your sins are forgiven!" The Gospel assures us that we have been marked and redeemed by Christ, the Crucified. The One who entered into our world to shape our dust and breathe new life into our death is the One who has named us and claimed us to be His own. He took on the ashes of our death. He became sin for us, "so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

✠ PREPARATION ✠

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 118:24

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

HYMN "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain"

{LSB – 435 - 4 verses}

Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain,
Here a pure and healing fountain
In a full, perpetual tide,

Sinners, ruined by the fall;
Flows for you, for me, for all,
Opened when our Savior died.

Come in poverty and meanness,
From infection and uncleanness,
Wash your robes and make them white;

Come defiled, without, within;
From the leprosy of sin,
Ye shall walk with God in light.

Come in sorrow and contrition,
Here the guilty, free remission,
Health this fountain will restore;

Wounded, impotent, and blind;
Here the troubled, peace may find.
They that drink shall thirst no more.

They that drink shall live forever;
God is faithful; God will never
Signed when our Redeemer died,

'Tis a soul-renewing flood.
Break His covenant of blood,
Sealed when He was glorified.

(please stand)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You 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; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

Pastor: The ashes of our sin remind us of the curse of death and our need for Your redemption.

People: **For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and renew us. Mark us with Your cross and take our sins from us. Help us to delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

The pastor provides a word of explanation and instruction for the imposition of ashes according to the congregation's custom. The pastor may apply ashes to the forehead of each worshiper while speaking to them the words:

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

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy delivered His Son over to the death of the cross to bear the burden of our brokenness, becoming sin for us “so that in Him we might become the

righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). The ashes of your sin have been taken away and you have been marked and redeemed by Christ, the Crucified. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT *Psalm 51:1-3, 10-12; Antiphon: verse 17*

Pastor: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

People: a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

Pastor: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

People: according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Pastor: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

People: and cleanse me from my sin!

Pastor: For I know my transgressions,

People: and my sin is ever before me.

Pastor: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

People: and renew a right spirit within me.

Pastor: Cast me not away from Your presence,

People: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

Pastor: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

People: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

People: a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy,

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy,

People: Christ, have mercy.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy,

People: Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who come to You in repentance and faith.

People: Cleanse us from the ashes of our sin that we may hold fast to the promise that we have been marked and redeemed by the Christ, the Crucified,

Pastor: who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen. *(please be seated)*

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Joel 2:12 - 19

(“Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful.”)

12 “Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” 13 Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. 14 Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing - grain offerings and drink offerings for the Lord your God. 15 Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly. 16 Gather the people, consecrate the assembly; bring together the elders, gather the children, those nursing at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her chamber. 17 Let the priests, who minister before the Lord, weep between the portico and the altar. Let them say, “Spare your people, Lord. Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’” 18 Then the Lord was jealous for his land and took pity on his people. 19 The Lord replied to them: “I am sending you grain, new wine and olive oil, enough to satisfy you fully; never again will I make you an object of scorn to the nations.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10

(God reconciles us through Christ, who became sin for us.)

20 We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. 21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

1 As God's co-workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. 2 For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. 3 We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited. 4 Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; 5 in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; 6 in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; 7 in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; 8 through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; 9 known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; 10 sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1 - 6, 16 - 21

*("Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.")
(please stand)*

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

1 "Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. 2 "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. 5 "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to

be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 6 But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

16 “When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 17 But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18 so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

19 “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED

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 ☩ of the world to come. Amen. *(please be seated)*

HYMN “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

{LSB 427 - 4 verses}

In the cross of Christ I glory,
All the light of sacred story

Tow’ring o’er the wrecks of time.
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o’ertake me,
Never shall the cross forsake me;

Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
From the cross the radiance streaming

Light and love upon my way,
Adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure
Peace is there that knows no measure,

By the cross are sanctified;
Joys that through all time abide.

MESSAGE: “The Tau Cross: The Cross of Prophecy”

John 3:14-15

OFFERING

If you are a **visitor** this morning, you are our guest. Please do not feel obligated to give as the offering plate is passed. The offering is an opportunity for **members** to practice faithful stewardship and to support the ministries of Christ’s church. Also, a red booklet, the Friendship Register, will be passed down each row. Please record your presence with us today.

