



## Union Lutheran Church

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### Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2023

10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

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*(Please stand when indicated by \*)*

Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) green hymnal ~ With One Voice (WOV) blue hymnal  
*Please place offering in the basket. All loose offering will go towards Mary Hutchens' Slovakia & Pastor Heidi Punt's Malawi & Puerto Rico mission trips.*

*Lights in the Sanctuary are low.*

Prelude: *I Lay My Sins on Jesus* (Slowins)

*Please observe in silence!*

### GATHERING

Opening Litany *Congregation is invited to sing. Bolded words are printed for convenience.*

P Have mercy on me, O God, according to your lovingkindness; in your great compassion blot out my offenses. (Psalm 51:1)

C **I lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God; He bears them all and frees us from the accursed load. I bring my guilt to Jesus to wash my crimson stains clean in his blood most precious till not a spot remains.** (Hymn LBW# 305 *I Lay My Sins on Jesus* stanza 1)

P Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin. (Psalm 51:2)

C **I lay my wants on Jesus; All fullness dwells in him; He heals all my diseases; My soul he does redeem. I lay my griefs on Jesus, my burdens and my cares; He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.** (Hymn LBW# 305 *I Lay My Sins on Jesus* stanza 2)

P For I know my transgressions, and sin is ever before me. (Psalm 51:3)

C **I rest my soul on Jesus, this weary soul of mine; His right hand me embraces; I on his breast recline. I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord; Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.** (Hymn LBW# 305 *I Lay My Sins on Jesus* stanza 3)

P Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight. (Psalm 51:4)

*A moment of intentional silence is observed at this time for personal reflection.*

\* Confession & Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P King David sinned against the Lord, committing adultery and murder. When he was confronted by the prophet Nathan, the king repented of his sins. In the Spirit-inspired words of a psalm, David expressed his

sorrow over his sins and his trust in God's mercy: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions." God, in his grace, forgave the repentant king. As we begin our Lenten journey on this Ash Wednesday, we repent of our sins and, using the words of David's psalm, we seek God's amazing grace and ask him to have mercy on us.

**C** "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight...Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities." (Psalm 51:1-4, 9)

**P** Just as he did in the life of his servant David, God has showered us with his grace, his undeserved favor for sinners. God sent his Son into the world to be our Savior. On the cross Jesus took onto himself the penalty of death that we deserved for our sins and now those sins are washed away in his blood. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen**

*The congregation is invited to sing. Bolded words are printed for convenience.*

**L** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. (Hymn WOV# 732 *Create in Me a Clean Heart*)

**C** **Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free spirit.** (Hymn WOV# 732 *Create in Me a Clean Heart*)

Imposition of Ashes *Please lean forward in your pew or kneel.*

**P** In repentant humility, the Old Testament figure Job said, "I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes." (Job 42:6) In ancient times, God's people often demonstrated sorrow for their sins by putting dust and ashes on their heads, a reminder of the penalty of death decreed in Eden, when God said, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." (Genesis 3:19) Today on Ash Wednesday, as we begin our journey to the cross with Jesus, we remember that we are sinners and that we need a Savior. We receive a mark of ashes in the sign of a cross, remembering that, on the cross, Jesus took onto himself the penalty to death for our sins. You are invited to come forward and receive the mark of ashes.

*The congregation is invited to come forward by the direction of the ushers. After receiving the ashes, please return down the side aisle and remain quietly and reflective in your pew.*

*Lights are turned up in the Sanctuary.*

\* Promise of Christ

**P** Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

**C** **that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

**P** By the cross and passion of your Son, our Lord,

**C** **bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

**P** In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake, God forgives you all your sins. By his Holy Spirit,

may he grant you true repentance, that you may live with him in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

## WORD

Old Testament Lesson: 2 Samuel 12:1-13

And the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, “There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor.<sup>2</sup> The rich man had very many flocks and herds,<sup>3</sup> but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. And he brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children. It used to eat of his morsel and drink from his cup and lie in his arms, and it was like a daughter to him.<sup>4</sup> Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him.”<sup>5</sup> Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, “As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die,<sup>6</sup> and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.”<sup>7</sup> Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul.<sup>8</sup> And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more.<sup>9</sup> Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.<sup>10</sup> Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.’<sup>11</sup> Thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house. And I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun.<sup>12</sup> For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun.’”<sup>13</sup> David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” And Nathan said to David, “The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

New Testament Lesson: Romans 4:4-8

<sup>4</sup> Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due.  
<sup>5</sup> And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,<sup>6</sup> just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;<sup>8</sup> blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

\* Lenten Response *Congregation is invited to sing. Bolded words are printed for convenience.*

C **Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought life creation,  
Word that came from heav'n to die, crucified for our salvation,  
saving Word, the world restoring, speak to us, your love  
outpouring.** (Hymn WOV# 716 *Word of God, Come Down on Earth* stanza 2)

\* Holy Gospel: Luke 15:8-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>8</sup>“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: *What's the Return Policy?*

Pastor Heidi Punt

Anthem: *Kind Maker of the World* (attributed to Gregory the Great)

\* Nicene Creed LBW p. 84

\* Prayer of the Church & Sharing of the Peace LBW p. 85-86

### MEAL

\* Great Thanksgiving & Sanctus LBW p. 88-89

\* Words of Institution LBW p 89

\* Lord's Prayer LBW p. 91

Lamb of God & Distribution of Communion LBW p. 92

*At Union Lutheran Church the Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday. All baptized Christians who believe in the real presence of Christ in the Lord's Supper are invited to commune. All who do not commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. For those who prefer individually sealed units please indicate. Gluten Free wafers and grape juice are also available upon request. Please fill out a communion card located in the pew and hand to the Usher while following their directions to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.*

\* Post-Communion Canticle (“Lord, now you let your servant...”) LBW p. 93

\* Post-Communion Prayer LBW p. 94

### SENDING

\* Benediction LBW p. 95

\* HYMN: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* LBW# 448

\* Prediction of the Passion

P Behold, we are going to Jerusalem...And the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, who will condemn him to death...And they will hand him over to the Gentiles who will mock him and scourge him, and finally, they will crucify him...But on the third day, he will rise.

*As we entered quietly...we also exit quietly.*

*Lights are turned down low.*

Postlude: *I Lay My Sins on Jesus* (Slowins)

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Lutheran Book of Worship Setting 2 (p. 77-97)

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