



St. John's Lutheran Church

Rooted and Growing: In Christ. In Community.

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**JESUS** CARRIES **CROSS**  
OUR



# Ash Wednesday

## February 17, 2021

Jesus Carries Our Cross: Guilt.

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### Prelude

### Opening Hymn

*Please stand to sing the final stanza*

### With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh

*Christian Worship 303*



1 With bro - ken heart and con - trite sigh, A  
2 I smite up - on my trou - bled breast, With  
3 Far off I stand with tear - ful eyes Nor  
4 No gifts, no deeds that I have done Can  
5 And when, re - deemed from sin and hell, With



trem - bling sin - ner, Lord, I cry. Your  
deep and con - scious guilt op - pressed, Christ  
dare up - lift them to the skies, But  
for a sin - gle sin a - tone. To  
all the ran - somed souls I dwell, My



par - d'ning grace is rich and free— O  
and his cross my on - ly plea— O  
you can all my an - guish see— O  
Cal - va - ry a - lone I flee— O  
joy - ous song shall ev - er be: God



God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
has been mer - ci - ful to me!

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

### **Instruction for the Beginning of Lent**

**M:** Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle. Let us be silent. Let us be still. Let us pause now for a time of reflection and self-examination.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

**M:** O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger

**C:** **or discipline me in your wrath.**

**M:** Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am faint;

**C:** **O LORD, heal me, for my bones are in agony.**

**M:** My soul is in anguish.

**C:** **How long, O LORD, how long?**

**M:** Turn, O LORD, and deliver me;

**C:** **save me because of your unfailing love.**

*Psalm 6:1-4*

**M:** Our guilt has overwhelmed us, like a burden too heavy to bear. Therefore let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C:** **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

**M:** How great is the Lord's goodness, which he has stored up for those who fear him! Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

**M:** Away from me, all you who do evil,

**C:** **for the LORD has heard my weeping.**

**M:** The LORD has heard my cry for mercy;

**C:** **the LORD accepts my prayer.**

**M:** All my enemies will be ashamed and dismayed;

**C:** **they will turn back in sudden disgrace.**

*Psalm 6:8-10*

### **Prayer of the Day**

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, you never despise what you have made and always forgive those who turn to you. Create in us such new and contrite hearts that we may truly repent of our sins and obtain your full and gracious pardon; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

## THE WORD

### First Lesson

### 2 Samuel 12:1-13

*The LORD took away David's sin and guilt.*

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.’

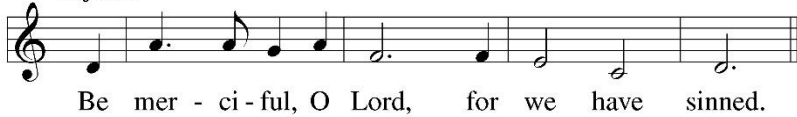
“This is what the LORD says: ‘Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity upon you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight. You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before 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.”

*David expresses repentance after being confronted with his guilt by Nathan.*

*Refrain*



*Psalm tone*



Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love.

Wash away all my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me. ***Refrain***

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

Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

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

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

**Glory be 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. ***Refrain*****

**Psalm of the Day (6:45 p.m.)**

**O Come and Mourn**  
*arranged by Hal H. Hopson*

O come and mourn with me awhile;  
All ye now come to the Savior's side;  
Come see the One who frees us all;  
The Lord of life is crucified.

Have we no tears to shed for him,  
While soldiers scoff and foes deride?  
Upon the cross he bears the pain;  
The Lord of life is crucified.

Seven times he speaks, seven words of love;  
His silence too, cries out to all.  
His words of love our hearts receive.  
The Lord of life is crucified.

O love of God, now shown to all.  
In this dread hour true strength is found;  
It is with love we triumph still.  
The Lord of life is crucified.

**Second Lesson**

**Acts 5:1-11**

*Ananias' and Sapphira's guilt and lack of repentance led to death.*

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.

### **Verse of the Day**

Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

*Please stand*

### **Gospel**

**Luke 18:9-14**

*The tax collector repented of his guilt; the Pharisee did not.*

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.”

**M:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise be to you, O Christ.

*Be seated*

**Anthem (6:45 p.m.)**

**Kyrie**

*edited by Robert S. Hines*

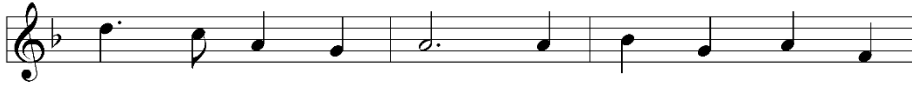
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*





1 In Ad - am we have all been one, One  
 2 We fled our God, and los - ing him, We  
 3 But your strong love, it sought us still And  
 4 O Sav - ior, when we loved you not, You  
 5 Send us your Spir - it; teach us truth To



huge re - bel - lious man; We all have fled that  
 lost our broth - er too. Each sin - gly sought and  
 sent your on - ly Son That we might hear his  
 loved and saved us all; O great good Shep - herd  
 purge our van - i - ty. From fan - cied wis - dom,



eve - ning voice That sought us as we ran.  
 claimed his own; Each man his broth - er slew.  
 shep - herd - voice And, hear - ing him, be one.  
 of man - kind, Oh, hear us when we call.  
 self - sought ways, O Sav - ior, set us free.

6 Then shall our song united rise  
 To your eternal throne,  
 Where with the Father evermore  
 And Spirit you are one.

