# AN ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

# STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

Ash Wednesday February 17, 2021

#### AS WE GATHER FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

As we enter the Lenten season, we encounter a significant problem: we have fallen into sin just as Adam and Eve did, which means we are banished from the Garden of Eden just as they were. The wages of sin is death, and without access to the tree of life, we are all doomed to die. We are dust, and to dust we shall return. Yet, in Jesus, we find that we are not doomed to dust forever, but Jesus will raise us from the dead to join Him in a new Eden, a new paradise forever.



# **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

#### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO LENTEN WORSHIP

David Garcia, *Organ* Pastor Stephen Heimer

My family in Christ: God created us to experience joy in communion with Him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all of His creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so we do not and cannot enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. Also, by our sin we grieve our Heavenly Father Who does not desire us to come under His judgment, but to turn to Him and live.

As disciples of the Lord Jesus we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor and His mission of mercy to our world. Repentance, the daily remembrance of our baptism, prayer, worship, and works of love and mercy – the very disciplines of Lent – strengthen us. I invite you, therefore to commit yourselves to this Lenten renewal, to confess your sins, and ask our Heavenly Father for His Spirit's strength to grow in your love for Him and your obedience to Him in this sacred season of Lent.



"O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days" LSB 418



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#### INVOCATION

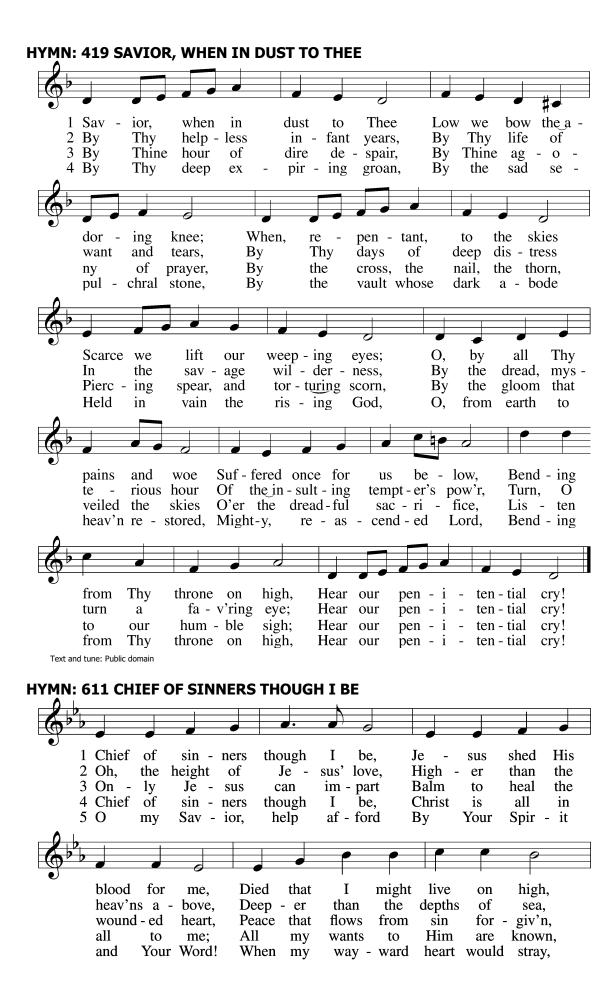
- ightharpoonup In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.
- **P** We begin our Lenten journey toward the cross.
- **W**e follow Jesus through the wilderness.
- **P** We commit ourselves to prayer and fasting.
- **©** We commit ourselves to serving God and our neighbors.
- **P** We remember our mortality.
- **©** We remember God's mercy.
- **P** For as Adam, we came from the dust,
- and to dust we shall return.
- P As Adam, we have sinned,
- **and we need God's forgiveness.**

