

**Ash Wednesday**  
**Stockholm Lutheran Church**

February 26, 2020 -- 7:00 p.m.

(We prepare to worship the Lord in silence)

(\* Page and hymn numbers refer to the red “Worship” hymnal \*)

PSALM 51:1-17 (v. 1—Pastor; v. 2—Men; v. 3—Women, etc.)

(The Psalms begin on page 339 of the red hymnal)

GREETING P: The Lord be with you; C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

<b>WORD OF GOD</b>
--------------------

READING Isaiah 58

P: The Word of the Lord; C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 103:8-14

P: The Word of the Lord; C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL VERSE: *“Return to the Lord”* Page 151

**C: Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

GOSPEL READING Matthew 6

P: The Word of the Lord; C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Rev. Mark Little

HYMN *“Healer of Our Every Ill”* # 612

INVITATION TO HAVE A MEANINGFUL LENT

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Brothers and sisters, God created us to experience joy as we live together with him, to love all humanity and to live in harmony with all creation.

**M: But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbor and creation and we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us.**

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

P: As disciples of the Lord Jesus we are called to a discipline that resists evil and anything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

**C: Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of service and love--the disciplines of Lent--help us to wage spiritual warfare against the power of the evil one, with God’s help. (Ephesians 6:12-13)**

(Please refer to insert)

HYMN *“Just As I Am”*

# 592

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

P: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign that we are sorry for our sin, and also a reminder that “we will not live forever.” Remind us that only by the power of the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus are we given eternal life and strength to live for you in this life; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

(Those who come forward will receive the sign of the cross in ashes on their forehead, and hear the words of God from the Old Testament book of Genesis, chapter three: *“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”*)

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

**C: that our lives may show your goodness and glory to others.**

P: By the cross and the suffering and death of your Son, our Savior,

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

GOD’S CALL TO REPENTANCE AND GOOD WORKS

P: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire that his people suffer from the effects of sin, and from the death that is caused by turning our lives away from Him. Instead, God desires that people turn away from their sin, towards God and his forgiveness that brings new life.

**C: We eagerly ask God to grant us true “heart repentance” so that we may turn to God and be changed. May we please God with holy lives, and come to eternal joy on the Last Day; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**All: Amen.**

SILENCE

THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

SONG *“Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am”* (twice)

# 814

SHARING THE PEACE OF GOD

OFFERING OUR WHOLE LIVES TO GOD

OFFERING PRAYER

**HOLY COMMUNION**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (spoken) Page 152

CONSECRATION OF THE BREAD & WINE / JESUS IS PRESENT

LORD'S PRAYER Page 154

COMMUNION SONG: "Lamb of God" Page 154

DISTRIBUTION OF BREAD AND WINE: Hymns: # 335, 608

COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING

P: You have been marked with the cross of Jesus. Take the cross into your world.

C: In the name of Jesus.

+++++

THE LENTEN MEALS will be served from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm each Wednesday from March 4 to April 1. Hosts are still needed for several of the meals.

THANK YOU TO Eleanor Olson for baking the bread used for Holy Communion.

FAITH RESOURCE FOR THE SEASON OF LENT Your Lord invites you to grow in your relationship with him during Lent. You are invited to read through the Psalms, using the schedule printed in the newsletter. You may do that and / or use the devotional "Wondrous Love" which is available in the back of the church. Each daily devotion includes a full-color photo, a quote to ponder, a brief commentary and a simple prayer "Wondrous Love" is free for the taking, but if you can help us pay for this resource, the cost is \$2.50.



**Ash Wednesday  
Worship Service  
February 26, 2020**

P: Therefore, I invite you my brothers and sisters in Christ, to commit yourselves to the discipline of Lent. Tonight, we join together in asking our Heavenly Father for strength from his Word and Holy Meal. Let us begin this journey through the Forty Days of Lent, toward the Great Three Days of Jesus' death and his joyful resurrection.

\* SILENCE \* (*We ponder the sin and brokenness in us, and in our world. We admit our need for God's forgiveness and healing*)

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Most holy and merciful God,

**C: we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole company of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault--in thought, word and deed--by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

HYMN "Our Father, We Have Wandered" (v. 1) # 606

P: 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, Lord.

**C: We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Jesus served us. We have often not followed Jesus in our daily lives. We confess to you the unfaithfulness, pride, hypocrisy, and uncaring attitudes that have infected our lives. We confess our selfish ways of consuming too many things, and taking advantage of others. Have mercy on us, Lord.**

HYMN "Our Father, We Have Wandered" (v. 2) # 606

P: We too often neglect regular worship and prayer. We are afraid or embarrassed to share our faith with others. We ignore human need and suffering and are too often uncaring about injustice and cruelty in our world. Have mercy on us Lord.

**C: We cling to unkind thoughts about our neighbors and people who are different from us. We waste and pollute your creation, forgetting about those who come after us. Have mercy on us, O God.**

HYMN "Our Father, We Have Wandered" (v. 3) # 606

SILENCE (Your silent petitions asking God to forgive you, and for God to create life and healing in your life. Petitions may include: home and family, your work place, your school, hobbies, God's Creation, money, attitudes, greed, judging others, gossip, etc.)

**ALL: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great. Restore us, O God, and let your anger leave us.**

P: Therefore, I invite you my brothers and sisters in Christ, to commit yourselves to the discipline of Lent. Tonight, we join together in asking our Heavenly Father for strength from his Word and Holy Meal. Let us begin this journey through the Forty Days of Lent, toward the Great Three Days of Jesus' death and his joyful resurrection.

\* SILENCE \* (*We ponder the sin and brokenness in us, and in our world. We admit our need for God's forgiveness and healing*)

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Most holy and merciful God,

**C: we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole company of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault--in thought, word and deed--by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

HYMN "Our Father, We Have Wandered" (v. 1) # 606

P: 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, Lord.

**C: We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Jesus served us. We have often not followed Jesus in our daily lives. We confess to you the unfaithfulness, pride, hypocrisy, and uncaring attitudes that have infected our lives. We confess our selfish ways of consuming too many things, and taking advantage of others. Have mercy on us, Lord.**

HYMN "Our Father, We Have Wandered" (v. 2) # 606

P: We too often neglect regular worship and prayer. We are afraid or embarrassed to share our faith with others. We ignore human need and suffering and are too often uncaring about injustice and cruelty in our world. Have mercy on us Lord.

**C: We cling to unkind thoughts about our neighbors and people who are different from us. We waste and pollute your creation, forgetting about those who come after us. Have mercy on us, O God.**

HYMN "Our Father, We Have Wandered" (v. 3) # 606

SILENCE (Your silent petitions asking God to forgive you, and for God to create life and healing in your life. Petitions may include: home and family, your work place, your school, hobbies, God's Creation, money, attitudes, greed, judging others, gossip, etc.)

**ALL: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great. Restore us, O God, and let your anger leave us.**