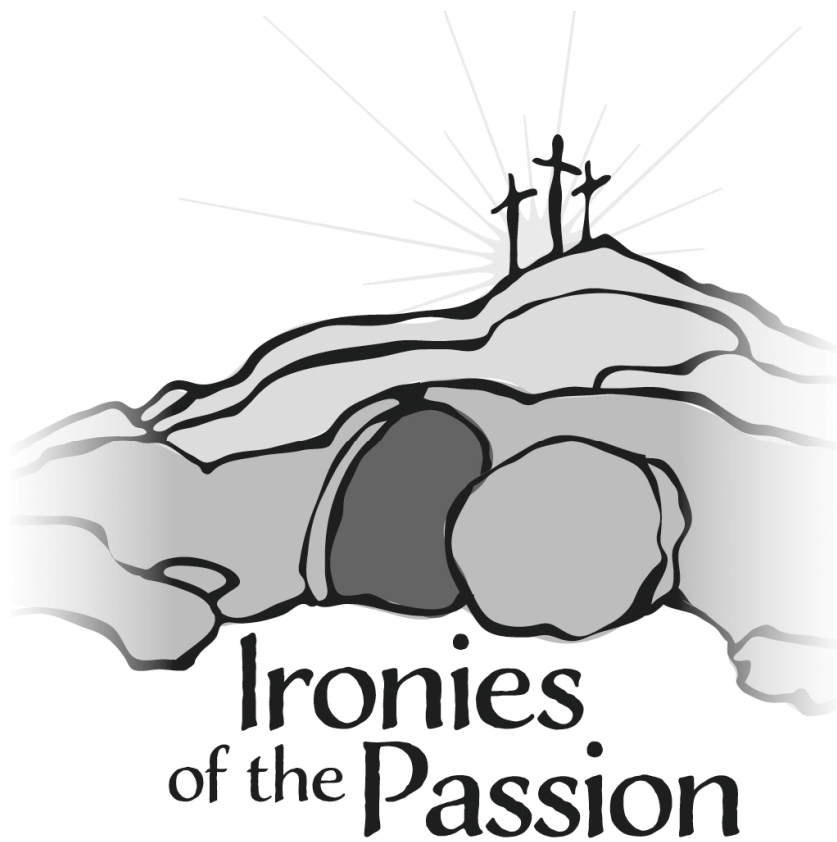


Ash Wednesday

February 10, 2016



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Tucson, Arizona

Season of Lent

The Lenten Season is observed during the six weeks prior to Easter. The traditional goal of Lent is to prepare believers for a proper celebration of the events of Holy Week, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The purple color of the altar paraments and vestments remind us that Lent is also a season of repentance. The Bible tells us that repentance is always the divine work of the Holy Spirit through the Law and the Gospel. The Law crucifies the old Adam, the sinful nature within us, and the Gospel raises up the new man, the new creation in us. For us, the Lenten focus on the cross and suffering of Jesus is not aimed at an emotional response. It is a pointed proclamation and confession of the Law and the Gospel, a preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Lent is properly a season of repentance when it brings the cross to sinners and sinners to the cross of Christ as the fountain and source of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

When we speak or preach from the “Passion of Christ,” we are speaking or preaching about Christ’s suffering and death on Calvary’s cross for the sins of the world. Yes, the Passion is about the purple robe and the crown of thorns; Christ carrying his cross; the soldiers with their hammers, the nails, and the spear; and Christ’s words from the cross. But more than the objects and events, the Passion is about Jesus taking on himself the sins of the world and then experiencing to the fullest degree the Father’s just wrath upon that sin. It is about forgiveness and salvation graciously offered in view of the shed blood of Calvary.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent. Ashes were used by God’s people to show repentance. The day derives its name from the practice of repentant people receiving ashes on their forehead. This practice goes back to at least the 8th century A.D.



Parts of the service designated "L" are for the Leader (Pastor). The Congregation is invited to join in the parts marked "G" for "Group."

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please stand

[L] The Lord Al - might - y grant us a qui - et night and peace

at the last. [G] A - - - - men. [L] It is good to give

thanks to the Lord, [G] to sing praise to your name, O Most High, [L] to

her - ald your love in the morn - ing, [G] your truth at the close of day.

[L] Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

[G] Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

CONFESSION OF SINS

[L] Our help is in the name of the Lord,

[G] who made heaven and earth.

[L] Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-examination

- [L] Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
 [G] we have sinned against you in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds, and in all that we have not done. Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.
 [L] By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun when we shall serve him in newness of life.
 [G] Amen.

Please be seated

HYMN

With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh
Christian Worship #303

FIRST LESSON

2 Samuel 12:1-13 (NIV)

The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him." David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die! He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity." Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered

you from the hand of Saul. I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.' This is what the LORD says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity upon you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight. You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.'" Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." Nathan replied, "The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die."

