

**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**4856 WAYNE ROAD**  
**CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202**  
**(717) 267-2266**

EMAIL: [info@solomonslutheran.org](mailto:info@solomonslutheran.org)

WEB SITE: [www.solomonslutheran.org](http://www.solomonslutheran.org)

FACEBOOK SEARCH: Solomon's Lutheran Facebook

ASH WEDNESDAY



*"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."*

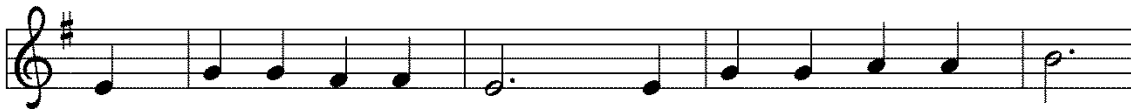
**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 17, 2021**

**FEBRUARY 17, 2021**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY**

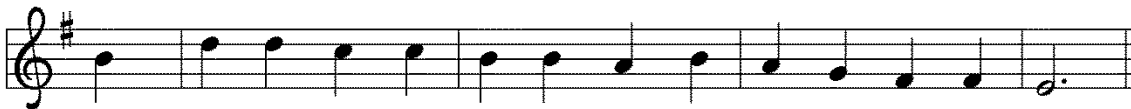
*On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.*

**GATHER IN SILENCE**

**KYRIE**



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

**GREETING**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

**PSALM: Psalm 51:1–17**

*(Read responsively between lector and congregation, beginning with the lector)*

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your <sup>1</sup>steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out <sup>1</sup>my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through <sup>1</sup>from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me <sup>1</sup>from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know <sup>1</sup>my offenses,  
and my sin is ev- <sup>1</sup>er before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil <sup>1</sup>in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right <sup>1</sup>in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born <sup>1</sup>steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my <sup>1</sup>mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth <sup>1</sup>deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom <sup>1</sup>deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I <sup>1</sup>shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be pur- <sup>1</sup>er than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear <sup>1</sup>joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken <sup>1</sup>may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face <sup>1</sup>from my sins,  
and blot out <sup>1</sup>all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean <sup>1</sup>heart, O God,  
and renew a right spir- <sup>1</sup>it within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away <sup>1</sup>from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spir- <sup>1</sup>it from me.

<sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of <sup>1</sup>your salvation  
and sustain me with your boun- <sup>1</sup>tiful Spirit.**

<sup>13</sup>Let me teach your ways <sup>1</sup>to offenders,  
and sinners shall be re- <sup>1</sup>stored to you.

<sup>14</sup>**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of <sup>1</sup>my salvation,  
and my tongue shall sing <sup>1</sup>of your righteousness.**

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, o- <sup>1</sup>pen my lips,  
and my mouth shall pro- <sup>1</sup>claim your praise.

<sup>16</sup>**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or <sup>1</sup>I would give it.  
You are not pleased <sup>1</sup>with burnt offering.**

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice of God is a <sup>1</sup>troubled spirit;  
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will <sup>1</sup>not despise.

## READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

A reading from 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians.

*The ministry of the gospel endures many challenges and hardships. Through this ministry, God's reconciling activity in the death of Christ reaches into the depths of our lives to bring us into a right relationship with God. In this way, God accepts us into the reality of divine salvation.*

### Chapter 5

<sup>20b</sup>We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

### Chapter 6

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

<sup>2</sup>For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see — we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (intro)



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.*

"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

<sup>2</sup>"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup>"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But whenever 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.

<sup>16</sup>"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>19</sup>"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Bill**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *Lord Jesus, Think on Me* (ELW 599)**

**Lord Jesus, Think on Me**

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lord Jesus, Think on Me'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a bass clef staff. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the treble clef staff. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the remaining four lines. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;  
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;  
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;  
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,  
from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.  
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.  
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.  
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

**INVITATION TO LENT**

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

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

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**

*(Those who desire to receive ashes come forward and stand at the altar railing. The ashes come from the burning of the palms from Palm Sunday. Pick up a Q-tip and apply a cross on your forehead as the pastor says...*

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

*Please place the Q-tip in the basket and return to your seat.*

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.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** *(Please respond.)*

*P: Lord, in your mercy.                      C: hear our prayer.*



## OFFERTORY *(intro)*

### Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -  
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,  
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The musical score is written on five staves in G minor (three flats). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics placed below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of three flats. The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases connected by slurs. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739

## OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God,  
You walk beside us in desert places,  
And you meet us in our hunger and bread from heaven.  
Accompany us in this meal,  
That we may pass over from death to life  
With Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *(intro)*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.....

