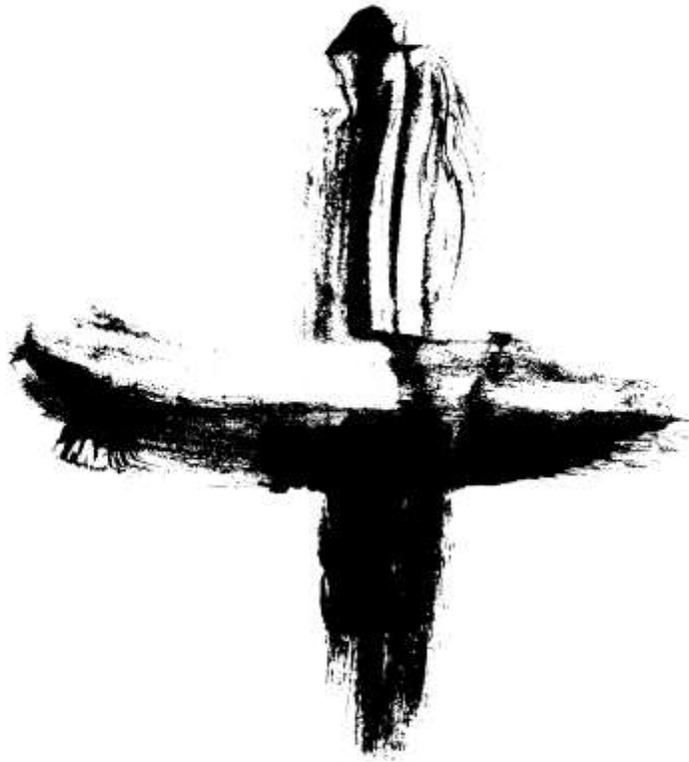


Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 2nd, 2022

Ash Wednesday



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.

- PRELUDE
- WELCOME
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- PRAYER REQUESTS

For sections with a *, please stand as you are able.

GATHERING

The assembly gathers in silence.

*GATHERING HYMN:

Just As I Am, without One Plea

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
 2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not to rid my soul of
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict,
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es, heal - ing

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 one dark blot, to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
 man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
 of the mind, yea, all I need in thee to find,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
 wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
 because thy promise I believe,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; thy love unknown
 has broken ev'ry barrier down;
 now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

***GREETING**

L: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, 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.

ALL: Amen.

FIRST READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

L: ¹Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
 for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—
²a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains
 a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
 nor will be again after them
 in ages to come.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,
 return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the LORD, your God,
 for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
 and relents from punishing.

¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
 and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering
 for the LORD, your God?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
¹⁶gather the people.

Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;
gather the children,
even infants at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.

¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
'Where is their God?'"

L: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 51:1-17

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

**ALL: ²Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

L: ³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

**ALL: 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.**

L: ⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

**ALL: ⁶Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

L: ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

**ALL: ⁸Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

L: ⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

**ALL: ¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

L: ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

ALL: ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation

and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

L: ¹³Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.

**ALL: ¹⁴Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

L: ¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**ALL: ¹⁶For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.
You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

L: ¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10

L: ^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

²For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

L: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

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

L: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

L: [Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume 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.”

L: The gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: Pastor Rick Mollenkopf-Grill

HYMN OF THE DAY: Bless Now, O God, the Journey

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,

The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.

then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
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*INVITATION TO LENT

L: Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed. We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

CONFESSION OF SIN

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Most holy and merciful God,

**ALL: we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault,
by our own fault,
by our own most grievous fault,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

L: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God.

L: We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God.

L: Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God.

L: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God.

L: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God.

L: Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God.

L: Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God.

L: Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

ALL: Have mercy on us, O God.

L: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

ALL: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

L: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May the ashes that we receive be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

ALL: Amen.

At this time, people may come forward to receive ashes. The minister will mark your forehead with a cross of ashes, saying "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

After finishing with the ashes, the minister continues.

L: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

ALL: that we may show forth your glory in the world.

L: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

ALL: bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

L: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

ALL: Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

L: Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Each prayer ends with these words:

L: Merciful God,

All: Receive our prayer.

L: Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

ALL: Amen.

***THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

L: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

All: And also with you.

*** Please greet one another creatively – being mindful of physical distancing – with a sign of Christ's peace from where you are seated.*

