

# **The American Lutheran Church of Windom Bethany Lutheran Church**



**Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 6:30 PM**  
**Pastors Sarah Tadé & Adam Roberts**

## **Why Do We Use Ashes In The Form Of A Cross?**

- Remind us of all those around the world who are mourning and suffering
- Remind us that we all have sinned, we all need repentance, & we all must cling to the promises & love of Christ
- Remind us that in the passage of time, we will all someday die
- Remind us of Christ's suffering, death, & resurrection
- Remind us that in the midst of all this, we are still called, named, claimed, and loved Children of God

## ASH WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION WORSHIP

GATHER IN SILENCE

GREETING

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy spirit, on God, now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO LENT

CONFESSION OF SIN

ELW Pg. 252

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

PRAYER

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, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore we implore God to grant us true repentance and God's Holy Spirit, that those things may please God which we do on this day, that the rest of our life may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to God's eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: AMEN**

PERIOD OF SILENCE

FIRST READING

**Isaiah 58:1-12**

Pew Bible p.600

Reader: Miranda Peterson

PSALM 51: *Please read responsively* Pew Bible p.452

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
**C: according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

<sup>2</sup>Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
**C: and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions,  
**and my sin is ever before me.**

<sup>4</sup>Against you, you alone, have I sinned,  
**C: and done what is evil in your sight,**

so that you are justified in your sentence  
**C: and blameless when you pass judgement.**

<sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
**C: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

<sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness;  
**C: let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
**C: and blot out all my iniquities.**

<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
**C: and put a new and right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Do not cast me away from your presence,  
**C: and do not take your holy spirit from me.**

<sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
**C: and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

SECOND READING **2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10** Pew Bible p.940  
Reader: Sadie Tjentland

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION..... ELW Pg. 142  
*“Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful;  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.”*

GOSPEL READING **Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21** Pew Bible p. 787

SERMON Pastor Sarah

SONG OF THE DAY **“God Loved the World”** ELW #323

OFFERING  
*We give, because God gives to us! Our ministries share God’s love.*

OFFERTORY **“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God”** ALC #14

PRAYER

**Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION(the wafers being used for communion tonight are from our partners in South Africa Ondini Circuit, they were made by the women there)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

ORGAN MEDITATION *"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"* ELW #324

PRAYER

BLESSING

SENDING SONG *"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"* ELW #335

DISMISSAL **Thanks be to God.**

**PLEASE DEPART IN SILENCE**



**WELCOME** to this special time of worship on the first day of Lent. May our Lenten journey renew our faith and refresh our lives.

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS THIS WEEK:**

Organist: Carol Vought

Scripture Readers: Miranda Peterson, Sadie Tjentland

Communion Assistants: Kevin and Eric Heggeseth

**40 DAYS \$40 LENTEN CHALLENGE!** Lenten challenge: \$40 for 40



days. One dollar a day for 40 days doesn't sound like much does it? But that \$40 can put food on the table in Ukraine or here in Cottonwood County. We challenge you to donate and support the Lenten challenge. All money donated will go toward either Lutheran Disaster Response Eastern Europe Crisis Response which provides support for people impacted by the conflict in Ukraine; or to support The Windom Area Sharing Center, helping people here in the Windom Area. Please make checks to American Lutheran Church with Lenten Challenge in the memo line. Thank you! Please note, 40 Days \$40 Lenten envelopes will be placed on the tables in the narthex.

## **Mid-week Ecumenical Lenten Services at the Presbyterian Church**

**Where?** First United Presbyterian Church, 336 11<sup>th</sup> St.

**What?** 30 minute Lenten Worship

**When?** 12:00 noon: *February 21, February 28, March 6, (P. Sarah and ALC serves) March 13(Pastor Adam), and March 20.* A noon luncheon follows each service!

### **Lent 2024**

#### **Wednesday Lenten Schedule for ALC and Bethany**

Come join this 40 day journey as we join our hearts, minds and lives to the life of Jesus, our Savior.

***February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20***

**5:00 PM Lenten Supper**

(each is a fundraiser for different ministries)

**5:30 PM Wednesday School**

**6:30 PM Worship**

(Childcare provided in family room)

**7:15 PM 8th, & 9th Grade Confirmation**

#### **Lenten Worship Themes**

***Holden Evening Prayer / "Tree of Life"***

Lent 1: "Eden Tree"

Lent 2: "Low Tree"

Lent 3: "Wisdom Tree"

Lent 4: "Bush Tree"

Lent 5: "Fruit and Living Trees"

**What is Lent?** Lent is a church season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter. The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. (Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" as we look forward to the Resurrection.) Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. Lent is a time to focus on our relationship with God, as we think of Jesus suffering and death and the coming glory of his resurrection.

