



ASH WEDNESDAY

Northdale Lutheran Church & Academy

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“WE GROW IN GOD’S WORD SO THAT WE CAN GO WITH GOD’S WORD”

Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024

Welcome to Northdale Lutheran! We are so glad you are joining us to proclaim what God has done and to sing his praises. Here the Lord also comes to us and strengthens us with his mighty Word. Take a moment to meet and greet those around you! Also:

- ❖ Restrooms are in the entrance and through the nursery hallway.



- ❖ Handicapped accessible restroom facilities are located through the nursery hallway and back in the preschool area.
- ❖ To help keep the sanctuary as a quiet place of worship and meditation and for your convenience, a Nursing Mother’s Room is available in the back of the sanctuary. This is a private place for nursing mother’s and infant children if needed during worship. Please ask an usher if you have need of assistance.
- ❖ There are “Busy Bags” available for young children. They are hanging on the wall next to the organ. Parents - Please keep the busy bags clean and in order before hanging them back up.

A purple robe, a crown of thorn, a reed in his right hand, before the soldiers' spite and scorn I see my Savior stand.

He bears between the Roman guard the weight of all our woe; a stumbling figure bowed and scarred I see my Savior go.

He hangs, by whom the world was made, beneath the darkened sky; the everlasting ransom paid, I see my Savior die.

He shares on high his Father's throne who once in mercy came; For all his love to sinners shown I sing my Savior's name.

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Instruction for Lent

God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, from our fellow man, and from all creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us.

By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire for us to come under his judgment, but turn to him and live.

Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the Law, to suffer for us, and die the death that we deserve.

During these 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who endured the cross scorning its shame, yet who conquered death only to sit down at the right hand of the Father.

The time of Lent reminds us, to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know his sufferings becoming like him in his death.

Therefore, we begin this evening with our confession of sins and turn to our Savior for his mercy.

Our Confession

P: We confess to you, our God, this night that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.

C: Have mercy on us, O Lord.

P: We confess all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives.

C: Have mercy on us, O Christ.

P: We confess our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people.

C: Have mercy on us, blessed Savior.

P: For our anger when our selfish aims are denied, and for our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves.

C: Have mercy on us, O Jesus.

P: For our love of worldly comforts and for our dishonesty in our daily work and life.

C: Have mercy on us, O Lord.

P: For our blindness to human need and suffering, for our indifference to injustice and cruelty.

C: Have mercy on us, O Christ.

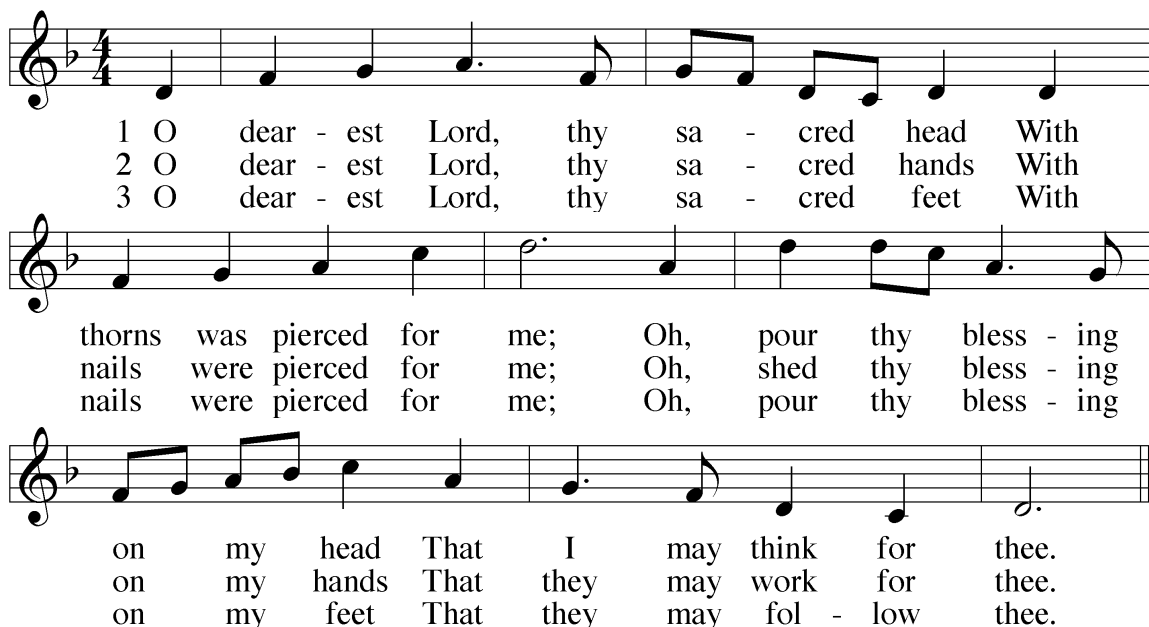
P: For our negligence in worship and prayer, for our failure to show the faith that is in us.