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

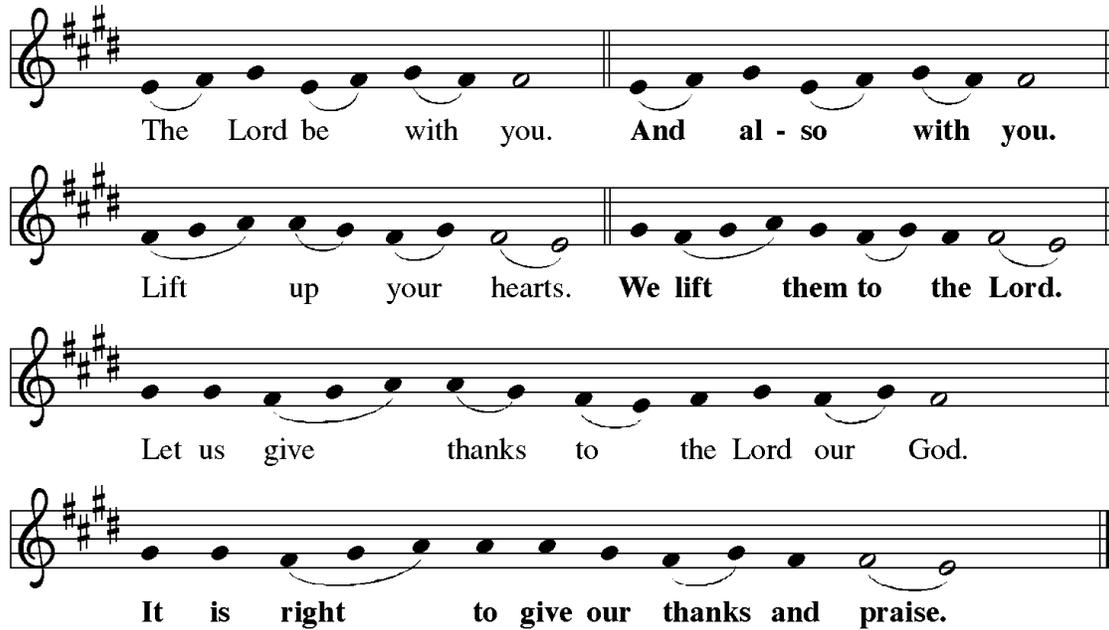
L: Let us pray together:

**All: Extravagant God,
you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.**

**Now we gather at your feast
where you offer us the food that satisfies.**

**Take and use what we offer here, come among us,
and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,
in whose name we pray.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



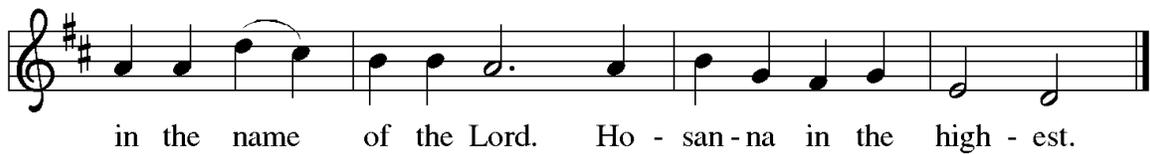
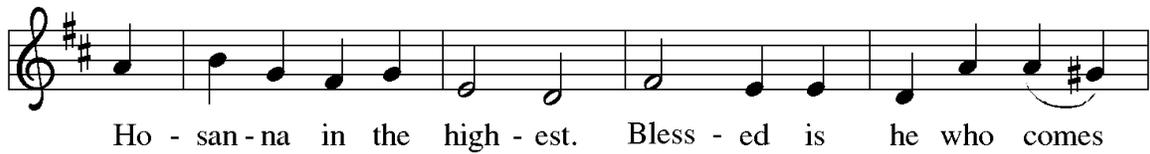
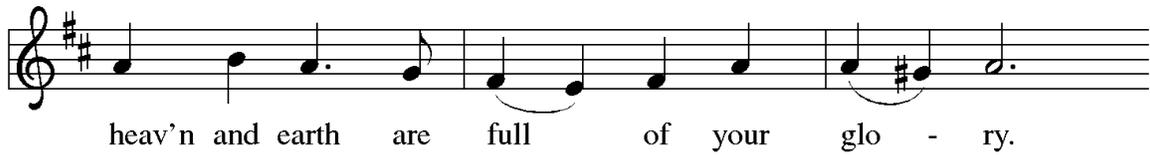
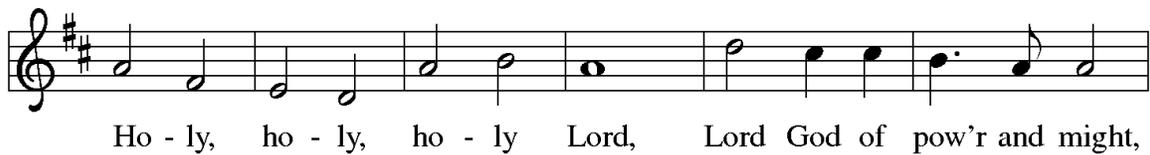
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



L: In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

L: Here is food and drink for the journey.
Take and be filled.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

The minister will give instruction on the distribution of communion.

HYMN: Restore in Us, O God

To be sung during the distribution of communion

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

L: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in God's grace, now and forever.

All: Amen.

***PRAYER**

L: Blessed Jesus,
in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need.

All: Amen.

