

Chisago Lake Lutheran Church



March 2nd, 2022
Ash Wednesday
6:00pm

WELCOME TO CHISAGO LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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.

If you are a first-time visitor, welcome! We are glad you are here. At Chisago Lake Lutheran Church we are “Grounded in the gospel, Guided by the Spirit”. We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and strive to be God’s hands active in the world. While we are a church with a rich history, we are also a church for today.

Prelude *“Graceland”* Rod Strenke and Nick Barr

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Hymn *“I Want Jesus to Walk With Me”* ELW Hymn #325

Greeting

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The word is near you,

on your lips and in your heart.

If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Faith comes from what is heard,

and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

Prayer of the Day

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.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“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.

²“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. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“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. ⁶But 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.

¹⁶“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. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so 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.

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

Word of God, Word of Life,
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Steve Cruys

Hymn of the Day

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”

ELW Hymn #608

Invitation to Lent

Confession of Sins

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek the way you set before us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin. *(silence)*

Merciful God,

forgive us. Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet. *(silence)*

O God,

We were silent when we should have said something. *(silence)*

O God,

We acted when we knew better. *(silence)*

O God,

We were still when we know we should have moved. *(silence)*

Loving Creator,

for the wrong we have done, for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Imposition of Ashes

Loving God, you create us, beautiful beings, from the dust of the earth. May these ashes be for us a sign of our penitence and our mortality, and a reminder that by the cross we receive eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

At this time, you are invited to come forward to receive the sign of the cross in ashes on your forehead. You are welcome to kneel at the altar for personal prayer and reflection. If you would like a blessing rather than the cross, please let the pastor know. After all have come forward, the pastor will continue.

Imposition of Ashes Special Music *“Old Rugged Cross”*

Announcement of Forgiveness

People of God, look to the † Son, given to heal you and set you free because God loved the world so much. Take hold of life—eternal life! **Amen.**

Offering

*You are invited to give to Chisago Lake Lutheran online at:
<https://www.chisagolakelutheran.org/online-giving.html>*

*You can also send your offering to the church:
1 Summit Ave, PO Box 175
Center City, MN 55012*

Offering Special Music

“Ashes”

Rod Strenke and Nick Barr

Offering Prayer

Merciful God, we give you thanks for all the gifts that we enjoy. In these offerings, we return to you a small portion of your extravagance. Use our gifts to do your will in the world, and use our hands to accomplish it. Accompany us on our Lenten journey. Help us find our true treasure in your son, Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Holy Communion

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.

Holy God, in this Lenten journey open our hearts to your promised presence in the bread and wine. You provide for our deepest need us – you satisfy our hunger and quench our thirst. Renew us, restore us, and remind us of your love.

Amen.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion Special Music

“Hold Us Together”

Rod Strenke and Nick Barr

Distribution

You are invited to share the bread and the wine using the individually wrapped wafers and grape juice. Please discard the cups as you leave the sanctuary.

Dismissal

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

All are encouraged to depart in silence.

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in today's scripture, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God are encouraged to reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.