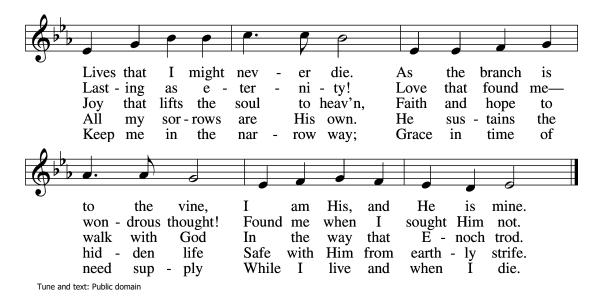
#### **CONFESSION**

- **P** Most holy and merciful Father:
- We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
- We have not loved You with our whole heart, and soul, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.
- Have mercy on us, Lord.
- **P** We have been deaf 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.
- Have mercy on us, Lord.
- P We confess to you lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives.
- **W**e confess to you Lord.
- P Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people.
- **W**e confess to you Lord.
- P Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those whom we perceive as more fortunate than ourselves.
- **W**e confess to you Lord.
- P Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts and compromise of our Christian integrity in daily life and work.
- **W**e confess to you Lord.
- P Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
- **W**e confess to you Lord.
- P Accept our repentance, heavenly father for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
- Accept our repentance for the sake of Your Son, Jesus.
- P For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
- Accept our repentance for the sake of Your Son, Jesus.
- P For our waste and pollution of your creation, our lack of concern physically and spiritually for those who come after us, our own children and grandchildren,
- Accept our repentance for the sake of Your Son, Jesus.
- P Receive us and restore us for your mercy is great.
- **G** Amen.

## **IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

You are invited to come forward to receive the sign of the cross, drawn with ashes upon your forehead, to remember that in your baptism your heavenly Father has raised you from ashes and dust, has breathed into you His Holy Spirit, and is recreating you for His mission. This year you will be ushered forward one household at a time. Please remain standing and ashes will be applied using a new, unused Q-tip for each individual person. After receiving the ashes and returning to your seat, you are encouraged to join in the singing of our selected hymns or turn to the Bible or to the Psalm section in front of the Hymnal and read Psalm 32; 51; 119 or other personally selected psalms.





ABSOLUTION Psalm 103:1–14

- P Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits,
- P who forgives all your iniquity,
- who heals all your diseases,
- P who redeems your life from the pit,
- who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
- **P** who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.
- P He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the people of Israel.
- The Lord is merciful and gracious,
- **P** slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- He will not always chide, nor will He keep His anger forever.
- P He does not deal with us according to our sins,
- on nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- **P** For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
- so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him;
- **P** as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us.
- As a father shows compassion to His children,
- **P** so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear Him.
- **©** For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.
- P Even though we are dust and ashes, God removes our sin and makes us whiter than snow through the blood of Christ. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen. God has removed our sin as far as the east is from the west.

## + WORD +

# SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You created us in Your holy image, but through our continuous sin, we have been poor reflections of You. Strengthen us throughout this season to put away sin and selfish ambition, so that we may journey toward the cross and empty tomb with all humility and patience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT** (Adam and Eve fall into sin. God reminds them that they will die and return to dust.) Genesis 3

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" <sup>2</sup>And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup>but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die." <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup>For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

<sup>8</sup>And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup>And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

<sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

<sup>16</sup>To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

<sup>17</sup>And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; <sup>18</sup>thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

<sup>20</sup>The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. <sup>21</sup>And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. <sup>22</sup>Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" <sup>23</sup>therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. <sup>24</sup>He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

#### Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE** (We have borne the image of Adam, but we shall bear the image of Christ) 1 Corinthians 15:45–58

<sup>45</sup>Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup>But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup>The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup>As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup>Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven. <sup>50</sup>I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. <sup>51</sup>Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, <sup>52</sup>in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup>For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. <sup>54</sup>When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

"Death is swallowed up in victory."

55"O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?"

<sup>56</sup>The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup>But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>58</sup>Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

## Thanks be to God.

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup>And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>And he said to them, "Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. <sup>11</sup>And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." <sup>12</sup>So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. <sup>13</sup>And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

#### **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The Second Article and Meaning

- [I believe] in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- P What does this mean?
- I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil;
- P Not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,
- That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,
- P Just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.
- This is most certainly true.

What kind of love is

this?

