

Augustana Lutheran Church

2100 New Hampshire Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20009

ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 21, 2007

12:00 Noon, 7:30 p.m.

Psalm 51:1-18

12:00: Spoken by the Congregation.

7:30: Sung by the Soloist.

Setting by J. Thomas Mitts

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

²Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.

⁵And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgment.

⁶Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁷For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

⁸Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

⁹Fill me with joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

¹⁰Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

¹¹Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

¹²Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹³Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your bountiful Spirit.

- ¹⁴I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.
- ¹⁵Deliver me from death, O God,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.
- ¹⁶Open my lips, O Lord,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- ¹⁷Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
- ¹⁸For the sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Exhortation

Confession

The Congregation kneels.

Most holy and merciful Father:

**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 been deaf 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.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.

The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

our anger at our own frustration,

and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,

and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our negligence in prayer and worship,
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

We confess to you, Lord.

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done.
For our blindness to human need and suffering,
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,
and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation,
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen

Blessing of the Ashes

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth; grant that these ashes may be to us the sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Imposition of Ashes

The Congregation may come forward to the altar rail and kneel.

Voluntary

O Mortal, Thy Grievous Sins Bemoan

J. S. Bach

Conclusion of the Confession

The Congregation kneels.

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 your Son, our Lord,

Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that we may turn from our wickedness and live. Therefore we implore God to grant us true repentance and the Holy Spirit, that those things may please God which we do on this day, that the rest of our life may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to God's eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Absolution is not pronounced until Maundy Thursday. Silence for reflection is observed.

Anthem

Lord, for Thy Tender Mercies' Sake

Richard Farrant

Salutation and Prayer of the Day



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Let us pray ... A - men.

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 obtain from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson

Isaiah 58:1-12

Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Gradual Verse and Hymn, No. 295

Out of the Depths I Cry to You

Stanzas 1 and 4.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Gospel is announced:



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ___ chap-ter. Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel is read:



The Gos - pel of the Lord. Praise ___ to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day, No. 733 (With One Voice)

Our Father, We Have Wandered

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

Prayers of the People – Each petition concludes with one of the following responses:
God of Light, **Show us your glory and hear us.**
Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Sharing of Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Anthem, at the Offering

Dear Lord and Father

C. Hubert H. Parry

Offertory Hymn



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God; and re-new a right spir - it with - in me.



Cast me not a-way from thy pres-ence; and take not thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me.



Re-store un-to me the joy of thy sal - va-tion: and up-hold me with thy free Spir - it.

Offertory Prayer

Compassionate God,

We offer you these gifts as signs of our time and labor. Receive the offering of our lives, and feed us with your grace, that, even in the midst of death, all creation might feast on your unending life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Great Thanksgiving – Setting Three, page 109

Salutation

Preface and Sanctus

Eucharistic Prayer and Doxology

The Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei

The Distribution of the Blessed Sacrament

All Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament.

Non-communicants are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

Voluntary

Adagio *from* Symphony III

Louis Vierne

THE POST-COMMUNION

The Congregation stands.

Eucharistic Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

Compassionate God, your Son welcomed sinners and ate with them. We give you thanks for the forgiveness and grace we have received in this meal. Make us signs of your love, that all the world may know your mercy and blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Benediction

Hymn, No. 91

Savior, When in Dust to You

Dismissal

Reconciled to God through Christ,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Out of the Depths I Cry to You

J. S. Bach

Servants at God's Altar

Celebrant and Preacher	Norm Theiss
Deacon	Douglas Anderson – Noon David Juilfs – 7:30 – I Kaia Lenhart – 7:30 – II
Lector	Mary Andoh– Noon Tommie Robinson, Jr. – 7:30 p.m.
Crucifer	Douglas Anderson– 7:30 p.m.
Bookbearer	Kelly Bowers – 7:30 p.m.
Torchbearers	Eddie Van Aken, Paul Beddoe –7:30 p.m.
Organist and Choirmaster	Dr. J. Thomas Mitts
The Parish Choir	
Vocal Soloist	Betsy Miller
Ushers	George Krafthofer, Nicole Ruman Skinner, David Skinner
Altar Guild	Judy Floyd

Parish Concerns

+ **Members:** Louise Anderson, Mary Beth Blegen, Ardelle Burton, Herman Davis, Sr., Jean Dilamb, Dorothy Gladney, Ruth Hunter, Bill Reid, Carroll Schipp.

