



WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

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Wednesday, February 14th, 2024 * 7 PM * INPERSON and ONLINE



ASH WEDNESDAY

Introduction

TODAY'S THEME: On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that "now is the day of salvation." Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR THIS EVENINGS WORSHIP
Print out your bulletin or use it on your phone or tablet to follow along.
Announcements are televised or found on our website

Be creative how you worship and remember God during this time. It will calm your soul, give you peace and enliven your spirit.

*Our community gathers in unity with others in-person and a virtual way.
We hope all people find it easy to follow along.*

GOD GATHERS US

Announcements are found on our website

PRELUDE

What Wondrous Love is This?

We invite you to read/respond to the texts, pray the prayers, using this as a meditation guide all week long.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

ALL: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

**C: We confess that we are caught in snares of sin
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors
are hungry and cold.**

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

**For all these things and for sins only you know,
forgive us, Lord.**

Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world,

God draws near to us,

breaks every snare of sin,

washes away our wrongs,

and restores the promise of life through ✝ Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

P: Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

All: Amen.

OPENING SONG

Abide with Me

ELW 629 v. 1-3 Red Hymnal

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

P: Let us pray... Almighty and ever-living God,

C: 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.

SHARING OF PEACE

P: God has received us, pardoned us and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ. Peace be with you.

C: And you also.

Share the peace with each other either by a wave or a bow.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

While the Psalm is read by all, the congregation will be given the opportunity to come forward to receive Ashes. If you cannot come forward Ashes will be brought to you.

PSALM 51:1-17

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. (Ps. 51:1)

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²Wash me through and through from my wickedness,

and cleanse me from my sin.
³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.
⁴Against 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.
⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.
⁶Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.
⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
⁸Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.
¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
¹³Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.
¹⁴Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.
¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
¹⁶For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.
You are not pleased with burnt offering.
¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.
(Silence until all have received ashes)

FIRST 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.

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made himself 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

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.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord **ALL: Praise to You O Christ!**

MESSAGE FOR ALL

Pastor David Mecurio

SONG OF DAY **Jesus, the Very Thought of You** **ELW 754. Red Hymnal**

APOSTLES' CREED

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING IS WELCOMED

P: Jesus, you are the bread of life

C: and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

Amen.

(An offering will be taken before the prayer.)

Offertory Music

Were You There?

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

See list of those Grace is currently praying for at end of this document or online. Please let us know your prayer needs.



Please respond accordingly

P: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

P: You call us to return to you, steadfast God. Renew a right spirit within the church and cleanse the hearts of your people. Strengthen those who proclaim your gospel in word and deed. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You sustain your creation, generous God. Supply all that is needful for life to flourish. Protect endangered species and fragile habitats. Teach us to live lightly upon the earth and to honor it as our home. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You seek justice and peace, righteous God. Rebuild cities and homelands devastated by war. Provide welcome, help, and safety to refugees. Prosper negotiations that lead to lasting peace among the nations. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You care for all people, loving God. Heal any who are scarred by violence, addiction, or trauma of any kind. Comfort those who grieve and bring relief to any in pain. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You gather this assembly, abiding God. Unite us in serving our neighbors and working for justice. We pray for caregivers and people who are hospitalized, in treatment, or recovering from illness. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You redeem us from death, faithful God. We give thanks for those who served you in the church. Bring us with all the saints into everlasting joy. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

P: Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them in the Spirit's love.

P: Let us give thanks to our Triune God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O God. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all who believe in Him should not perish. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his Holy Supper.

P: WORDS OF INSTITUTION

ALL: 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

P: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

TAKE AND EAT OF THE BREAD AND CUP

<i>Communion hymns:</i> What Wondrous Love is This?	ELW 666 Red Hymnal
Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow	ELW 568 Red Hymnal
In the Cross of Christ I Glory	ELW 324 Red Hymnal

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Generous God,

C: at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

All: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

Abide with Me

ELW v. 4,5 Red Hymnal

GOD SENDS US

BLESSING

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✝ give you peace.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

All: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

Thanks be to God

Handel

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Liturgy-Sundays and Seasons May 31, 2024

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ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSON

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Return to the LORD, your God

Isaiah 58:1-12

The fast that God chooses

2/14/24 ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP MASKING-Update We have been sitting at a social distance as we have felt comfortable in the sanctuary. Please continue Masking at your comfort level.

THE 2024 FLOWER CHART is up and on the wall in the Gathering Room. The price for 2024 will be \$20.

LINE DANCING every Wednesday from 6 – 7pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Sunday school meets on the first and third Sundays of the month through May 2024.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES begins this Saturday the 17th at 3pm and will be held on Saturdays at 3pm, Feb. 17th thru March 16th, and on Wednesdays at noon (with soup lunch) Feb. 21st thru March 20th, led by Pastor David. See Grace webpage for more info www.graceoflilylake.com.

