

# Ash Wednesday — February 18, 2026

## Prelude

## Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn      **Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling**      **ELW 608**

**Apostolic Greeting**      **ELW Pg. 138**

L      The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
C      **And also with you.**

**Kyrie**      **ELW Pg. 138-139**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

L      The Lord be with you      C      **And also with you**

L      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. C      **Amen**



## First Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

<sup>1</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—<sup>2</sup> a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains, a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. <sup>12</sup> Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; <sup>13</sup> rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. <sup>14</sup> Who knows whether he will not turn and relent and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God? <sup>15</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; <sup>16</sup> gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her canopy. <sup>17</sup> Between the vestibule and the altar, let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?' " Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **C**

### Thanks be to God!

## Psalm 51 *chanted*

<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.

## **Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 20b-6:10**

<sup>20b</sup> We entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. <sup>6:1</sup> As we work together with him, we entreat 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." Look, now is the acceptable time; look, 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: in great endurance, afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup> beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup> in 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 look—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. Holy wisdom, holy word. **C Thanks be to God**

**Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation**

**ELW Pg. 142**

**Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love**

**Holy Gospel according to Matthew in the 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter. C Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: <sup>1</sup> "Beware of practicing your righteousness 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 somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces 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."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**



## Confession of Sin

*The assembly kneels or sits. Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

L: Most holy and merciful God,

**P: 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.**

L: 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.

**P: Have mercy on us, O God.**

L: 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.

**P: Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**P: Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**P: Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**P: Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**P: Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**P: Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**P: Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

**P: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

## Imposition of Ashes

**L** 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.

**C** **Amen.**

*People may come forward the ashes.*

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

**Music: Savior, When in Dust to You, arr. by Anne Krentz Organ c. 1997  
by Augsburg Fortress in "Christ,, Mighty Savior" Reflections on Four Hymn Tunes"**

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

**C** **that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

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

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

**L** 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.

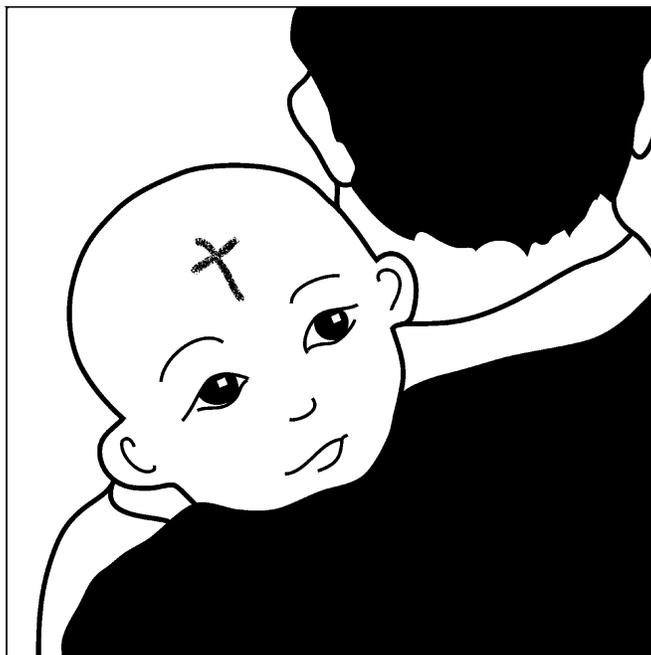
**C** **Amen.**

## Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Savior, When in Dust to You

ELW 601



## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Prayers of the Church

L: With repentant hearts we turn in prayer to our merciful Lord.

AM: For the whole Body of Christ on earth, that we may be humble and grateful in the face of all God's mighty and loving blessings, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

AM: For the whole human family, that we may respect and honor one another as we face both hardships and joy together, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

AM: For our physical world, that we may see the signs of God's handiwork in all its majesty and mystery, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

AM: For those caught up in hate and violence, that they may learn the ways of love, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

AM: For ourselves, that we may be drawn ever closer to Christ and to our neighbors, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

L: For all these, and any other needs we have, we place ourselves in our Lord's kindly hands, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer. Amen**

## Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

*Please share a sign of God's peace.*

**C And also with you.**

*The offering is received*



Offertory Prayer

Great Thanksgiving – page 144

- L The Lord be with you.                   **C And also with you.**  
L Lift up your hearts.                   **C We lift them to the Lord.**  
L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The Proper Preface is chanted.*

L 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:

**Sanctus Pg. 144**

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

The Great Thanksgiving

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

**Agnus Dei Pg. 146**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

**Communion is distributed.**

Communion Music

Post Communion Prayer

## **Benediction**

**L** 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 grant you peace **C Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn**

**Chief of Sinners Though I Be**

**ELW 609**

## **Dismissal**

**AM** Go now in peace, to love and serve the Lord and your neighbors.

**C** Thanks be to God

## **Postlude**

***Thank you for coming.***

***May God's peace be yours today.***



## IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

The following is a listing of those who need your prayers. Our hope is that you will take this listing home with you and in your daily prayers remember those listed below.