+ **Friends and Family:** Stacey Aus (Knauff); Roseanne Baird (Bucci); Rex Baker (Robinson); Chris Balsam (Bucci); the Bagwell family (Bowers); Edith Bowers (Bowers); the Family of Ken Boynton (Gillam); the Family of Margaret Cahill (Isbell); Judy Cashner (Cashner); Mark & Heide Cassidy (Van Aken); George Cypress (Burton); Beatrice Ely; Robert Kyle Evans (Schipp); Eddie Faust (Roth/Renne); Patricia Franks (Knauff); Lyle Forness (Forness); Ruth Fox (Fischer-Fox); Jessica Fox (Fischer-Fox); Pat Frohman (Hunter); Carole Gaston (Gaston); Bill Grant (Hanson/Kaiser); Andrew Griffin (Waidler); Mary Hancock (Knauff); Leona Harper (Knauff); Danny Hartman (Knauff); Senator Tim Johnson (Baerwald); Tom Johnson (Hart); Sara Kepple (Richter); John Larson (Kahler-Larson); Celeste Lotz (Knauff); Jacqueline Lindberg (Berube) Carol Lucas (Richter); Sean McAlister (Isbell); Sally Markle (Markle-Elder); Lois Merritt (Hunter); Bruno Muzzi (Markle-Elder); Chris Nelson (Burch-Nelson); Jennifer & Joe Reed (Roth/Renne); Ian Renne & Laura Martin (Roth/Renne); Mary Ann Richardson (Kennedy-Nash); Veronica Richardson (Knauff); Caleb Richter; Sarah Richter; Johanna Schuele (Van Aken); Rich & Norma Shirey (Hart); John Stewart III (Burton); Iris and Juan Sosa (Leath); Helen Tardy (Hunter); Ruth & Earl Telfair (Smith); Richard Tepel (Schipp); Harold Vensel (Hunter); Marion Wagley (Capps); Nellikan Wernicke (Baerwald); Kay Wickre (Margrave); Pamela Wilson (Markle-Elder).

+ **Augustana** and our vision for the future.

Accessibility and Renovation Reminder: Our accessibility renovations are now virtually complete but paying for them is not – we have monthly mortgage payments of \$9,899 to cover far into the future. Please keep your pledge payments current and continue to honor and memorialize friends and family with contributions to the Accessibility and Renovation Fund. Thank you for your past generosity. Received last week: \$ 1,090.00

Mortgage Madness – Or How to Manage Augustana’s Monthly Mortgage Without Melodrama! Check out the Mortgage Madness Chart in the Narthex (commitments are shown in colors of the Liturgical Year.) We now have FIVE months and two weeks of funding for the new Church Year. Please consider prayerfully what YOU can contribute and help us manage our monthly mortgage payments without melodrama. Four weeks = \$10,000; Three weeks = \$7,500; Two Weeks = \$5,000, One Week = \$2,500, One day or more = \$333 per day.

-- Today --

Wednesday, February 21st: Services at twelve noon and 7:30 p.m. Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist.

