

Ash Wednesday

February 18,
Year of Our ✠ Lord 2026



Lent and Ash Wednesday

During the forty days of Lent, God's baptized people cleanse their hearts through the discipline of Lent: repentance, prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lent is a time in which God's people prepare with joy for the Paschal Feast (Easter). It is a time in which God renews His people's zeal in faith and life. It is a time in which we pray that we may be given the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Church of
The Lutheran Church—
Missouri Synod

420 1st St. SE
PO Box 118
Gwinner, ND 58040

www.zionwinner.org
Office 701-678-2401

Pastor Mike Grieve
217-257-0615

Email: pastor@zionwinner.org

Parish Assistant: Krista Grieve
Email: secretary@zionwinner.org

WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS:

As a way to celebrate and remember the vibrant history of the Christian Church—among many other reasons—we utilize the historic liturgy. This may be new and strange to you, or this may be comfortable and familiar. We invite you to sit next to one of our members who will be happy to assist you as you receive God’s gifts of the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation alongside us.

Note: No pre/post service music during Lent. Congregation and Pastor enter and church in silence.

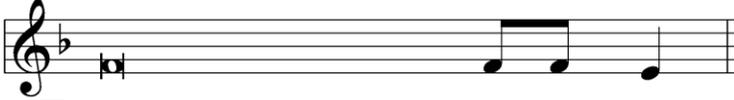
In preparation for the service, pray the following at the very front of the hymnal: On entering a church; Before worship: For blessing on the Word.

Service of Light

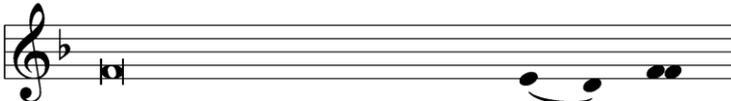
Stand



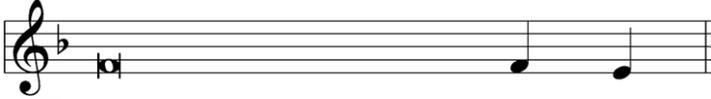
L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



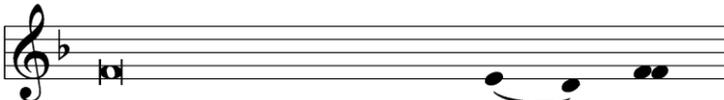
C the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



L Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,



C and the day is almost o - ver.



L Let Your light scatter the dark - ness



C and il - lu - mine Your Church.

Phos Hilaron

LSB 244



L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



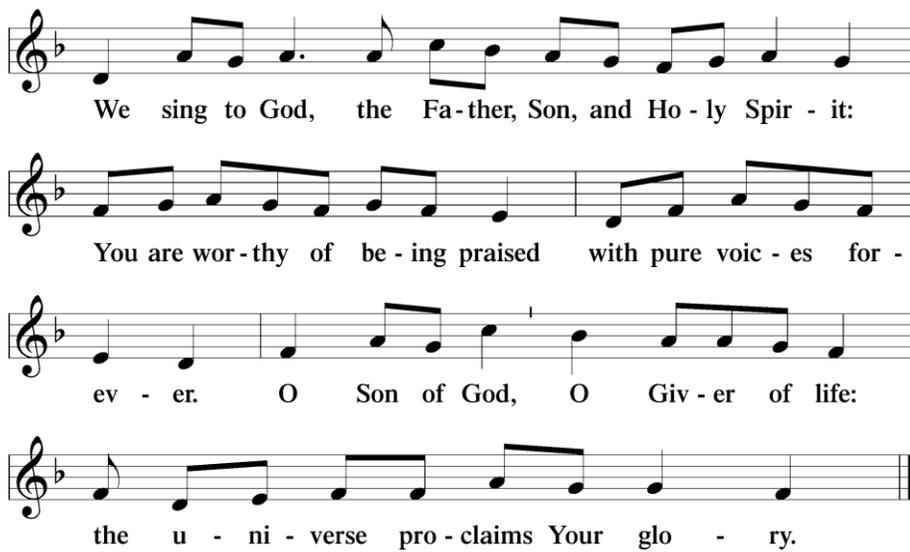
C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bles - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