Joe Abbott  
Ben, Sheryl & Nik Ahrens  
Connie Aparo  
Phil Bascetta  
Charlie Blakeslee  
Kathleen Bowler

Cherie Brown  
Sharon Cable  
Kathy Ann Campbell  
Angelo & Nicole Capasso

Carol Cianciolo  
Ann Combs  
Leif Dallaire  
Emily Decker  
Linda Dellano

Carla Derrickson  
Winifried Diorio  
Irene Douglas  
J.J. Eby  
Judy Elliott

Diane Engle  
Walt Esker  
Jan Eucalitto  
Jennifer Ezzo  
Weston Faith

Bruce & Liz Falls  
Tommy Fitzpatrick  
Bob Frantz  
Ashley Friday  
John Fox

Joan Gerard  
Danise Hall  
Jack & Barbara Heintz  
Brayden Herzberg  
Renate Higgins

Charles Hilton  
Kathleen Hilton  
Shannon Hilton  
Jake Hoadley  
Sven Holmgren

Erma Horn  
Eunice Jones  
Rusty Judd  
Colin Keeley  
Marilyn Killingbeck

Jason Lashbrook  
Gail Lavoie  
Edwin Leifert  
John Lewis  
David Little

Rebecca Little  
Amy & Dave Louen  
Kari Machowski  
Mary Ellen Mackinnon  
Jerry MacManus

Irene Madore  
Audrey Marquard  
Abigail Marine  
Richard Marine  
Janis Martin

Gil & Marilyn Martin  
Gladys Medina  
Michael Meyers  
Kate Merrow  
Colin Moore

Brigitte Mueller  
Bob Murphy  
Barbara Nalette  
Karen Ness  
Tom O'Brien

Lea Orriola & family  
Karen Pagano  
Russell Palmer  
Maria Payne  
Lisa & Dennis Polzun

Caroline Quintal  
Ed & Susan Regner  
Gordon Richard  
Jonathan Richard

Louise Roche  
Baerbel Roehl  
Patricia & Richard  
Sawitzke  
Holly Schaff  
Rosemary & Otto Schibi

Denae Seelye  
Sara Seelye  
Matt Simpson  
Lori Sola  
Sigrid Smitley  
Paul Smith

John Sproat  
Jennifer Stella  
Deb & Jon Sterling

Tom Sterling Sr.  
RuthAnn Stone  
Patricia Switzer  
Gloria Thibault  
Andy Thomas

Julia Thompson Carroll  
Susan Tyciensi  
Lucille Videtto  
Carol Vrlik  
Eveyln Walters

Steve Warner  
Sue Watkins  
Kim Weissman  
Bruce Yauney  
Clayton Young

Clarence & Priscilla  
Ed  
Jen O.  
Jaiden  
Steve

Lou W.  
Steve  
Todd  
Robert K.  
Terry

Joe  
Carol G.  
Kristen & Jared  
Vinny  
Hagbard

Carolina  
Robert P.  
Peanut  
Colleen  
Ken

Kathy  
Gail  
F.C.H.  
Stephan

Jason R  
Diane L.  
Holly L.  
Al & Mary  
Isaac

### **Family and Friends of Judy Schaller**

### **Our Nursing Home Members**

Dee Gammon  
Midge Rosenbeck  
Mae Fay  
Francine Ahrens  
Betty Hilton  
Walter Joray  
Daine Wright  
Eleanor Klonoski

### **Our Military Friends**

Lord Jesus, Savior of the World and King of Peace, watch over our sons and daughters in the service of their Country. Protect them from the physical and moral dangers. Keep them close to you and help them live the commandments. Lord, Jesus give them courage to serve their country with honor and dignity. Be with them when they are in danger; strengthen them when they face hardship. Above all Lord, grant that when their service is finished that they may return to us, sound in mind, body and soul. Amen.

Tyler Quinn  
Eric Beyus  
Major Zachary Fulton  
Brandan Holbrook  
Jonathan Connell  
Tom Gregg, Jr.  
Eric Bremer  
Peter Hutchinson  
SPC Dominic Boscarino  
PVT Noah Braatz  
PVT 2 Christian Braatz  
Aiden Avenia USCG  
2nd Lt. Ben Speaker  
Pvt. Noah Roy

## Around the Church

Event	Date	Time
WELCA meeting Sign up by Sunday	2/23	7pm
Midweek Lenten Potluck Upper classrooms	2/26	6 pm

### ***Bible Study***

Tuesday via Zoom 6:00 pm

In person Bible Study Wednesdays

10:00 am

### **Wednesdays**

Tai Chi 11:00 am

Quilting Group 1:00 pm

### **Guest preachers**

**The Rev. Mark Lingle, the Synod  
Staff person for this area will preach  
Feb 22, the Bishop will preach on  
Palm Sunday**

### **Offerings Summary:**

<b>Needed Weekly</b>	<b>\$6,290</b>
<b>Received</b>	<b>\$8,609</b>
<b>Shortfall</b>	<b>+2,319</b>
<b>YTD shortfall</b>	<b>(\$16,100)</b>

### **Minimalist bulletin**

Prelude

Announcements

Children's Sermon

Opening Hymn

Apostolic Greeting

Glory or Kyrie Pg 138

Prayer of the Day

First Reading

Psalm

Second Reading

Gospel Acclamation Pg. 142

Reading of the Holy Gospel

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Creed

Prayers of the People

Peace

A Capella Choir Anthem

The Offering is received

Offertory Hymn ELW 140

Offertory Prayer

Great Thanksgiving

Sanctus pg. 144

Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) pg. 146

Communion is Distributed

Post-communion prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn

Dismissal

Postlude