C: Have mercy on us, blessed Savior.

P: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger and condemnation depart from us.

C: Hear us, O Lord, for your mercy is great.

HYMN, CW 118, "O DEAREST LORD THY SACRED HEAD" vs. 1-3



1 O dear - est Lord, thy sa - cred head With
 2 O dear - est Lord, thy sa - cred hands With
 3 O dear - est Lord, thy sa - cred feet With

thorns was pierced for me; Oh, pour thy bless - ing
 nails were pierced for me; Oh, shed thy bless - ing
 nails were pierced for me; Oh, pour thy bless - ing

on my head That I may think for thee.
 on my hands That they may work for thee.
 on my feet That they may fol - low thee.

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 Savior

C: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection

P: Almighty God, you have had mercy on us. You have forgiven all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ. May you strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of your Holy Spirit keep us through this life unto the eternal life to come.

C: Amen

HYMN, CW 118, "O DEAREST LORD THY SACRED HEAD" vs. 4

**4 O dearest Lord, thy sacred heart With spear was pierced for me;
 Oh, pour thy Spirit in my heart That I may live for thee.**

The Passion History Reading

(Taken from the 4 Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)



Jesus' Readiness To Suffer And Die

Now the feast of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover, was approaching. Jesus said to his disciples, "As you know, the Passover is two days away and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified."

Then the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the High Priest, whose name was Caiaphas. They plotted to arrest Jesus in some sly way and kill him. "But not during the feast," they said, "or there may be a riot among the people."

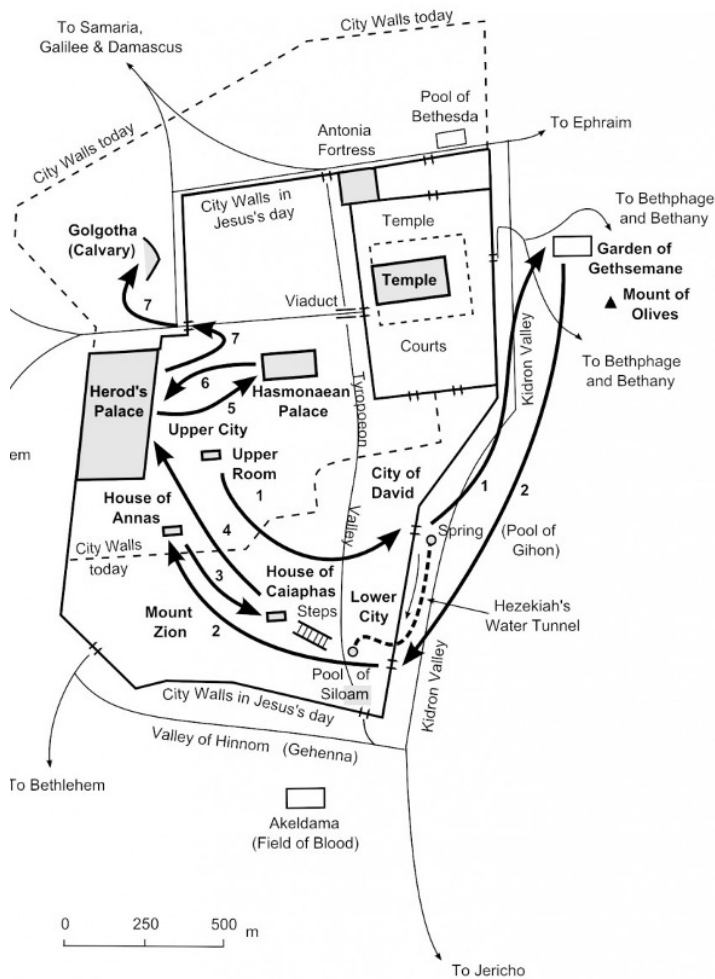
Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the twelve. Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus. They were delighted and agreed to give him money. Judas asked, "What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?" They counted out for him thirty silver coins. He consented, and watched for an opportunity to hand Jesus over to them when no crowd was present.

