



*Redeemer*  
Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH IN AMERICA

We are a *Reconciling in Christ*  
congregation, affirming the  
diversity of God's children



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## ASH WEDNESDAY



**March 2, 2022**  
**7:00 pm**

**Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...**  
*an adventure for life!*

## THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

As you begin the service, take a few moments to bring yourself before God, be aware of your present state of mind, your preoccupations, and your desire to meet God during this time. All the songs are chants, which are designed to find a home in you so you can sing them without looking at the words. We will sing each chant four times.

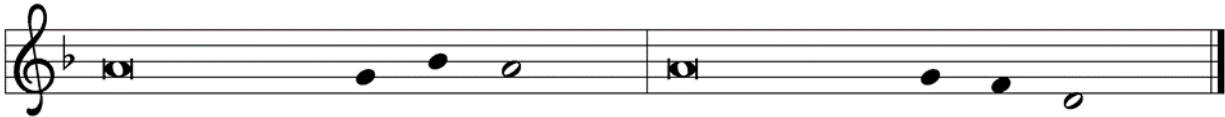
### Prelude

*I Love to Tell the Story*, arr. Emma Lou Diemer

### Welcome

### Choral Call to Worship

### Psalm 51



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

**Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me | from my sin.**

For I know | my offenses,  
and my sin is ev- | er before me.

**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment.**

Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my | mother's womb.

**Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**

Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.

**Let me hear | joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**

Hide your face | from my sins,  
and blot out | all my wickedness.

**Create in me a clean | heart, O God,  
and renew a right spir- | it within me.**

Cast me not away | from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.

**Restore to me the joy of | your salvation  
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.**

Let me teach your ways | to offenders,  
and sinners shall be re- | stored to you.

**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of | my salvation,  
and my tongue shall sing | of your righteousness.**

O Lord, o- | pen my lips,  
and my mouth shall pro- | claim your praise.

**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or | I would give it.  
You are not pleased | with burnt offering.**

The sacrifice of God is a | troubled spirit;  
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will | not despise.

### **Call to Worship**

God's people have been called to gather.

**From those who have lived longer than they ever imagined  
to those whose lives are just beginning,  
all are welcome.**

God's people have been called to turn from all that causes harm.

**From those who enjoy pointing out the faults of others  
to those whose brokenness allows others to abuse them,  
all are welcome.**

God's people have been called to trust God's unyielding love.

**From those who have no doubts God loves them  
to those whose pain whispers in the night,  
all are welcome.**

Song

In the Lord, I'll Be Ever Thankful

Chords: Dm C F Bb C Dm C F

English: In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -

The first system of music is in 3/4 time, key of Bb. It features a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a melody with eighth and quarter notes, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are: "In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -"

Chords: C Bb A 3 Dm C F

joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your voic - es, the

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff includes a triplet of eighth notes. The lyrics are: "joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your voic - es, the"

Chords: Gm C Am Dm Bb C F

Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near.

The third system concludes the piece. The treble staff has a final cadence. The lyrics are: "Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near."

Words: Taizé Community

Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Words and Music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

France  
9.7.8.9.9.

## Invitation to Lenten Disciplines

Lent is the season we prepare to celebrate the Easter mystery.

We begin our Lenten journey by admitting we need to turn around. We ask God's Spirit to move us beyond our dead certainties, assumptions, and biases. We open ourselves to receive the courage to admit how we choose to harm ourselves and others. We open ourselves to the One whose love knows no boundaries and whose mercy is shown to us in the life of Jesus Christ.

As Lent begins, we choose to wake up and pay attention to what's going on around us and inside us. We choose to wake up to how God is trying to get our attention. We choose to pray in whatever ways open us to God's living Spirit. We choose to let go of what harms us, and to speak and act with love. We choose to give some of our energy and time to bless a part of this creation that is hurting.

By choosing to observe Lent in these ways, we prepare ourselves for the passion of Holy Week and the joy of Easter.

Let us receive the Spirit who seeks us out and offers us home.

### Song

### Come and Pray in Us

Canon—4 voices

The musical score is written on two staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Section A is the first line, section B is the second line, section C is the third line, and section D is the fourth line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

(A) Come and pray in us, Ho - ly Spir-it, come and pray in us,  
Vie - ni, Spi-ri-to cre - a - to - re, vie - ni, vie - ni,

(B) (C) come and vis-it us, Ho - ly Spir-it, Spir-it come, Spir-it come.  
vie - ni, Spi-ri-to cre - a - to - re, vie - ni, vie - ni!

Text: Taizé Community, 1991  
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994  
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## **Call to Reconciliation and Prayers of Confession**

We are a beautiful people:

**created in the image of the living God.**

We are also a broken people:

**separated from ourselves, others, and the God whose face we wear.**

To all who are honest about how we have not love your world well,

**you promise forgiveness, and the hope of a new dawn.**

Let us speak honestly to each other, and to the God who always offers grace.