LECTORS ARE NEEDED for readings during our service. Please look for the clipboard. Thank you for your assistance in our service.

NOISY OFFERING We collect a Noisy Offering whenever you wish to empty your change purse or pockets! Our next project we are collecting for is for our office copier repair or replacement. Thank you for your support!

BRIDGE TO LIFE DONATIONS The Bridge to Life Group continues to collect donations for the Elgin homeless. For details see the newsletter or Cathy Whiteside.

Thank you for your generous donations!

OFFERINGS & FAITHFUL GIVING FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE

We are thankful for your 2024 offerings and donations. \$5,608 was collected for the week ending 2/12/24. Our weekly donation needs are ~ \$3,400 (we are still tweaking the numbers since 2024 budget approval).

~ **Blessings upon Grace in our 130th year of ministry** ~

VISIT OUR Website www.graceoflilylake.com

FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND SERVICES

Get **ALL** the news you **NEED** there – including our weekly services

Our **FACEBOOK PAGE** for activities and posts of interest:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceOfLilyLake/>

630-365-6751

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH

- * God's Church in all time and place, that God be seen and heard.
- * As we face these times both together and while apart, keep us from fear, suffering and death.
- * Ministries of the ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod, especially Bishop Yehiel Curry.
- * Efforts of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, and Disaster Relief

FOR THE WORLD

- * For every living person facing the threat of coronavirus – it affects us all, our loved ones and our worldwide neighbors together.
- * For the healing of the divisions in our Nation.

FOR OUR CONGREGATION

- * For God's Spirit to guide the Vision Team, and whole congregation as we face transition and change.

* As we plan regarding the future of our congregation.

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (members, relatives, and friends of members of our congregation)

* Adam & Julia Sajdak, grandson & granddaughter in law of Bill and Lori U'Ren

* Nathan Sajdak, grandson of Bill and Lori U'Ren

* William Delmer, grandson of Kirk and Kathy Hooey

* David Brazee, Grandson of Steve and Cathy Lindquist

(If you know of someone currently serving our country, please share their information with the Church office.)

FOR ALL

* The continued support of our members

* For all members of healthcare around the world

* For those serving as first responders and in the military

* For our Nation, that extend peace in all things.

FOR THOSE SICK IN BODY, MIND OR SPIRIT... Andrew Kinsel and his family in Ukraine, Bob Acker, Fred Alstadt, Barb Asher, Joanna Alverado/Klaus, Vicki Barclay, Aina Baumanis, Makenzie Bay, Viola Bradshaw, Jim (brother of Rita Burnham), Elaine Chaney (Twyla Strom's niece), Jane Cutler, Ken Deutschmann, Alexa Diehl, Natalia Diehl, David Diehl (Kelly's cousin), Jan Docherty, Rebecca Eagen, Ted Ellingsen, Pat Eineke, Marge Granquist, Lucille Hammers (Cathy Lindquist's sister), Joyce Helander and Jim Serafin, Howard (friend of Alexa Diehl), Rich Jackson, Manfred Kaufmann, Paul and Kay Kinsel, Marlene Klingner, Bob Koehling, Katie Kozeva, Pastor Dave and Carol Langseth, Ray Larsen, Gay Leslie, Pat and Chili Lindgren, Cathy Lindquist, Sherry Manke, Janelle McDonald, George Morris, Joan Mortenson, Linda Mowers (sister-in-law to Pat Lindgren), Ray Navarro, Bob Nelson, Alaina Neufeld, Ed Nordwind, Oksana & her sister Maria (friends of Natalia Diehl), Donald Overby, Carol Prevenas, Kirk Reardon, Nancy and John Schaefer, John Schnaitman, Tia Thorne, Shirley and Norm Turner, Crystal Vines, Cordelia Vogel, Pastor Arne Walker, Kristy Weydert, Wayne Whiteside, Kelly Wilken & her family (Missy Barton's sister), Ron & Sharon Wilken (Missy Barton's parents), Bud Wise, & Barbara Zegiel.

If you have requested that anyone (including yourself) be put on Grace's prayer list, thank you for your faith in our work of prayer! In order to keep our list current and accurate, we would like to hear from you regarding the need for continued prayer, praises and new requests. You may place these in a note in the offering plate, leave them on the answering machine at church (630-365-6751) or speak with Pastor or Kathy Hooey. Aren't we blessed to have a God who listens and cares!

ALSO - Do you know someone who could use a reminder of our prayers and God's constant love? We have lovely **prayer shawls** all ready for delivery. Just see a Rebecca Circle member.

Please let us know your prayer requests for inclusion in our public prayers.

Type them in the comments or send them to the church office via our prayer card on our website.