OFFERING SONG: “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

{LSB 781 vv. 1-2}

(Please sing as the offering is presented at the Altar)

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate’er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(please stand)

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs . . . Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer

Pastor: Into your hands, O Father, we commend all for who we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen. *(please be seated)*

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

(please stand)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: 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 became sin for us at the cross, taking away the ashes of our death so that we may be redeemed by His blood and marked by His Spirit. 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 Lord, God of Sabaoth adored;

Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to perfectly obey Your commands and fully redeem us from sin's curse by becoming a curse for us. In repentance and faith, we receive the salvation He accomplished once and for all by His sacrifice on the cross.

People: Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we ask You, O Lord, to wash away the ashes of our sin and cleanse us as Your marked and redeemed people.

Pastor: Grant us faithfully to receive our Savior through His body and blood as He invites us to do in this sacred Meal.

People: Hear our prayers; deliver and preserve us.

Pastor: To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: 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

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen

AGNUS DEI

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,

You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

You take the sin of the world away;

And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(please be seated)

HYMN: “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

{LSB 563 – 6 verses}

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,

My beauty are, my glorious dress;
With joy shall I lift up my head.

Bold shall I stand in that great day,
Fully absolved through these I am

Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,
Pleads for the captives’ liberty,

Which at the mercy seat of God
Was also shed in love for me.

Lord, I believe, were sinners more
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,

Than sands upon the ocean shore,
For all a full atonement made.

When from the dust of death I rise
This then shall be my only plea:

To claim my mansion in the skies,
Jesus hath lived and died for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,

Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
An everlasting ransom paid.

HYMN: “Lamb of God”

{LSB 550 – 3 verses}

Your only Son, no sin to hide,
To walk upon this guilty sod,

But You have sent Him from Your side
And to become the Lamb of God. *Refrain*

Refrain: *O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!*
 O wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your Gift of love they crucified, They laughed and scorned Him as He died:
The humble King they named a fraud, And sacrificed the Lamb of God. **Refrain**

I was so lost, I should have died, But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod, And to be called a lamb of God. **Refrain**

HYMN: “O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee”

{LSB 632 – 2 verses}

O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed On me Thy body and Thy blood.

Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

(please stand)

Pastor: Let us pray. O Jesus, Lamb of God, we thank You for refreshing us yet again through
Your Word and Sacrament.

People: **Assure us by Your Spirit that we have been marked and redeemed by You, the
One who was crucified for us;**

Pastor: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING SENTENCES Psalm 51:10–12

Pastor: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

People: **and renew a right spirit within me.**

Pastor: Cast me not away from Your presence,

People: **and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.**

Pastor: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

People: **and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen. *(please be seated)*

HYMN “O Lord, throughout These Forty Days”

{LSB 418 - 4 verses}

O Lord, throughout these forty days
Inspire repentance for our sin,

You prayed and kept the fast;
And free us from our past.

You strove with Satan, and You won;
Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust

Your faithfulness endured;
In God’s eternal Word.

Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed
So teach us to deny ourselves,

And fixed Your mind above;
Since we have known God’s love.

Be with us through this season, Lord,
That when the final Easter dawns,

And all our earthly days,
We join in heaven’s praise.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

LSB HymnLicense.NET,#100010583. Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright @ 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Above used by permission. All rights reserved.

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs...

Prayers for **Sue Knott** as she recovers for knee replacement

Prayers for **Karla Marchall** as she recovers from surgery

Prayers for **Gerry Zumm** as he recovers from heart procedure

Prayers from **Joyce Meier** and her **medical team** as she has heart tests and analysis as she awaits knee surgery

David & Sue Theis request prayers for **granddaughter – Elizabeth Tobaben**

Prayers for **Chris Carter** as he recovers from surgery to remove a brain lesion

Mike Gissi requests prayers for **Dorothy Hoy**

Prayers for **Gloria Bloecher** and her **medical team** as she remains in their care for heart problems

Karen Brosien requests prayers for her daughter Amelia recovery from knee surgery – a prayer of thanksgiving for her father as he has been released from rehab - 2 brothers in Northeast Texas,

Laura Sanders requests continued prayers for her Father

Debra Beard requests prayers for her Brother, **Tod Dunlevy** in Wisconsin, and his **medical team** as he remains in the hospital

Prayers for **Gus Addington** for continued healing following reconstructive surgery

Rutledge Family requests prayers for Sister-in-Law **Heather Mulledy** battling breast cancer

Mario & Eve Betancourt requests prayers for **Reese Richeson**, undergoing treatment for cancer