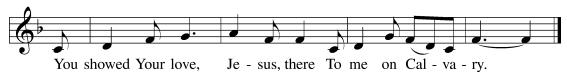


of love

is

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What kind



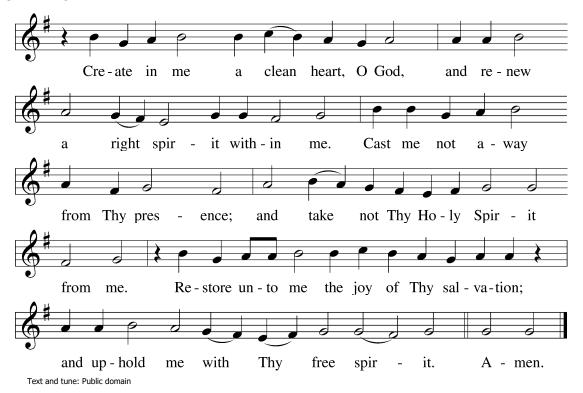
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SERMON Bold Love: "The Bold Solution"

#### **OFFERING**

## **OFFERTORY**



#### + SACRAMENT +

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- The Lord be with you also.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **W**e lift them up to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- We offer our thanksgiving of lips and life; our duty and delight.
- We thank you, Almighty Lord, that You are the God of all humankind, that You are not ashamed to be called our God, that You know us by our name, that You keep the world in Your hands. For You have made us and called us in this life to be united to You, to be Your people on this earth. Blessed are You, Maker of all that exists. Blessed are You for You have given us space and time to live in. Blessed are You for the light of our eyes and the air we breathe. We thank You for the whole of creation, for all the works of Your hands, for all You have done in our midst, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore, we praise Your majesty, Almighty God, with all Your faithful people; therefore, we bow our hearts before You now and worship You:
- Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come. You alone are worthy, Lord our God to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and are preserved. Worthy alone is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and treasure and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise. To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, forever and ever. Amen! (Revelation 4, 5)

P Blessed are You, Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, blessed are You. Before the foundation of the world, You chose us to be Your children. You have freed us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of Your dear Son, the very image and reflection of Your glory. For Him the universe was made. In Him we have received redemption and forgiveness of sins.

Therefore, Lord, our God, we commemorate that Christ had to suffer and die, but most of all that He is the firstborn from the dead, the firstborn of the whole creation; that glorified at Your right hand, He speaks for us; and that He will come to judge the living and the dead on the day that You have appointed. We pray, Lord our God, send us Your Holy Spirit, Your Spirit Who brings to life the power of Jesus Christ in us. We pray that we may surrender ourselves completely to Your service, and that, in the midst of this world, and before the eyes of all Your people, we may live Your gospel and be the sign of Your peace; that we may be opened to the poor, the sick, and the dying, and to all who are in need, that so we may be the Church of Jesus Christ, united with all faithful people everywhere. Through Him and with Him, and in Him You are blessed and praised, Lord our God, Almighty Father, in union with the Holy Spirit, today and unto endless day, forever.

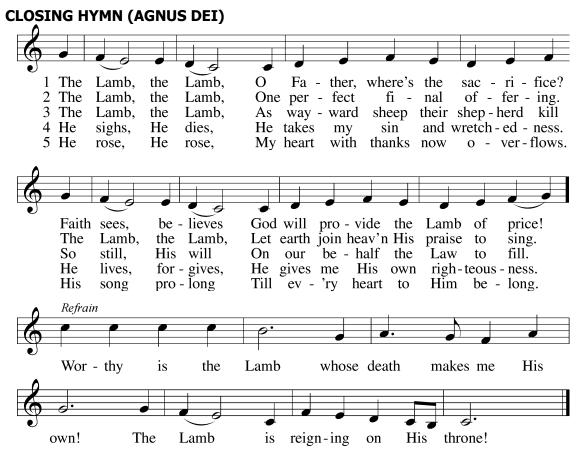
Amen.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

"The Lamb" LSB 547



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#### **BENEDICAMUS**

- P Let us bless the Lord
- Thanks be to God.

#### **BENEDICTION**

P The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the ¼ Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless and preserve you.

## C Amen.

#### +++

# **Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion.**

Here our Heavenly Father promises anew His unconditional love, renews His pledge of forgiveness in Christ, and offers His Holy Spirit as strength for daily faith and life. If you are a visitor to Zion, we invite you in the Name of Jesus to commune with us. However, since God reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-32), the Scriptures call those who commune to personally examine themselves and in their communing publicly confess:

- + I am a baptized Christian and I trust in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.
- + I am a sinner in need of God's forgiveness.
- → I believe that Christ is truly present with His body and blood under the bread and wine offering me forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.
- $\pm$  Through His grace and strength, I will live to God's glory, in ministry with His people, in mission to His world.