On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus sent two of his disciples, Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

"Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked.

He replied, "Go into the city. As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters. Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher says, my appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house. Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So the disciples did as Jesus directed them and prepared the Passover.



In the evening at the proper hour, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat of it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

A dispute arose among them as to which of them was considered to be the greatest. Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them are given the title Benefactor. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. For who is greater? The one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have

stood by me in my trials. And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.

The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God, so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciple's feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

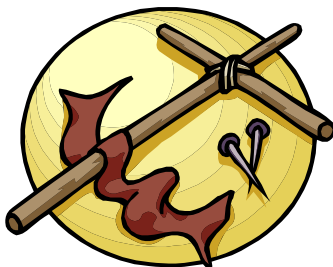
He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." For he knew who was going to betray him, and that is why he said not everyone was clean. Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

"Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well."

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you should also wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Once you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.



HYMN, CW #410 "ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED"



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and
 2 Was it for crimes that I had done he
 3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and
 4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while
 5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay the



did my Sov - 'reign die? Would he de - vote that
 groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,
 shut its glo - ries in when God, the might - y
 his dear cross ap - pears, dis - solve my heart in
 debt of love I owe; here, Lord, I give my -



sa - cred head for such a worm as I?
 grace un - known, and love be - yond de - gree!
 mak - er, died for his own crea - tures' sin.
 thank - ful - ness, and melt my eyes to tears.
 self a - way— 'tis all that I can do.

Sermon Text: Joel 2:12-19

¹²“Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.”

¹³Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. ¹⁴Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing— grain offerings and drink offerings for the Lord your God.

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly. ¹⁶Gather the people, consecrate the assembly; bring together the elders, gather the children, those nursing at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her chamber. ¹⁷Let the priests, who minister before the Lord, weep between the portico and the altar. Let them say, “Spare your people, Lord. Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’”

¹⁸Then the Lord was jealous for his land and took pity on his people. ¹⁹The Lord replied to them: “I am sending you grain, new wine and olive oil, enough to satisfy you fully; never again will I make you an object of scorn to the nations.

Sermon Theme:

A Heart for Lent

1. Acknowledges Personal Sin
2. Is Filled with Salvation

HYMN, CW #402 “GLORY BE TO JESUS”



Closing Prayer & Blessing

Closing Hymn, CW #592 "All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night"

1 All praise to thee, my God, this night For all the
2 Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as
3 When in the night I sleep - less lie, My soul with

bles - ings of the light. Keep me, oh, keep me,
lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die so
heav'n - ly thoughts sup - ply; Let no ill dreams dis -

King of kings, Be - neath thine own al - might -
that I may Rise glo - rious at the awe -
turb my rest, No pow'rs of dark - ness me

y wings. For - give me, Lord, for thy dear
full day. Oh, may my soul on thee re -
dis - tress. Praise God, from whom all bless - ings

Son The ill that I this day have
pose And may sweet I sleep mine eye - lids
flow; Praise him, all crea - tures here be -

done, That with the world, my - self, and thee
close, Sleep that shall me more vig - rous make
low; Praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host;

I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
To serve my God when I a - wake.
Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.