

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 2, 2022

Imposition of Ashes



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

Phone: 320-684-2123 (1-877-684-2123) Fax: 320-684-2836

E-mail address: blcmalmo@gmail.com

Church Web Site: blcmalmo.org

Pastor James Muske

320-583-5796

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN 218-839-8193

Kathy Berland RN ANP 218-838-6181

Prayer Chain Contacts: Char Berg 320-684-2102

or Darlene Christensen 218-839-8193

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

MISSION STATEMENT

We will LIVE and SERVE through FAITH

we will ACT with LOVE and KINDNESS

we will GIVE hope and SUPPORT to all.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER AND CARE: Steve Lackner (knee replacement)

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES will continue in person thru out the Lent Season. Services will be at 5:30pm.

END OF LIFE SEMINARS Our next End of Life session will be on Wednesday, March 16 at 11 am. Bethesda parishioner Cindy Perrson, a RN and public health nurse specializing in home health care and hospice care will speak about hospice care and Death Doulas. Session is about 40 minutes long with questions following. Bring your own bag lunch.

ISLE COMMUNITY LENTEN CANTATA You are invited to join Isle Community Lenten Choir and participate in an enriching musical and spiritual experience. First Rehearsal Feb. 27th at Faith Lutheran Church in Isle. Registration begins at 2:15pm, rehearsals 2:30-4:00pm Sundays in Lent. Performance on Good Friday, April 15, 2022, at 7:30pm. See poster in Narthex for more information.

PSALM 51:

“O Faithful God”

Marty Haugen

- [Verse 1] O faithful God, have mercy on your servant here;
in your love, remember not my sins.
In the waters of your grace,
wash me clean of all disgrace,
raise me up to life from death and fear.
- [Verse 2] I know my deeds, I know my faults and failings well;
I have sinned and broken faith with you.
For the wrong that I have done,
my transgressions, ev'ry one,
God, your judgment would be just and true.
- [Verse 3] You long for truth, for wisdom dwelling deep within;
teach my heart to long for wisdom, too:
Wash me clean and give me voice,
so these bones you crushed rejoice;
turn my heart from sin to life in you.
- [Verse 4] Create in me a clean and righteous heart, O God,
put a willing spirit in my soul.
Let me sing with joy anew
the salvation found in you,
singing praise to you who made me whole.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Loving God,

Your son came, and like a good shepherd, gave his life for your sheep.

Receive our humble gratitude for this act of sacrifice and courage. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

PSALM: Psalm 23 (*Read Responsively*)

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²**He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**

³he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff — they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

Please Stand for the Gospel

GOSPEL: John 10:1-18

Glory to you, O Lord

¹Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

¹¹I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf

snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

HYMN: **"Forgive Our Sins as we Forgive"** **#605 ELW**



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
 then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

INVITATION TO LENT

Pastor

CONFESSION OF SIN

(Page 252 ELW)

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most holy and merciful God,
we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous 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 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, O God.

We have shut our ears 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, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

(Page 254 ELW)

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth.

May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

People will proceed to the front to receive ashes. Minister will say:

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

After those who desire ashes have received them the minister continues.

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

that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

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

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Extravagant God,

you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER

(Page 254 ELW)

Let us pray. Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

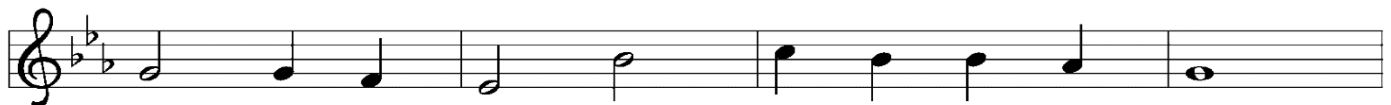
BLESSING

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✠ bless you this day and always.

Amen.

HYMN:**“Abide With Me”**

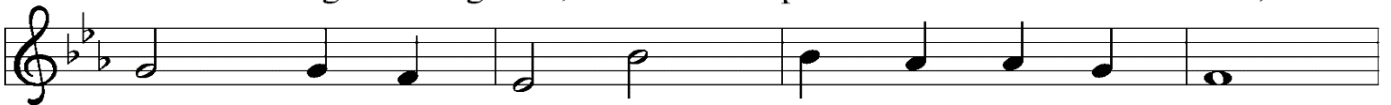
#629 ELW



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847

Music: EVENTIDE, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

Thanks be to God.**ANNOUNCEMENTS****PRAYER AND CARE:**

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES will continue in person thru out the Lent Season. Services will be at 5:30pm.

5 Positive Things You Can Do This Lent

1. Read Scripture. Even ten minutes a day can lead you to a deepening of faith and a greater understanding of our heritage as the People of God.
2. Resolve to perform one random act of kindness. Hold a door open, let someone get in line first, refrain from cutting off the guy driving like a jerk in the car next to you, or do somebody's else's chore for them (and don't ask for payback).
3. You may be fasting, but others are hungry. Donate to a local food shelf so others may know the joy of enough to eat. How about a dollar a day? 40 Days = \$40 donation to local food shelf.
4. Enlighten someone's day. Send an uplifting card, email, or phone a family member, friend, or acquaintance that shows you're thinking about, and praying for, him/her.
5. Don't pray *more*, pray *better*. For most of us, it's difficult to add more into our day. How about putting more into the prayer times you've already got in place? Light a candle, sit in a more attentive position, or change to a more secluded atmosphere so that you can really be alone and focused on God.