For those communicants preferring it, a light-colored, non-alcoholic grape juice can be found at the center of each tray of wine (fruit of the vine). Children are invited to accompany parents to the altar for the blessing. We trust that your communion with Christ and His people will strengthen your faith, increase your love, and empower your witness to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have questions about your communing, please speak with the Pastor.



## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son to suffer the death we deserve and rise from the dust to guarantee our resurrection from the dead. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

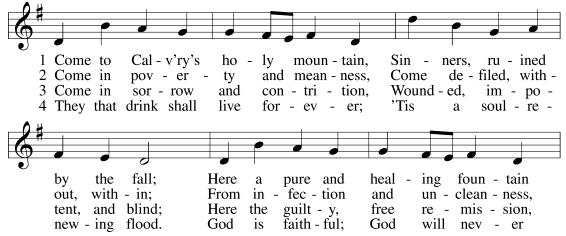
Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, liberate, and defend us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

# C Amen.

#### THE WORD'S OF OUR LORD

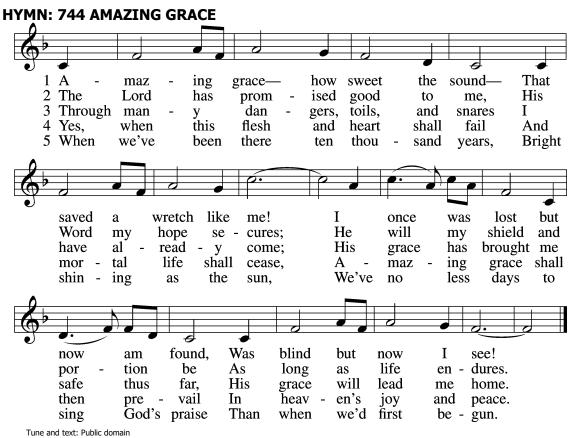
#### COMMUNION RECEPTION AND HYMNS

# **HYMN: 435 COME TO CALVARY'S HOLY MOUNTAIN**





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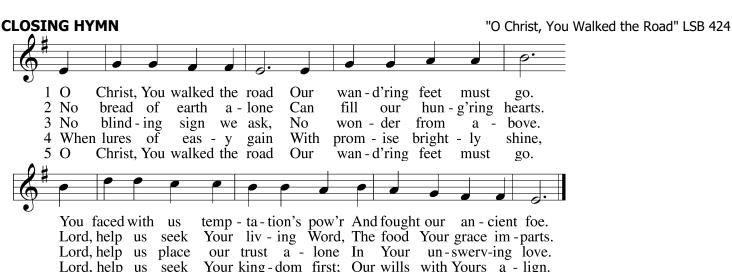
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#### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Almighty and ever living God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, assuring us that we are truly members of His body the church. We ask You to strengthen us by Your Holy Spirit that we may continue in this Communion and as Your workmanship live the life of mercy for which You have prepared us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, to Whom, with You and the same Spirit, be all honor and glory, forever and ever. Amen.

#### **EVENING PRAYER**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



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Stay with us through temp - ta - tion's hour To fight

our an - cient foe.

#### **BENEDICTION**

- The grace of our Lord 
   → Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C Amen.

+ + +

# **LENTEN THEME - "BOLD LOVE"**

The world needs Christians who are bold in faith and Spirit-inspired love. This Lent we gather mid-week for renewal and inspiration in the bold love of Jesus. Many Christians are well aware of what took place on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. But what took place on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of

Holy Week? These three days contain bold action of Jesus, bold teaching, and bold confrontation with the religious leaders. Ash Wednesday reminds us of Christ's bold solution to the dreadful problem of sin and death. The other five midweek services of this series explore the "Bold" events that took place between Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday. May the Holy Spirit kindle bold faith and love in us this Lenten season.

Feb 17	Genesis 3:19	"Bold Solution"
Feb 24	Mark 11:15-19	"Bold Action"
March 3	Mark 12:28-37	"Bold Questions"
March 10	Matthew 23:1-12	"Bold Teaching"
March 17	John 12:23-36	"Bold Final Appearance"

March 24 Luke 22:1–6 "Bold Deal"



#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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