



# HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Anchored in His Word

Ash Wednesday with Holy Communion

Order of Worship

February 18, 2026

Prelude

The Silent Procession

Confession of Sins

[Stand]

Most holy and merciful God: **We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

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. **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

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. **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us. **Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. 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, one God, now and forever. Amen**

*(The congregation may be seated)*

Imposition of Ashes

*(The imposition of ashes will be continuous. Please approach the altar on the instruction of the usher. During the imposition of ashes, you are invited to meditate on Psalm 90, in the Psalms Section of ELW.)*

[Stand]

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation, **that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By the cross and passion of Jesus Christ, our Lord, **Bring us with all your saints to the joy of the resurrection.**

Almighty God, whose love was revealed in 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 the Holy Spirit, that we may please God in what we do this day, that the rest of our life may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Scripture Readings

[Sit]

**Psalm: Psalm 51:1-17**

*Read by the Lector*

- <sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy,  
blot out my transgressions.
- <sup>2</sup> Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
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  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you are justified in your sentence  
and blameless when you pass judgment.
- <sup>5</sup> Indeed, I was born guilty,  
a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- <sup>6</sup> You desire truth in the inward being;  
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
- <sup>7</sup> Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- <sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
- <sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- <sup>10</sup> Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right spirit within me.
- <sup>11</sup> Do not cast me away from your presence,  
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
- <sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and sustain in me a willing spirit.
- <sup>13</sup> Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
and sinners will return to you.
- <sup>14</sup> Deliver me from bloodshed,  
O God, O God of my salvation,  
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.
- <sup>15</sup> O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.
- <sup>16</sup> For you have no delight in sacrifice;  
if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.
- <sup>17</sup> The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

**Verse: Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,  
Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.**

[Stand]

Gospel: **Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

Jesus said to the disciples: <sup>1</sup>"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.

<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 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. <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."

Hymn

***Our Father, We Have Wandered***

ELW 606

[Sit]

Sermon

***"Don't Be a Hypocrite"***

Offering

Offertory

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

The Eucharist

Great Thanksgiving

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary . . . *(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power 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.**

## Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## The 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**

## Lamb of God

**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.**

[Sit]

## Communion

*All are welcome at the Lord's table.  
We're nourished together by the body and blood of our Lord.*

## Communion Hymns

***Let Us Break Bread Together  
In the Cross of Christ I Glory***

ELW 471  
ELW 324

## Post-Communion Canticle for Lent

[Stand]

**Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled.  
Mine own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:  
A light to reveal to you the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.  
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**

## Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray together. We thank you, living God, **for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

## Benediction and Dismissal

Almighty God, Father + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

***Restore in Us, O God***

ELW 328

Postlude

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**Worship Participants**

Officiating – Rev. David Smedley

Assisting – John Hanson

Church Pianist – Sandy Hunter

Ushers/Greeters – Rena Ashworth & Judy Kruger

Lector – Jan Austin

Communion Assistants – Steve Austin & Jan Austin