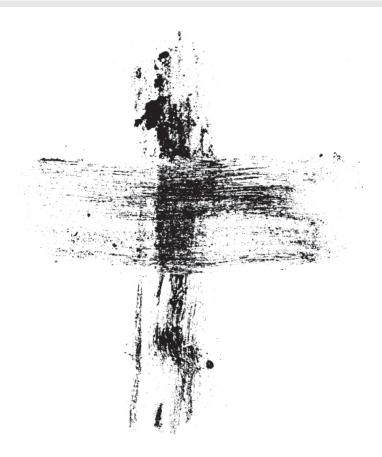


SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Ash Wednesday Wednesday, February 26, 2020, 8:00 a.m.



Today marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday occurs forty days before Easter, not including six Sundays (which are considered feast days), and recalls Jesus's forty days in the wilderness, itself mirroring the Israelites' forty years in the desert. In our scripture readings, Isaiah challenges his listeners to see the futility in spiritual practices done for self-serving purposes. He challenges all who hear to consider a new kind of fast, pleasing and acceptable to God. Jesus teaches how we are to avoid hypocrisy when we give, pray, and fast, so that we might store up treasure in heaven, not affirmation on earth, "for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Gathering

Opening Voluntary

Greetings and Announcements

*Processional Hymn 142

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination | In unison:

Holy God, our lives are laid open before you: as we hear your word today, rescue our hearts from the darkness of sin and through the death of your Son lead us to new life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Old Testament Lesson | OT page 647 in the pew Bibles

Isaiah 58:1-12

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51 | Chanted by the cantor.

*Gospel Lesson | NT pages 5-6 in the pew Bibles

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Homily

What Kind of Fast

Invitation to the Observance of a Holy Lent

Prayer Over the Ashes

Imposition of Ashes | Those wishing to receive ashes will come forward to the stations. When all who desire have received the ashes, the service will continue with the Litany of Penitence.

Litany of Penitence | The congregation responds with the text in bold:

God the Father,

Have mercy on us.

God the Son,

Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit,

Have mercy on us.

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity,

Have mercy on us.

From our pride, vanity, and hypocrisy, and from all our evil plans,

Deliver us.

From our envy and malice, and from our hardness of heart,

Deliver us.

From our sloth and worldliness, and our lack of compassion,

Deliver us.

From our love of money, our hoarding of possessions, and our relentless desire to accumulate more,

Deliver us.

From the lust for sexual pleasure that obscures the true gift of love in us and in others, **Deliver us.**

From the gorging of food, the indulging of our appetites, and our neglect of the hungry,

Deliver us.

From our hatred, anger, and quick temper, and from our reluctance to be reconciled with those we have hurt, **Deliver us.**

Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your holy word.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

*Peace | All exchange signs and words of God's peace.

Call to Prayer

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Let us pray.

Prayers of the people | The congregation responds to each petition:

People: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer | All are encouraged to pray the Lord's Prayer in the language of their choosing. The English version is number 895 in the hymnal.

Sending Forth

*Benediction

*Closing Processional Hymn 269

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

LAND OF REST

Closing Voluntary

TODAY IN WORSHIP

PRESIDING MINISTER The Rev. Bruce Puckett
PREACHER The Rev. Alexandra Tranvik
MUSICIANS Mr. Christopher Jacobson
WORSHIP ASSISTANTS Fr. Michael Martin
GUEST PREACHER The Rev. Alexandra Tranvik serves as the pastor of Duke Lutheraps, the Lutherap community at Duke, which is "called to share."

GUEST PREACHER | The Rev. Alexandra Tranvik serves as the pastor of Duke Lutherans, the Lutheran community at Duke, which is "called to share God's gift of life together on campus, in our local partner congregations, and throughout the Durham community." She is ordained in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Originally from Minneapolis, Rev. Tranvik attended St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, and completed her master of divinity degree at Duke Divinity School.

ACCESSIBILITY | Large print hymnals and bulletins are available at the front desk. Hearing assistance units are available at the back left sound desk.



services as part of your Lenten discipline. You can attend any of these worship









Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Sundays

Evensong 4:00 p.m. Choral

Sundays

Midday Prayer 12 noon

Tuesdays

Choral Vespers 7:00 p.m. Thursdays

On Ash Wednesday: An Examination of Conscience through the Ten Commandments

Having no other gods	Do I love God with all my heart, mind, soul, and strength?
Making no idols	Do I put possessions, career, family, reputation, or health ahead of God? Do I treat money, sex, and power as gifts or gods?
Revering God's name	Do all my words and actions glorify God?
Keeping the Sabbath	Do I let work take over my life? Do I find my identity in work or in being God's child? Do I set aside a full day each week to rest?
Honoring parents	Do my parents know I value and respect them? Do my children?
Respecting life	How do I respond when I am humiliated, insulted, or treated unfairly? Am I quick to forgive, or do I hold grudges and seek revenge? Do I let my anger get the better of me?
Respecting marriage	Am I chaste? Do I treat friends or strangers as objects of my lust? Do I treat sex as a precious and holy gift? Do I support and pray for those who are married?
Respecting property	Am I greedy? Do I have things that rightly belong to others? Am I honest with regard to tax, expenses, loans, and debts? Am I a generous giver?
Respecting truth	Do I exaggerate to impress? Do I gossip? Do I keep my promises? Do I face the truth about myself? Do I share my true self with others?
Governing desires	Am I jealous? Am I thankful? Am I content with what God has given me? Is the grass always greener on the other side? Do I curse the fact that life always seems easier for others?

A Lenten Prayer-For Personal Lenten Discipline

Lord Jesus, you fasted and prayed in the wilderness for forty days. Help me to fast and pray during this time of Lent. Free my mind from distraction and protect me from the snares of the devil, that I may learn to love you and my neighbors more. Give me a spirit of generosity, so that I might share my gifts more freely with those who have less. Teach me to pray, that I might offer you praise and thanksgiving. Help me make time to reflect on your Word; may it challenge, console, and purify me. Be with me in times of hurt, doubt, and confusion; unite my sufferings to yours and let them be redemptive. Fill me with your Holy Spirit, free me from sin, let me rise with you this Easter. I ask this in the name of Jesus, who died that I might be forgiven and have life to the full. Amen.