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 51a

- [L] Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;
 [G] according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
 [L] Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
 [G] For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
 [L] Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.
 [G] Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
 [L] Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.
 [G] Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

PSALM PRAYER

- [L] Almighty and merciful Father, you freely forgive those who, as David of old, acknowledge and confess their sins.
- [G] Create in us pure hearts, and wash away all our sins in the blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SECOND LESSON

Acts 5:1-11 (NIV)

Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet. Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God." When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened. Then the young men came forward,

wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him. About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter asked her, "Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?" "Yes," she said, "that is the price." Peter said to her, "How could you agree to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also." At that moment she fell down at his feet and died. Then the young men came in and, finding her dead, carried her out and buried her beside her husband. Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events.

Please stand

GOSPEL

Luke 18:9-14 (NIV)

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth

of all I get.' But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Please be seated

HYMN

Savior, When in Dust to You
Christian Worship #124

Please stand

SERMON RESPONSE

[L] In - to your hands I com-mend my spir - it.

[G] In - to your hands I com - mend my spir - it. [L] You have re -

deemed me, O Lord, God of truth. [G] In - to your hands I com-mend my

spir - it. [L] Glo-ry to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the

Ho - ly Spir - it. [G] In - to your hands I com-mend my spir - it.

Please be seated

OFFERING Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest tonight, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.

Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the pew and pass it along. Thank You!



If you prefer, use your smart phone to give online by scanning this QR code.

Please stand

PRAYER

[L] Hear my prayer, O Lord. [G] Lis - ten to my cry. [L] Keep me as the ap - ple of your eye. [G] Hide me in the shad - ow of your wings. [L] In right-eous - ness I shall see you. [G] When I a - wake, your pres - ence will give me joy.

[L] Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night.

[L] so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world may rest in your eternal change - less - ness

[L] Through Je - sus Christ our Lord.

[G] A - - - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

[G] Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal-low-ed be your name, your
king - dom come, your will be done on earth as in heav - en. Give
us to-day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins, as we for-give
those who sin a - gainst us. Lead us not in-to temp - ta - tion, but de -
liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er, and the glo - ry are
yours now and for - ev - er. A - men.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Tonight we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Jesus urges all who receive it to do so in a worthy manner in order to receive the blessings he promises. He also gives warning that no one receive it to their judgment. If you are a guest at Grace tonight and not a member of another Wisconsin Synod congregation, we would ask that you speak with one of the pastors about a time to discuss what exactly God says about Holy Communion before you come to the Lord's table. We look forward to that opportunity!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

[L] Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

[G] Amen.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

Please stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE: SONG OF SIMEON

[L] Guide us wak-ing, O Lord, [G] and guard us sleep - - - ing. [L] that a-wake we may watch with Christ [G] and a - sleep we may rest in peace. [G] In peace, Lord, in peace you let your ser vant now de - part ac - cord ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion which you have pre pared for ev 'ry people, a light to light-en the Gen - tiles and the glo ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el. In peace, in peace.

BLESSING

[L] The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the Son, (†) and the Holy Spirit—bless us and keep us.
[G] Amen.

Please be seated

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary
Christian Worship #108

Those Assisting in Worship this Evening

Service..... Pastor Nathan Kassulke
Communion Assistant..... Pastor Colin Rieke
Organist Elaine Goldie
Sound and Recording Tech Jeremy Snively

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Lenten Services

Wednesday midweek services will be held at Grace-Benson, Grace-Sahuarita, and Grace-Tucson every Wednesday through March 16. The theme for our services is "Ironies of the Passion."

Wednesday, February 17

Grace-Sahuarita	10 AM	Lenten Worship	"This Man Went Home Justified"
Grace-Benson	6 PM	Soup Supper	
	7 PM	Lenten Worship	"This Man Went Home Justified"
Grace-Tucson	10 AM & 7 PM	Lenten Worship	"It Is Better That One Man Die for the People!"
	6 PM	Soup Supper	

Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 24

10:00 AM at Grace-Sahuarita
10 AM & 7:00 PM at Grace-Tucson
7:00 PM at Grace-Benson

Good Friday

Friday, March 25

4:00 PM at Grace-Sahuarita

Tenebrae Service
(Service of Darkness)

7:00 PM at Grace-Tucson

Worshippers are asked to leave this church service in silence, leaving in stillness and darkness until the dawn of a glorious Easter Day. Please visit with friends and family prior to entering church for worship.



Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 27

Grace-Benson
Festival Worship—7:30 AM
Easter Breakfast—8:30 AM

Grace-Sahuarita
Festival Worship—9:45 AM
Easter Brunch—10:45 AM

Grace-Tucson
Sunrise Worship—7 AM
Easter Breakfast—8 AM
Easter Concert—9 AM
Festival Worship—10 AM

Grace-Vail
Easter Breakfast—9 AM
Festival Worship—10 AM

Lenten Suppers

Thank you to Beth Kassulke for hosting the Lenten Supper before our service this evening. We are still looking for a few more hosts for upcoming suppers. Please see the signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall or speak to Pastor Kassulke or Cora in the Church Office.

Grace-Tucson

Office: 520-623-6633

Email: office@gracelutheransaz.org

www.GraceLutheranSAZ.org



Grace Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), a group of nearly 400,000 men, women, and children in nearly 1,300 congregations across the United States and Canada united by a common faith in Christ's saving love. We are committed to a common calling—encouraging each other in our faith and sharing God's gift of a Savior with the rest of the world.

For more information about our synod and what we believe visit: www.wels.net