**Loving One, we ask for courage to name the ways we choose to prevent your beloved community from becoming real through us. We often fail to walk with humility and gentleness, closing ourselves off to the gifts of those who seem very different from us. We seek to fill the empty places within us with what can never satisfy, putting ourselves and those we love at-risk. We struggle to let our hearts be at-rest with ourselves. At times, we misuse human relationships because we are unwilling to see your image in ourselves and others. We confess that we allow jealousy, insecurities, and fear to divide us as peoples, families, and nations. We often treat your creation as if it is ours to do with as we wish, and so put in danger the beautiful array of life you have made. We speak and act in ways that judge and harm. We reject the love and grace that reach out to us, isolating ourselves from those who would embrace, heal, and gladden us.**

**Hear us now, as we unburden ourselves and place our silent confessions into your strong, open hands.**

### **Silent Confession**

#### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. God's mercy falls on us like rain, and puts a new spirit into us: the spirit of forgiveness, hope and joy.

**We will sing to the one who has freed us from all that separates us from love and life. We will praise God with hearts the Spirit has made new. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Song

## My Soul is at Rest

Ostinato Refrain

The image shows a musical score for the song 'My Soul is at Rest'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff: 'My soul is at rest in God a-lone, my sal-va-tion comes from God.' The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Text: Psalm 62; Taizé Community  
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994  
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## Gospel

**Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21** (New Living Translation, alt.)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to his followers], “Watch out! Don’t do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others, for you will lose the reward from your Abba in heaven. When you give to someone in need, don’t do as the hypocrites do—blowing trumpets in the streets to call attention to their acts of charity! I tell you the truth, they have received all the reward they will ever get. But when you give to someone in need, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. Give your gifts in private, and your Abba, who sees everything, will reward you.

“When you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray in private. Then your Abba, who sees everything, will reward you....

“And when you fast, don’t make it obvious, as the hypocrites do, for they try to look miserable and disheveled so people will admire them for their fasting. I tell you the truth, that is the only reward they will ever get. But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Abba, who knows what you do in private, and will reward you.

“Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Reflection

### *From the Ashes, a New Creation*

by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Take all of who I am,  
the me-ness of me,  
what makes me who I am,  
the special, the unique,  
the brilliant and the unpardonable,  
all I'm so proud of, and so ashamed,  
that I've worked so hard to fashion,  
that I'm still working on,  
what I can't part with  
because there wouldn't be  
anything left of me—  
take it.

Take it.  
I lay it in your hands.  
Gather it into yourself,  
into your dark, generous mystery,  
and in the flame of your creating heart  
burn it.

Then into the dust and ashes  
breathe your breath,

and with gratitude  
I will receive  
who rises

when in your grace  
you give me  
me  
anew.

## Musical Reflection

*My Master*, Ronald A. Nelson  
Senior Choir

My Master was so very poor, a manger was His cradling place;  
So very rich my Master was, Kings came from far to gain His grace.  
My Master was so very poor, and with the poor He broke the bread;  
So very rich my Master was, that multitudes by Him were fed.

My Master was so very poor, they nailed Him naked to a cross;  
So very rich my Master was, He gave His all and knew no loss.  
So very rich my Master was, He gave His all and knew no loss.



## Prayers of the People

### The Placing of Ashes

Our ancestors in the faith used ashes to remind us that we come from dust, and we shall return to dust. Ashes are a sign of confession, and are a symbol of how uncertain and fragile life is. Like our ancestors, we have tasted the ashes of hopelessness; we have walked through the ashes of our loss and pain; we have stood knee-deep in the ashes of our brokenness.

**God of our lives, out of the dust of creation you have formed us and given us life.**

**May these ashes not only be a sign of our repentance and death, but be a reminder that by your gift of grace in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, we are granted life forever with you. Amen.**

*From dust were you made; to dust you shall return.*

### Song

### Bless the Lord, My Soul

Musical notation for the first line of the song. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. Chords are indicated above the treble staff: Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, F, A. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name."

Musical notation for the second line of the song. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. Chords are indicated above the treble staff: Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, Dm. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life."

Words: Taizé Community

Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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France

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.*

*Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.*

People of God, the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

People of dust, lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

People of ashes, let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We try. God knows, we try.

We show up at church, hoping God will notice.

We study scripture, pretending God is reading aloud to us;  
we put on a false face to show everyone how proper we are:  
how fine,

how together,

how religious;

and we wonder – is God impressed?

**Not when we clench our fists in anger,**

**rather than opening them in love;**

**not when we work people too hard**

**and pay them too little;**

**not when we speak bitter and harmful words**

**to those we are given to love.**

So tonight, as we begin our Lenten fast, God offers us a feast. Why?

So that the broken bread will strengthen us:

to break the chains of injustice,

to take the burden of poverty off our neighbors,

to challenge an economy that doesn't ask why there are still hungry people.

**God offers us a feast so that the cup of grace will free us to take coats out of our closets and wrap them around shivering shoulders;**

**to offer shelter to the homeless without judging them;**

**to spend more time sharing our love instead of fearing it cannot heal or bless.**

So, come to this table and eat.