– This Coming Week –

Thursday, February 15th: 6:30 p.m. Healing and Prayer Service – Social Hall
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

– Next Sunday, February 25, 2007 – First Sunday of Lent –

Adult Forum: 9:15 a.m. – Library – Lenten Bible Study – God’s Love

Nursery Program: 10:30 – Noon – Martha and Mary

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Lessons: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2.9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

Hospitality Hosts: Kaia Lenhart, Jen Ray, Doris and Jim Lewis

– Upcoming Events and Announcements –

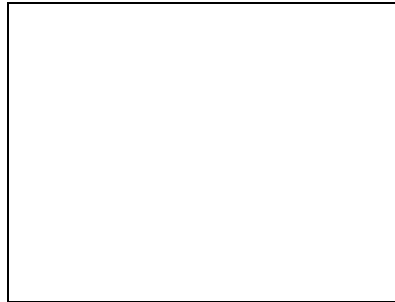
During the Sundays of Lent, Adult Forum will feature a Bible study/discussion entitled, "Repentance: Living in God's Love." This series will explore the sorrow, joys, difficulties, and surprises that accompany a life lived in repentance (turning from sin and self-interest toward relationship with God). Each week participants will look at scriptural passages that illuminate a

specific aspect of repentance and, through various exercises, consider ways repentance can become a part of their Lenten journey. Adult Forum meets at 9:15 in the Library

The Mid-Week Lenten Series returns to its original format this year. See the lavender insert for this year's schedule.

Outreach to Santa Maria: A new English/Spanish language program with Iglesia Santa Maria is underway. Volunteers are needed to become language lesson partners. Improve or learn Spanish as you help our sister congregation speak English - a skill that requires lots of practice. Please contact Brian Danaher (danaherb@hotmail.com) or Pastor Phil Anderson for more information.

Saturday, March 24th: *"The Way of the Cross"* – A Silent Lenten Retreat from 9:30 am – 4:30 pm held at the Seekers Church, 276 Carroll Avenue, N.W, Washington, D.C. – Across the street from the Takoma Metro Stop. For more information see Patricia Richter, and/or call 301/588-2925 to register, \$60.00 fee.



February 21, 2007 **ASH WEDNESDAY**

INTRODUCTION

Ash Wednesday is a solemn day of prayer that begins the season of Lent. On this day we confess our sin in a litany of repentance. During Lent's forty days we are invited to carry out the Lenten discipline, practices of fasting, prayer, and works of love, even as we accompany people around the world who are preparing for baptism at Easter. On this day we may receive the sign of ashes. This ancient symbol of repentance reminds us of our mortality. Returning to God's mercy and grace, marked with the cross of Christ, we make our way through Lent, longing for the baptismal waters of Easter, our spiritual rebirth.

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 58:1-12

The fast that God chooses is not merely outward, but one that gives evidence of repentance through works of mercy.

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet day after day they seek me

and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

³"Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today

will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,

a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,

a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice,

to undo the thongs of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,

and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,

and bring the homeless poor into your house;

when you see the naked, to cover them,

and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,

and your healing shall spring up quickly;

your vindicator shall go before you,

the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;

you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The Lord will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.

¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10

Out of love for humankind, Christ experienced sin and suffering, so that the saving power of God could penetrate the most forbidding and tragic depths of human experience. No aspect of human life is ignored by the presence of God's grace. Because of this, Paul announces that this day is a day of God's grace, an acceptable time to turn toward God's mercy.

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For 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! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

In this passage Matthew sets forth a vision of genuine righteousness illustrated by three basic acts of Jewish devotion: almsgiving, prayer, and fasting. Jesus does not denounce these acts--in the New Testament they are signs of singular devotion to God. Rather, he criticizes those who perform them in order to have a sense of self-satisfaction or to gain public approval. Care for those who are poor, intense prayer, and fasting with a joyous countenance are signs of loving dedication to God.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "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."

The Mission Statement of Augustana Lutheran Church

"It is the purpose of Augustana Lutheran Church to engage as many persons as will share its confession of faith in a fellowship of worship, learning, witness and service that the Word of God in Jesus Christ may become effective in their lives together and individually and relate effectively in Christian concern and love to the geographic community within which the Church is located."