

Ash Wednesday
*Abbreviated Service of Prayer and
Preaching for video*
February 17, 2021 7:00pm



*Worshippers are asked to keep reverent silence before the service
and leave the service in silence*

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL.'



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'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'

Rev. Thomas A. Rhodes, Pastor

PO Box 5 • 600 East Aldrich Road • Bolivar, MO 65613

Phone: 417-326-5506 • www.zionlutheranbolivar.org

zionbolivar@windstream.net

Administrative Assistant – Sonya Gorman



AS WE GATHER

Brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a season of prayerful and repentant reflection. The 40 days of Lent are set aside as a time to take a look at our daily walk with God. 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, instruction, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws life and hope from it. Let us together 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 Lenten season for us that we may come to Easter

with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

We have a mission statement that says we are *Hearing, Sharing and Living the Gospel!* As we seek to fulfill that mission, perhaps listening to “others” who have lived and shared the Gospel would be helpful. So, this year our Lenten journey brings us to the cross through the words of “the others,” “the them,” “the they.” Some of “them” are those who watched, and some are “others” who participated in Jesus going to Golgotha. From what “they said” we hear the witness of those who were there to see it and, in some cases, move the events along.

What ‘*They*’ said as Jesus went to Calvary

Matt 26:19-25 *Surely not I, Rabbi?* (Ash Wednesday)

Matt 26:59-66 *He is worthy of death*

Matt 26:69-75 *I do not know the man*

John 18:33-38 *What is truth?*

Matt 27:22-26 *Let His blood be on us and on our children*

Luke 23:38-43 *Lord, remember me*

Luke 23:44-47 *Surely this was a righteous man*
(Good Friday)

The ashes, that we will use at the opening of next week's Wednesday Lenten service, are prepared by burning palm branches. Their use suggests, in a dramatic way, God's judgment and condemnation of sin, also our frailty and total dependence on God, as well as our humiliation and repentance. The words spoken as ashes are imposed, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," were first spoken to Adam after his fall into sin. We are forcefully reminded of the words of the committal in the Burial Service, "...earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust." Ashes also, however, speak of cleansing and renewal. Ashes were once used as a cleaning agent. Thus, ashes imposed in the shape of a cross symbolize both judgment *and* baptismal cleansing.

Ash Wednesday

What *'They'* said as Jesus went to Calvary
Service of Prayer and Preaching, LSB 260
February 17, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Invocation

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P We begin in the name into which we are baptized; In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Hymn

LSB 419 sts. 1-4

“Savior, When in Dust to Thee”

Hear now and join-in in your hearts
the reading from psalm 51...

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!

³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.

⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

⁶ Behold, you delight in truth in the inward
being, and you teach me wisdom in the
secret heart.

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be
clean;

wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right^[b] spirit within me.

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

¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Using now the form for

**+ INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND
ABSOLUTION + from LSB 292**

**☐ Pastor, please hear my confession
and pronounce forgiveness in order to**

**fulfill God's will. I, a poor sinner,
plead guilty before God of all sins.
I have lived as if God did not matter
and as if I mattered most. My Lord's
name I have not honored as I should;
my worship and prayers have faltered.
I have not let His love have its way
with me, and so my love for others has
failed. There are those whom I have
hurt, and those whom I have failed to
help. My thoughts and desires have
been soiled with sin.**

**What troubles me particularly is that .
.. *(in the silence of our hearts we confess
what troubles us)***

P Having confessed our sins, we say...

C I am sorry for all of this and ask for grace. I want to do better.

P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

P Do you believe that my forgiveness is God's forgiveness?

C Yes.

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Reading from Holy Scripture *LSB 263*

Reading *Matthew 26:19-25*

19 So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover.

20 When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve.

21 And while they were eating, he said, “I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me.”

22 They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, “Surely not I, Lord?”

23 Jesus replied, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me.

24 The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man

who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.”

25 Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Responsory

LSB 263

P We have an advocate with the Father;
Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C He was delivered up to death, He
was delivered for the sins of the people.

P Blessed is the one whose transgression
is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C He was delivered up to death, He
was delivered for the sins of the people.

P We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C He was delivered up to death, He was delivered for the sins of the people.

Hymn of the Day

LSB 418 sts. 1-4

“O Lord, throughout These Forty Days”

Homily

Pastor Tom Rhodes

“Surely not I, Rabbi?”

Collect of the Day

LSB 265

P Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and

forgiveness; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer *Matthew 6:9-13, LSB 264*

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.

Blessing

LSB 267

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the
Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve us.

C Amen.

*We keep a reverent silence as we now go forth in the joy of God's
forgiveness to serve the Lord.*