Prayers for Justice & Peace around the world

For family discord, reconciliation, and healing

Prayers for rescue for those in abusive relationships

Prayers for all those with physical, emotional, or other needs

Prayers for all who are lost to hear and receive Jesus' Gospel message

**Into your hands, O Father, we commend all for who we pray,
trusting in Your mercy; thru Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

FEBRUARY ALTAR FLOWERS

Feb 4th – Ernie & Marilyn Mazurek – celebrating 3rd wedding anniversary

Feb 11th – Mario & Eve Betancourt – celebrating Juliet's 10th birthday

Feb 11th – Kathy Giardinelli – celebrating Tony's birthday

Feb 18th – Anthony & Pam Sansone – celebrating 51st wedding anniversary

Feb 25th - open

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

WELCOME . . . Whoever you are . . . Wherever you have come from . . . we are so glad you are here!

Your presence increases our joy as we praise our loving Savior together. If you are visiting with us today, we'd love to get to know you! Please don't forget to sign your name and fill in your contact information in the red booklets on the inside aisle!

Messiah Lutheran Church celebrates the Lord's Supper as a visible expression of our unity in the faith and a confession of our Lord's death until He returns (1 Cor. 11:23-29).

Those who desire to commune with us must:

- 1) be baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;*
- 2) believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;*
- 3) believe that they receive, with the bread and the wine, the true body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sin (1 Cor. 10:16);*
- 4) sincerely desire to amend their sinful way of life.*

Please announce your intention to receive the Lord's Supper to the pastor or one of our elders before communing.

Upcoming Events –

February 14th – Ash Wednesday Soup Supper at 5:30 pm - Worship Service at 6:30 pm

February 17th - Valentine Lunch for Everyone - Altstadt Brewery at noon

February 21st & 28th - Lent Services at 6:30 pm

March 6th & 13th & 20th - Lent Services at 6:30 pm

March 7th – Ladies Time Out Lunch at Rivulet at 11:00 am

March 8th – April 12th – Ladies Friday Morning Bible Study – Help is Here – “Finding fresh strength and purpose in the power of the Holy Spirit” by Max Lucado

March 9th – Adult Game Day in the Family Life Center at 2:00 pm

March 16th - Mission Aviation Fellowship - Texas Event in Granbury, Tx

March 22nd – Outing for All to the Café on the Ridge in Kerrville at 9:30 am

March 24th - Palm Sunday Worship Service at 10:30 am

March 28th - Maundy Thursday at 6:30 pm

March 29th - Good Friday at 6:30 pm

March 31st - Easter Sunday – Sunrise Service at 6:30 am

Festival Service at 10:30 am

May 4th – Adult Wine Tasting at the home of David & Kathleen Blakely

June 1st – Family Picnic at Joshua Springs Park catered by Bill Millers

Create in me a
clean heart,



God,
and renew a
right spirit
within me.

Psalm 51:10, ESV

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

9401 Dietz Elkhorn

Boerne, Texas 78015

(830) 755-4300

www.messiahboerne.org

Rev. Dr. Richard S. Lofgren, Pastor

Gina Husky, Director of Messiah's Kids Preschool

David Rhoads, Facilities Manager

Maurine Maloy, Administrative Assistant



Serving us Today – February 14, 2024

Elders:	Larry Risley & Ed Mycock
Soup Supper	Messiah’s Fellowship Committee
Tellers:	Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care:	Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid’s Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician:	Bob Shoaf
AV:	Roger & Kathryn Winkelmann
Reader:	Kathleen Blakely
Ushers:	OPEN
Greeter:	Lindy Eschenko

Serving us Sunday – February 18, 2024

Elders:	Larry Risley & Ed Mycock
Coffee:	Verna Sorensen
Breakfast:	Verna Sorensen
Tellers:	Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care:	Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid’s Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician:	Bob Shoaf
AV:	David & Lorrie Wendeborn
Reader:	Sharon Loren
Ushers:	Ernie & Marilyn Mazurek – Pam Fields – Maurice Doublet
Greeter:	Kathlin Jauregui

Our Response to God Last Week

Worship Attendance: 73 | Sunday School: 27

Corrected - January 2024 Contributions			
General Fund	\$50,068.14	Building Fund	\$4,445.00
Renovation Fund	\$0.00	Family Life Center	\$2,475.00