**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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Jesus draws the whole world to himself.  
Come to this meal and be fed.

## **COMMUNION**

*Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher, maintaining your distance and keeping your mask on. Move your mask to eat the bread and drink the wine. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Return to your seat with your mask on.*

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of steadfast love,  
at this table you gather your people  
into one body for the sake of the world.  
Send us in the power of your Spirit,  
that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **SILENT PRAYER**

## **DEPART IN SILENCE**

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).  
Copyright © 2019 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

## SERVING TODAY

Pastor ..... Rev. Bill Nienstedt  
Home Phone Number ..... 717-264-3757  
Email Address ..... [Pastor@solomonslutheran.org](mailto:Pastor@solomonslutheran.org)  
Church Office Email Address ..... [office@solomonslutheran.org](mailto:office@solomonslutheran.org)  
Organist ..... Doug Mummert  
Head Usher ..... Sam Mull  
Acolyte ..... Aaron Shreiner  
Lector..... Wayne Dale  
Communion Bread ..... Margie Dale  
Communion Set-Up..... Margie Dale  
Communion Clean-Up ..... Margie Dale  
Securing Offering ..... Margie Dale & Bernie Harris

Stewardship Thought - **February 17, 2021** (Ash Wednesday, Year B)

*“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal.” – Matthew 6:19-20*

Our lessons for Ash Wednesday remind us that love is the currency in which God deals. Storing up earthly treasures at the expense of our own wellbeing and that of our neighbors is not faithful stewardship. Followers of Jesus are called to greater love of God and neighbor.

**FEBRUARY 17, 2021**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY**

*You are God's and to God you shall return.*



### **ASH WEDNESDAY BIBLE READINGS**

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your Ash Wednesday observance.

Wednesday	Isaiah 58:1-12	Worship God by showing justice
	2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10	Ambassadors for Christ
	Psalms 51:1-17	A prayer for cleansing
	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	The practice of faith

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR ASH WEDNESDAY**

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Psalm 51:10 (NRSV)*

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

#### **A Prayer for Ash Wednesday:**

Merciful God, you love all that you have created; create in me, O Lord, a clean heart through Christ Jesus. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Loving God, as you share with us your food from creation, help us to share bread with the hungry. Amen. (Isaiah 58:7)

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May your heart be filled with joy and your soul rejoice. (Psalm 51:8)

### **CARING CONVERSATIONS**

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What is something that you regret or makes you sad?
- What is something that brings you joy?
- How does knowing that you are loved by God move you from regrets and sadness to joy?

## HYMN FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

*Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God*



### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Psalm 51:1-17.

These words are poetic, beautiful, and have been used frequently in the church. They offer a contemplative mood as words used in the offertory (vv. 10-12) and an expression of confidence during the morning prayer service (v. 15). For Ash Wednesday, the words communicate our desire for repentance and renewal. What can be overlooked is the focus on joy that this psalm desires: “Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice” (v. 8); and, “Restore to me the joy of your salvation” (v. 12). It is hard not to associate Ash Wednesday with the piety of giving something up for the Lenten season. Perhaps this is the year to give up sadness and to focus on the joy God wants for us and the praise we give our merciful God. Remorse and confession of sins is an appropriate practice for Lent and throughout the year. However, the outcome of our Christian faith is to be freed from our brokenness that we may be people of joy and gladness. Contemplate your desire and need for forgiveness. How do you experience God’s mercy and steadfast love in a way that brings you joy?

*Pray:* **Loving God, as we begin a new season of Lent, give us new hearts to love you and fill us with joy in your presence through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### SERVICE

Lent is a season for serving and giving. Consider doing a “30-Minute Service Challenge” this Lent. Each week, commit to an act of community service for 30 minutes. This may involve contributing time to a community program, doing something kind for a neighbor, visiting a person who is elderly or homebound, or helping someone who has a particular need. Each time you finish your service, think or talk about what it meant to you and those you served.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

On this Ash Wednesday, do some simple ritual act that keeps your focus on God and God’s word. Perhaps you fast by eating simple meals or skipping a meal all together and use the extra time to read the Bible passages for Ash Wednesday. For example, pray Psalm 51:1-17 as a prayer of repentance and close with the words: **You are God’s, and to God you shall return.**