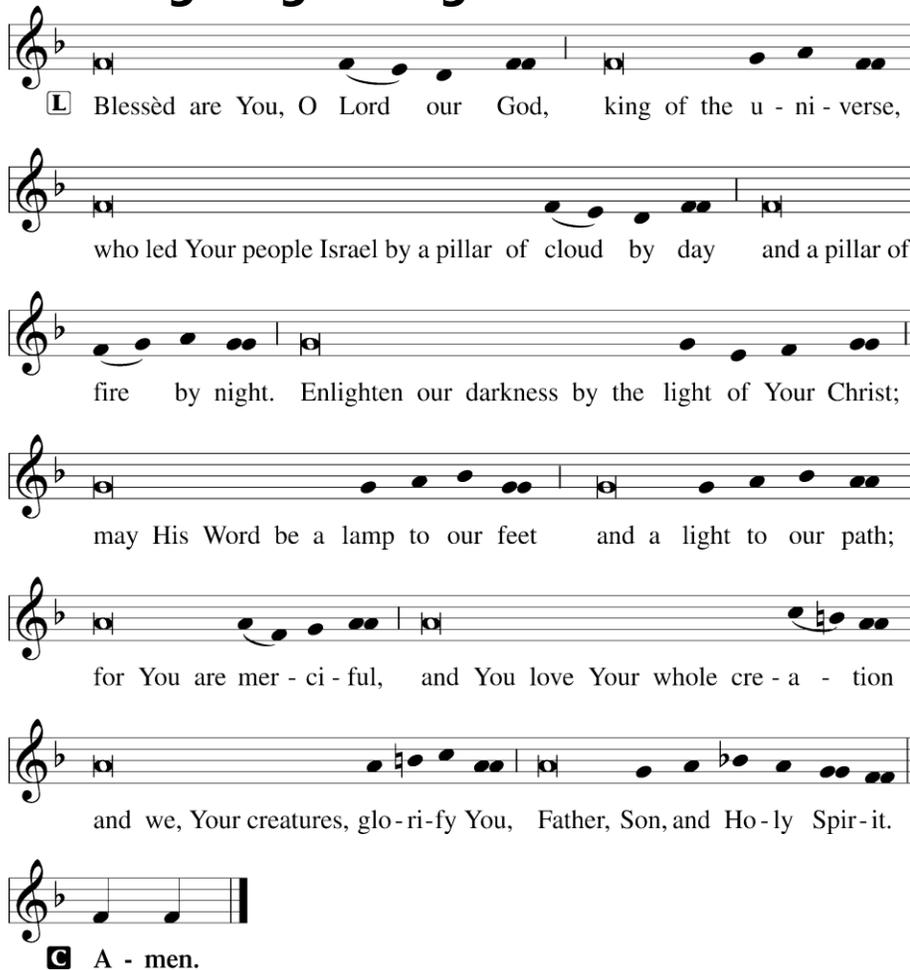
set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.



We sing to God, the Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it:
 You are wor-thy of be-ing praised with pure voic-es for -
 ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:
 the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

Thanksgiving for Light

LSB 245



☐ Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the u - ni - verse,
 who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of
 fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ;
 may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;
 for You are mer - ci - ful, and You love Your whole cre - a - tion
 and we, Your creatures, glo - ri - fy You, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it.
 ☑ A - men.

Sit

Psalmody

LSB 245

Psalm 141



C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice



when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



II Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



I Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;



let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.



II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref - uge.



Strip me not of my life. **C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in



the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



L Let us pray.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C Amen.

Psalm

Psalm 36

P Transgression speaks to the wicked
 deep in his heart;
 there is no fear of God
 before his eyes.

C For he flatters himself in his own eyes
 that his iniquity cannot be found out and hated.

P The words of his mouth are trouble and deceit;
 he has ceased to act wisely and do good.

C He plots trouble while on his bed;
 he sets himself in a way that is not good;
 he does not reject evil.

P Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
 your faithfulness to the clouds.

C Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;
 your judgments are like the great deep;
 man and beast you save, O Lord.

P How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
 The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

C They feast on the abundance of your house,
 and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

P For with you is the fountain of life;
 in your light do we see light.

C Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
 and your righteousness to the upright of heart!

P Let not the foot of arrogance come upon me,
nor the hand of the wicked drive me away.

C **There the evildoers lie fallen;**
they are thrust down, unable to rise.

Office Hymn: 607 From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee



1 From depths of woe I cry to Thee, In trial and
2 Thy love and grace a-lone a-vail To blot out
3 There-fore my hope is in the Lord And not in
4 And though it tar-ry through the night And till the
5 Though great our sins, yet great-er still Is God's a-



trib-u-la-tion; Bend down Thy gra-cious
my trans-gres-sion; The best and ho-liest
mine own mer-it; It rests up-on His
morn-ing wak-en, My heart shall nev-er
bun-dant fa-vor; His hand of mer-cy



ear to me, Lord, hear my sup-pli-ca-tion.
deeds must fail To break sin's dread op-pres-sion.
faith-ful Word To them of con-trite spir-it
doubt His might Nor count it-self for-sak-en.
nev-er will A-ban-don us, nor wa-ver.



