

**ST PAUL EV LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**  
**February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

\*please stand

Opening Music

Invocation

**A LITANY OF CONFESSION**

\*Pastor: O God our Father, we want to remember Jesus. Especially we want to remember how Jesus lived his life in complete obedience to you with true compassion for humanity. Help us to bring our hearts and minds, as he brought his, for you to see. We are not like him, who had nothing to be ashamed of, but we are sorry for anything in us that is wrong, and we pray that you would have mercy on us, for Jesus Sake.

**Congregation – Amen**

**SIT FOR CONFESSION**

P: If we are to do better today and tomorrow, we need to be forgiven for the blunders we have already made. And so, for all our faults we know of, and for mistakes we made because we did not know:

**Congregation – We ask for forgiveness**

Pastor: For the times when we have hurt anyone, and for the times when we have been too careless to be kind:

**Congregation: Forgive us**

**Pastor:** For the hasty words our tongues have spoken, and for the other lies we helped to spread by keeping silence when the truth was twisted:

**Congregation: Forgive us**

Pastor: But we do not ask, Dear Lord, to be forgiven only. We want to be better than we have been before. We remember Jesus, who gave his body, mind, and soul for God to use.

**Congregation: Help us to put away our complacency.**

Pastor: By his strength, Jesus can make us strong.

**Congregation: Lord, help us to follow Jesus.**

Pastor: By his truth, Jesus can keep us faithful.

**Congregation: Help us to take up the Cross.**

**Imposition of Ashes**

*This is a sign of frailty, repentance and renewal.  
(Please come forward at the direction of the Pastor)*

Hymn "All Are Welcome" (Verses 1-3) Hymn 641

Scripture Passage Isaiah 52:1-3; 7-10  
Awake, awake, Zion, clothe yourself with strength! Put on your garments of splendor, Jerusalem, the holy city. The uncircumcised and defiled will not enter you again. Shake off your dust; rise up, sit enthroned, Jerusalem. Free yourself from the chains on your neck, Daughter Zion, now a captive. For this is what the LORD says: "You were sold for nothing, and without money you will be redeemed." How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God

reigns!” Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the LORD returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

Lenten Message      “Dust And Hope”      Pastor John

\*Hymn      “Lord of All Hopefulness”      Hymn 765

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord’s Prayer

The Benediction

Closing Music



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