Here, you will see the light God offers to your darkness;

here, you will find the path God calls you to walk;

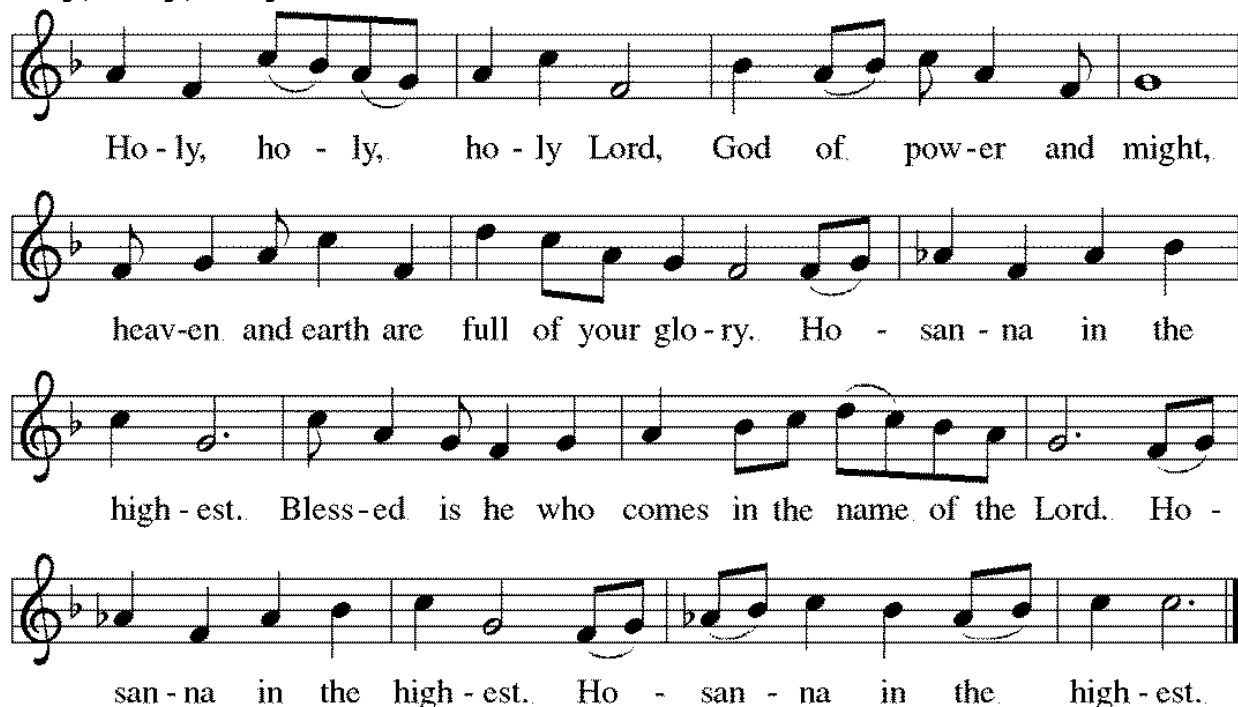
here, you will discover God waiting to embrace you,

even before you say a word.

**We will come to this table and feast.**

We glorify you, Holy One, joining our voices with those who had wandered far from you, but who were brought home; and with those who seek you now in this time and place:

## Holy, Holy, Holy



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

Preparing to journey with Jesus once again, we remember the mystery of his faithful obedience to your heart: how on the night he was betrayed, he gathered with his friends, took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, broken for you: do this to remember me."

And after supper, he took the cup, and gave it to them, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."

Holy Spirit, Heart of Compassion:

as the ashes of our humanity are placed upon your baptismal seal, so the brokenness of our lives is placed on the table of grace, so the bread might make us whole, and the cup might fill us with joy. Then, in your wisdom, may we turn to serve and be served; in your joy, may we bear the burdens of others and share ours with them; in your grace, may our love overflow to others and may we receive the love that flows to us, as we make real the prayer Jesus teaches us:

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread and the Sharing of the Cup

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal.

So do we.

The body of Christ, broken for you. (all eat together)

The blood of Christ, shed for you. (all drink together)

## Song

### Jesus, remember me

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The second system of musical notation is identical to the first system, consisting of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff in a key signature of two flats. The melody and bass line are the same, and the lyrics are repeated below the treble staff.

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community

Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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## Depart in silence

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# Worship Services for the Season of Lent 2022



## Wednesday evenings

**March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6**

*7:00 pm In Person and Livestream*

Evening Prayer

## Palm Sunday April 10

*10:00 am In Person and Livestream*

## Maundy Thursday April 14

*7:00 pm In Person and Livestream*

with foot- and hand-washing

## Good Friday April 15

*7:00 pm In Person and Livestream*

**Last Words of Christ**

at Christ United Methodist Church

## Easter Sunday April 17

*8:30 and 11:00 am*

In Person and Livestream Celebration