If Thou re-mem-b'rest ev-'ry sin, Who then could heav-en
Be-fore Thee none can boast-ing stand, But all must fear Thy
That He is mer-ci-ful and just; This is my com-fort
O Is-rael, trust in God your Lord. Born of the Spir-it
Our shep-herd good and true is He, Who will at last His



ev-er win Or stand be-fore Thy pres-ence?
strict de-mand And live a-lone by mer-cy.
and my trust. His help I wait with pa-tience.
and the Word, Now wait for His ap-pear-ing.
Is-rael free From all their sin and sor-row.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Text and tune: Public domain

Readings

Reading

Jonah 3

P A reading from Jonah, chapter 3.

¹Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to

Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

⁶The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.”

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

2 Peter 1:2–11

P A reading from 2 Peter, chapter 1.

²May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. ³His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, ⁴by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. ⁵For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, ⁶and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, ⁷and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. ⁸For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. ¹⁰Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. ¹¹For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

Matthew 6:16–21

P A reading from Matthew, chapter 6.

¹⁶[Jesus said:] “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Sermon: The Heart's Treasures

Canticle

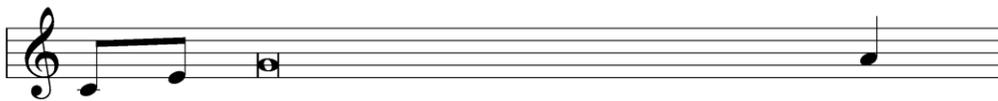
Stand

Magnificat

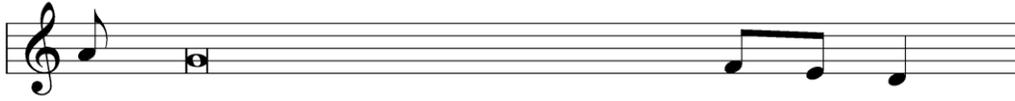
LSB 248

Refrain

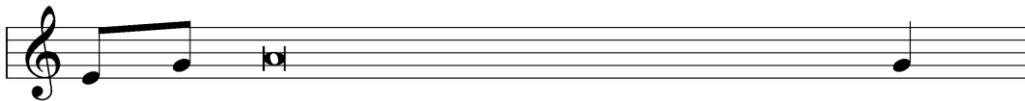
C My soul mag-ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.



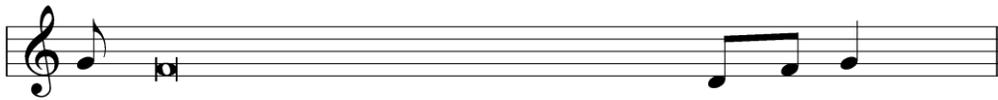
1 For _____ He has re - - - - - garded
 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son



1 the lowliness of His hand - maiden.
 2 and holy is His name;
 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
 4 and the rich He has sent emp - - - - - ty a - way.
 5 and to the Ho - ly Spirit;



1 For be - hold, from this day
 2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy
 5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,



1 all generations will call me blessèd.
 2 from generation to gen - er - ation. *Refrain*
 3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.
 5 is now, and will be forever. A - men. *Refrain*

Prayer

Litany

LSB 249

The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.



L In peace let us pray to the Lord:



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P 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:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For [names of synodical and district presidents], for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For [name of president or monarch], for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

Collect for Peace

L O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 251

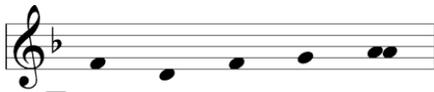
L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.**

Benedicamus

LSB 252



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 252



P The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.



C A - men.

Hymn to Depart: 608 Lord, to You I Make Confession



1 Lord, to You I make con - fes - sion: I have sinned and
2 Yet, though con - science' voice ap - pall me, Fa - ther, I will
3 For Your Son has suf - fered for me, Giv'n Him - self to
4 Lord, on You I cast my bur - den— Sink it in the



gone a - stray, I have mul - ti - plied trans - gres - sion,
seek Your face; Though Your child I dare not call me,
res - cue me, Died to save me and re - store me,
deep - est sea! Let me know Your gra - cious par - don,



Cho - sen for my - self my way. Led by You to
Yet re - ceive me in Your grace. Do not for my
Rec - on - ciled and set me free. Je - sus' cross a -
Cleanse me from in - iq - ui - ty. Let Your Spir - it



see my er - rors, Lord, I trem - ble at Your ter - rors.
sins for - sake me; Let Your wrath not o - ver - take me.
lone can van - quish These dark fears and soothe this an - guish.
leave me nev - er; Make me on - ly Yours for - ev - er.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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