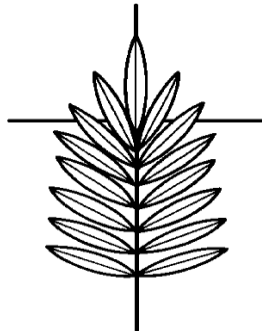


Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 610- 346-8500



ASH WEDNESDAY

March 2 , 2022 – ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00 PM - Holy Communion

also on - www.facebook.com/durhamlutheran

Prelude - "Prayer" - Alexandre Guilmant

**Welcome - Announcements - Welcome our Guest Preacher,
Rev. James Heckman**

Introduction to Worship

Psalm 51 (read responsively)

To the leader. A Psalm of David, when the prophet Nathan came to him, after he had gone into Bathsheba.

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. ³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ 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 judgement.

⁵ Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. ⁶ You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

¹¹ Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance. ¹⁵ O Lord,
open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

¹⁶ For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt-offering, you would not be pleased.

¹⁷ The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Opening Hymn - ELW #321 - "Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church" vs. 1, 2
(Stand if you are able)

Greeting

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

PEOPLE: **AND ALSO WITH YOU**

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, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

(Please be Seated)

First Reading- Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near— a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain-offering and a drink-offering for the LORD, your God?
Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

Lector: **The Word of the Lord.**

PEOPLE: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Second Reading- 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Lector: **The Word of the Lord**

PEOPLE: **THANKS BE TO GOD**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand)

Return to the LORD, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abandoning in steadfast love. (Joel 2:13)

Pastor: **The holy gospel according to Matthew:**

PEOPLE: **GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.**

The Holy Gospel - Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

“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.”

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

“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. 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.”

“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. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, 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.”

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

Pastor: **The gospel of the Lord.**

PEOPLE: **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

(Be seated after the gospel)

Message/ Sermon - Rev. James Heckman

Hymn of the Day - ELW #601 - “Saviour, When in Dust to You” vs. 1, 2

Invitation to Lent (*read by pastor*)

Confession of Sin (*remain seated*) ELW pages 252-253

Imposition of Ashes ELW page 254

* Sharing of the Peace

* Prayers of Intercession: P: Hear us, O god. **C: Your mercy is great.**

Offering

* Offertory Prayer (*said by pastor*)

* The Great Thanksgiving ELW page 129

* Preface for Lent ELW page 130

* “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord” (*said in unison*) ELW page 130

* Eucharistic Prayer for Ash Wednesday ELW page 133

* The Lord’s Prayer” ELW page 134

* Lamb of God (*said in unison*) ELW page 135

Invitation to Communion: “God’s love is poured out in Christ for you. Open yourselves to receive it.”

Distribution of Communion: All baptized Christians are welcome at our celebration of the Lord’s Supper. Small children and those who have not previously received the Sacrament are welcome to come forward for bread and a blessing. Gluten-free bread and grape juice are available for those who request them. Please follow the directions of the ushers.

* Communion Table Blessing (*said by pastor after all have communed*)

* Prayer after communion (*said by pastor*) . . ELW page 254

* Blessing (*said by pastor*) ELW page 255

* Dismissal (*spoken responsively*) ELW page 255

Postlude - “Peace Be With You” - Franz Schubert, arr. Porter

ASH WEDNESDAY is the first day of Lent, the forty-day season that focuses on the story of Jesus' passion and death. It is more than a simple changing of seasons; it signals a change of heart. We acknowledge our passage from death to life. We recognize that we are truly dust, and receive the ashes of Lent. We affirm that we live because of a death—the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ, which we share through our baptism.

Meeting the good news of what Jesus Christ has done for us is a turning point in our lives. We yield to the power of Jesus' love for us, and his story becomes our story. We mark the steps of the journey by gathering every week to be reminded of His love for us, and our love for each other.

Helping in Worship

Preacher	- Rev. James Heckman
Organist/Choir Director	- Carolyn Williams
Acolyte	- Chase Aquino
Altar Guild	- Beth Snyder & Nancy Moskella
Lector	- Beth Snyder
Usher	- Joe Hlavaty
Council Counting Team	- Mark Harwick & Val McGinn
Technology	- Ken Anderson
Office Secretary	- Jessica Mette
Custodian	- Dianna Streletz