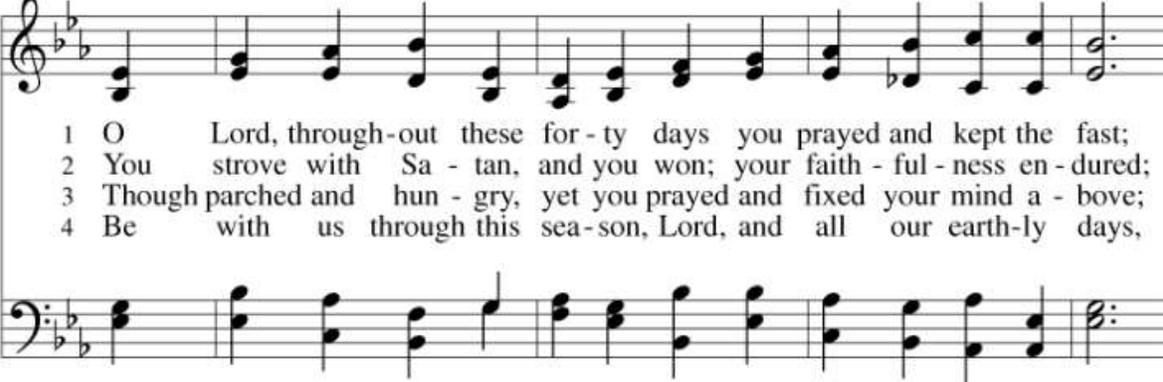
***BLESSING**

L: You are children of God,
anointed with the oil of gladness
and strengthened for the journey.
Almighty God,
motherly, majestic, and mighty,
✠ bless you this day and always.

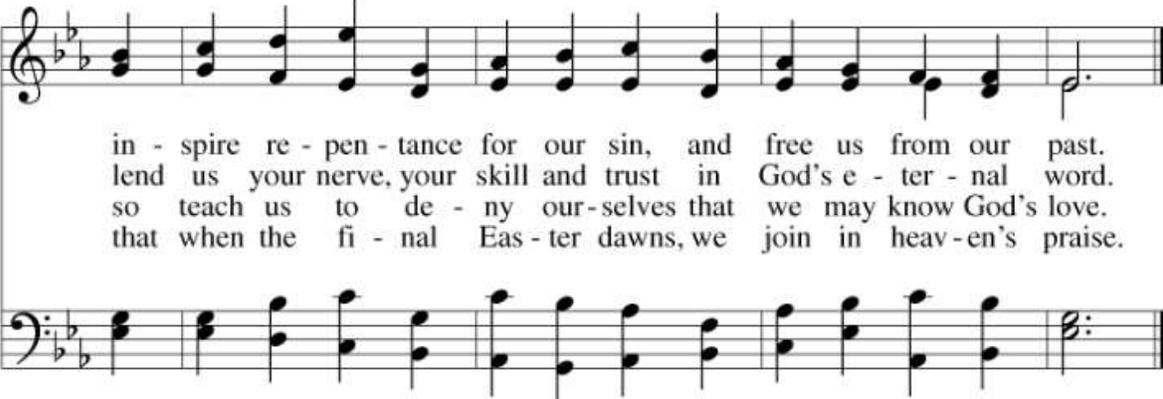
ALL: Amen

***SENDING HYMN: Lord, Throughout These Forty Days**

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



1 O Lord, through-out these for - ty days you prayed and kept the fast;
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your faith - ful - ness en - dured;
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind a - bove;
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and all our earth - ly days,



in - spire re - pen - tance for our sin, and free us from our past.
lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
so teach us to de - ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
that when the fi - nal Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan, b. 1930
Music: CAITHNESS. *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1635

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L: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

All: Thanks be to God.

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Lenten Midweek Devotions

Join us Wednesday evenings during Lent (March 9th through April 6th) from 6:30-7:15 as we take a look at *Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion through Ten Objects* by Jill L. Duffield. God is often at work through the ordinary: ordinary people, ordinary objects, ordinary grace. Through the ordinary, God communicates epiphanies, salvation, revelation, and reconciliation. It is through the mundane that we hear God's quiet voice. *Lent in Plain Sight* draws our attention to ten ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem.

This year our church will use the season of Lent to facilitate conversation and connection to each other and the meaning of this time in the church year. The goal of these devotions will be to focus on spiritual lessons and recognize how the seemingly ordinary can reveal the extraordinary presence of God in our lives.

Lenten Diaper Collection

This Lent the entire Upstate New York Synod is collecting...Diapers!

What are the consequences of diaper need? One in three families suffers from diaper need in the US. Based on present funding in NYS and many other areas in the US, diapers cannot be purchased with food stamps. Babies who remain too long in a soiled diaper are exposed to increased health risks and concerns. Diaper need creates additional stress and concern for the family as well. Most child care centers, even free and subsidized facilities, require parents to provide a day's supply of disposable diapers; therefore, many parents cannot go back to work or school if they cannot leave their babies at child care.

Trinity is joining in to do something about this! We are collecting size 4, 5 and 6 disposable diapers that will be donated to *All Babies Cherished* in Batavia, an agency that helps with the needs of young families through support, education and supplies. You can add to the diaper stack that will be growing in front of the altar during Lent starting March 6th and ending April 13th!

Upcoming:

- **Ash Wednesday** service will be March 2nd at 7:00pm
 - **Palm Sunday** is April 10th
 - **Maundy Thursday** is April 14th at: TBA
 - **Good Friday** is April 15th at 8:00 pm
 - **Easter Sunday** is April 17th at 9:30am