



Zion Lutheran Church – LCMS
20-141 County Road X – P.O. Box 37 – Ridgeville Corners, OH 43555
Phone: (419)267-3429 Email: zionrco@bright.net
Education Hour 8:45 AM - Divine Worship 10:00 AM
Communion First and Third Sundays
Rev. Dr. Carl Rockrohr, Pastor
Phone: (419)267-3429 Email: pastor.zionrco@bright.net

Ash Wednesday
March 2, 2022

Visitors are encouraged to note their attendance by filling out the "Welcome" side (blue print) of the pew cards and putting the card into the offering plate.

Ashes were "a means to denote humiliation, sorrow, worthlessness, or purification. As a symbol of humility, ashes often were coupled with other items. When Abraham approached Yahweh, he referred to himself as dust and ashes (Gen. 18:27). Similarly, Daniel fasted and dressed himself in sackcloth and ashes (Dan. 9:3; cf. Matt. 11:21). ...Ashes commonly were used to express grief. Jeremiah encouraged the nation to mourn over the coming destruction by rolling in ashes (Jer. 6:26; cf. Job 2:8). Comparing something to ashes suggested the worthlessness of the object (Job 13:12) or its destruction (Ezek. 28:18; Job 30:19)." *Article on "Ashes" from Eerdmann's Bible Dictionary, copyright 2000*

There will be an opportunity for the "Imposition of Ashes" for all worshipers. This ancient Christian practice is a rite which reminds us of both the penalty of death upon our sinful human nature and also of God's promises of cleansing for His people. (Ashes can be used in simple recipes for making soap.) Once the mix of ashes and olive oil have been put on the worshiper's forehead they can remain there for the duration of the worship service until one reaches home after worship.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Tolling of Tower Bells

(Silent Entrance of the Pastor. Congregation stands when indicated by Pastor.)

P: Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.
Silence for reflection.

P: O Lord,
C: have mercy.
P: O Christ,
C: have mercy.
P: O Lord,
C: have mercy.
P: O Christ,
C: hear us.

P: God the Father, in heaven,
C: have mercy.
P: God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
C: have mercy.
P: God the Holy Spirit.
C: have mercy.

P: Be gracious to us.
C: Spare us, good Lord.
P: Be gracious to us.
C: Help us, good Lord.
P: By the mystery of Your holy incarnation;
by Your holy nativity;
by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation;
by Your agony and bloody sweat;
by Your cross and Passion;
by Your precious death and burial;
by Your glorious resurrection and ascension;
and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:
C: Help us, good Lord.

P: In all time of our tribulation;
in all time of our prosperity;
in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:
C: Help us, good Lord.
P: We poor sinners implore You
C: to hear us, O Lord.
P: To prosper the preaching of Your Word;
to bless our prayer and meditation;

to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith;
to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

C: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P: To draw all to Yourself;
to bless those who are instructed in the faith,
to watch over and console the poor, the sick,
the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers; to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy; and to have mercy on us all:

C: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P: To turn our hearts to You; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers:

C: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C: we implore You to hear us.

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy.

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy.

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: grant us Your peace.

P: O Christ,

C: hear us.

P: O Lord,

C: have mercy.

P: O Christ,

C: have mercy.

P: O Lord,

C: have mercy. Amen.

P: O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The congregation sits.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Those who wish to receive ashes come forward in a continuous line. The pastor applies mixture of ashes and olive oil to the forehead of each person with the words:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

After all desiring to receive ashes have returned to their places, the Pastor indicates for all to stand and say:

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you 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; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all Your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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.

Period of Silence

Collect for Ash Wednesday

P: 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 obtain from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading Joel 2:12-20

12 "Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; 13 and rend your hearts and not your garments."

Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. 14 Who 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? 15 Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; 16 gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber.

17 Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep and say, "Spare your people, O Lord, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

18 Then the Lord became jealous for his land and had pity on his people. 19 The Lord answered and said to his people "Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations. 20 I will remove the northerner far from you, and drive him into a parched and desolate land, his vanguard into the eastern sea, and his rear guard into the western sea; the stench and foul smell of him will rise, for he has done great things."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

1 Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. 2 For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. 3 We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, 4 but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, 5 beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; 6 by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; 7 by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8 through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; 9 as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; 10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

1 “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

2 “Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

5 “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 6 But when 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.

7 “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. 8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. 9 Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.

10 Your kingdom come,
your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread,

12 and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

14 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, 15 but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

16 “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 17 But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18 that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymn

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now (vs 1-4)

LSB 440

Sermon

“Psalm 91 – Our Home Is Found in the Lord Himself” (See insert.)

Hymn

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now (vs 5-6)
(Offering brought forward on verse 6)

LSB 440

Prayers of Zion Lutheran Church

O God of forgiveness, You know the transgressions of our hearts, bodies and minds. Break our hearts over our sins, and cleanse and renew them by Your Holy Word and Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed Lord, You have called Your people to be reconciled to You in Christ. Grant steadfast, pure and courageous hearts to Your pastors, that through all things they would remain ministers of Your grace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You instruct Your people in the way of righteousness. Grant us faithful hearts, that in the Lenten days to come, we would serve You and our fellow man in selfless love and find our reward only in You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, You blot out transgressions and wash away iniquity. Sustain the families of Your Church, that husbands, wives and children would be cleansed from their sins and live together in peace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty Father and King over all, You alone establish all authority on earth. Bless those entrusted with this responsibility both here and abroad, that they would serve with integrity and honor and for the well-being of all – we remember before Your throne of grace and power, our military persons, chaplains, police, sheriffs, national guard and all other law enforcement. Thank you for, and please protect, all who serve us in rescue, firefighting, emergency and medical services.

Grant that all warfare and division in the world, conflict and strife in our country would give way to unity, peace and quietness. Grant Your mercy to those suffering and mourning now in the midst of war. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, behold in mercy all who are sick, who suffer and who rejoice. Be with all expectant mothers, all whose work is dangerous, the unemployed, those near death and those who mourn. Comfort us who are dust and must return to dust, with the promise that a broken and contrite heart You will not despise. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

LSB 427

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Zion Lutheran Prayer adapted from LC-MS Three-Year Series Prayers - <https://www.lcms.org/worship/three-year-series-prayers>

LENT and HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Time
March 2 Ash Wednesday	Psalm 91	1:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Wed., March 9	Psalm 4	1:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Wed., March 16	Psalm 85	1:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Wed., March 23	Psalm 32	1:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Wed., March 30	Psalm 126	1:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Wed., April 6	Psalm 31:5, 9-16	1:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Thursday, April 14 Maundy Thursday	Psalm 116:12-19 (With Holy Communion)	1:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Friday, April 15 Good Friday	Psalm 22	1:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Resurrection Sunday April 17	Psalm 118:1, 15-29 (With Holy Communion)	10:00 am