

**St. Andrew Lutheran Church  
& Early Childhood Campus**  
7750 Hwy. 144 North  
West Bend, Wisconsin 53090  
Phone: (262) 335-4200 (Church)  
Worship Hours: Sunday 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School and Bible Class: Sunday 10:15 a.m.  
Church E-mail: [standrewchurchwb@gmail.com](mailto:standrewchurchwb@gmail.com)  
Early Childhood Campus E-mail: [St.AndrewECC@gmail.com](mailto:St.AndrewECC@gmail.com)  
Website address: <http://www.standrew-westbend.org>

## **ASH WEDNESDAY**

**March 5, 2025**

### **AS WE GATHER**

The Christmas trees we decorated with careful hands just a few months ago have come and gone. The account of our salvation in Jesus Christ, the Babe of Bethlehem, has progressed from the manger through the Epiphany light of our Lord's proclamation of "liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind" (Luke 4:18; see Isaiah 61:1). The palm fronds we held and waved with our hands with cheers and hosannas a year ago have since withered and turned to the ashes we bless this night in hope. Lent returns, reminding us that the Christian life is one of repeated, daily repentance and faith because, though our deliverance is made sure, we walk by faith in the "not yet" of complete holiness and final release from sin. Repentance means we come this night with empty hands, that is, the confession of our total need of God's mercy, grace, and deliverance. We come to the God who has revealed Himself in love in the forgiveness of our sin by means of His own bloody, substitutionary sacrifice in our own human flesh for us and for our salvation. With the pastor's hands the ashes of our failings and sin are placed over the sign we received at our Baptism, and we are welcomed to repentance and faith freely given by the hand of the Lord.

### **PRESERVICE MUSIC AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**+ PREPARATION +**

### **ASH WEDNESDAY ADDRESS**

P: Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the

Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

### **OPENING SENTENCES**

Psalm 90

P: Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.

**C: You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!" For a thousand years in Your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.**

P: You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning: in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

**C: For we are brought to an end by Your anger; by Your wrath we are dismayed. You have set our iniquities before You, our secret sins in the light of Your presence.**

P: For all our days pass away under Your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh. The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. Who considers the power of Your anger, and Your wrath according to the fear of You?

**C: So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

P: Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on Your servants!

**C: Satisfy us in the morning with Your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

P: Make us glad for as many days as You have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil.

**C: Let Your work be shown to Your servants, and Your glorious power to their children.**

P: Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

*Silence for reflection*

P: O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*As the ashes are imposed on the forehead of each person in the sign of the cross, the pastor says, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

## HYMN

"Savior, When in Dust to Thee"

LSB 419

## INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

**C: slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You 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; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**+ WORD +**

## SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Joel 2:12–19

*"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. 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; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, Where is their God?" Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people. The LORD answered and said to his people, "Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations.*

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10

*We implore 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. Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights,*

*hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.*

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## VERSE

Joel 2:13b

♪ **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.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

*Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. “Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when 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 when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and Rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust*

*destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “O Lord, throughout These Forty Days” LSB 418

## SERMON

“The Hand of the Lord Who Freely Gives”

## NICENE CREED

See Back of Hymnal

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For the holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who enter this holy season of Lent in true repentance and faith that God guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh; cleanse our hearts; and renew a right spirit within us—let us pray to the Lord.

*(following each petition the congregation responds)*

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

*(Our petitions this day)*

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## OFFERING

**+SACRAMENT+**

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface	LSB p. 160
Proper Preface	LSB p. 161
Sanctus	LSB p. 161
Prayer of Thanksgiving	LSB p. 162
Lord’s Prayer	LSB p. 162
The Words of Our Lord	LSB p. 162
The Peace of the Lord	LSB p. 163
Agnus Dei	LSB p. 163

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"  
"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"  
"Today Your Mercy Calls Us"

LSB 618  
LSB 843  
LSB 915

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

LSB p. 165

## POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

LSB p. 166

## BENEDICTION

LSB P. 166

## CLOSING HYMN

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"

LSB 722

## POSTLUDE

**PASTOR:** Rev. Jonathan Vierkant

**ORGANIST:** Rinda Bye

**ELDERS SERVING:** Bob Buehler & Randy Sheffield

### Future Lenten Services

Midweek Lenten Services  
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.  
Soup supper at 6 p.m.

Maundy Thursday service with communion  
7 p.m. on Thursday, April 17

Good Friday service (no communion)  
7 p.m. on Friday, April 18

# ASH WEDNESDAY



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