Sermon

2 Samuel 12:1-13

An Equation for Lent

Please stand

## Nicene Creed

**C: 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.**

**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,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

*Be seated*

## Offering

*The members of St. John's have joined together to do the Lord's work  
in our community and around the world, and our offerings are  
a joyful response of our faith. To submit your offering electronically,  
scan the QR code or visit [www.sjtosa.org/giving](http://www.sjtosa.org/giving). If you are a visitor today,  
you are welcome but not obligated to give an offering.*



*Please stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

**M:** Lord Jesus Christ, it is with humble and contrite hearts that we enter this holy season of Lent to meditate upon the bitter sufferings and death that you, the innocent Lamb of God, endured for us.

**C:** **With deep sorrow we confess that our sins were the cause of your suffering and dying.**

**M:** Precious Savior, it is with mixed feelings that we consider your agony-filled death, for while we sorrow over our sins that caused it, we also rejoice over the salvation it brought us.

**C:** **We who by our sins have made ourselves God's enemies have been reconciled to him by your death. Eternal life is ours through you.**

**M:** We praise you, dear Redeemer, for coming here as our brother to bring God's love and forgiveness to us poor sinners. And we praise you for your own great love that made you lay down your life on the cross for us.

**C:** **Pardon our sins and perfect our faith, which through the Spirit you have begun in us. Fill us with your Spirit that you might work in us that which is pleasing to you.**

**M:** Since you died on the cross for all people and desire that everyone should know you, use us in your kingdom to make known to others your saving way of peace, of hope, of mercy and love.

**C:** **Help us bear our crosses without complaining, as you so unselfishly bore your cross for us.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow*

**M:** Precious Savior, in all life's difficulties, teach us to come to you and rest our burdens in the shadow of your cross, where you assure us of your help and solace.

**C:** **Hear us for the glory of your name. Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## Hymn

## In Hopelessness and Near Despair

*Christian Worship Supplement 738*



1 In hope - less - ness and near de - spair, I  
2 I see my heart's con - di - tion now, My  
3 I trem - ble as I feel your hand, Ex -  
4 For - giv - en, free of guilt and shame, Grant



cry to you, my Sav - ior! My guilt is more than  
heart's di - verse af - fec - tions. Why do I love the  
pec - ting re - tri - bu - tion, Yet hear no curse or  
me some time to ren - der A gift to glo - ri -



I can bear. I have not earned your fav - or. You  
things you loathe; I'm torn in two di - rec - tions: Now  
re - pri - mand, But grace and ab - so - lu - tion: With  
fy your name, Love to re - flect your splen - dor: This

know me as I real - ly am: How  
 prod - i - gal, now Phar - i - see. O  
 you there is for - give - ness, Lord, You  
 world must know what I have learned, That

much is truth, how much is sham; Why  
 God, be mer - ci - ful to me; Who  
 speak the sweet, con - sol - ing Word, And  
 you be - stow what none has earned: The

should you heed my plead - ing?  
 else but you can help me?  
 I am sure you love me!  
 joy of full for - give - ness!

*Please stand*

**M:** Lord God, as we begin another Lenten season, fix before our eyes the cross and our deep need for a Savior. Look with mercy on this your church and grant to us your Holy Spirit that our hearts may be contrite, our faith steadfast and immovable, and our hope built securely upon the willing sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C:** **Amen.**

*Be seated*

## Closing Hymn

## Hail, O Once-Despised Jesus

*Christian Worship 351*



1 Hail, O once - de - spis - ed Je - sus! Hail, O Gal - i -  
2 Pas - chal Lamb, by God ap - point - ed, All our sins on  
3 Je - sus, heav'n - ly hosts a - dore you, Seat - ed at your  
4 Wor - ship, hon - or, pow'r, and bless - ing You are wor - thy



le - an King! You have suf - fered to re - lease us,  
you were laid; By al - might - y love a - noint - ed,  
Fa - ther's side. Cru - ci - fied this world once saw you;  
to re - ceive; Loud - est prais - es, with - out ceas - ing,



Hope to give and peace to bring. Hail, O u - ni - ver - sal  
You have full a - tone - ment made. Ev - 'ry sin has been for -  
Now in glo - ry you a - bide. There for sin - ners you are  
Right it is for us to give. Help, O bright an - gel - ic



Sav - ior, Bear - er of our sin and shame; By your mer -  
giv - en Through the pow - er of your blood; O - pen is  
plead - ing, And our place you now pre - pare, Ev - er for  
spir - its, All your no - blest an - thems raise; Help to sing



its we find fa - vor; Life is giv - en through your name.  
the gate of heav - en; We are rec - on - ciled to God.  
us in - ter - ced - ing Till in glo - ry we ap - pear.  
our Sav - ior's mer - its; Help to chant Im - man - uel's praise.

## Announcements

## Postlude

# Serving at Worship

**Preacher**

Pastor Joel Leyrer

**Presiding Minister**

Pastor Eric Schroeder

**Musicians**

Lynn Kozlowski, organ  
Becky Rehborg, clarinet  
Morgan Festerling, violin  
Riley Kubicki, alto saxophone  
Cavanaugh Sipe, piano

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# The Mission of our Church

*As God's people gathered together at St. John's, we live to declare the praises of our Savior God who called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of his grace.*

*As 21<sup>st</sup> century disciples of Jesus, we reflect the light of God's love by:*



*Making worship of our Savior the top priority in our lives*



*Growing in our faith through daily contact with God's Word*



*Fostering Christian friendships for mutual encouragement and support*



*Using our unique gifts to glorify God and serve God's people*



*Sharing the good news of God's forgiving love with others*

## Worship Services

*Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.*

*Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.*

## Worship in Chinese

*Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.*

## Pastors

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joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org*

*Pastor Eric Schroeder  
eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org*

*Pastor Kyle Bitter  
kyle.bitter@sjtosa.org*

## Chinese Outreach Pastor

*Pastor Joshua Yu  
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## School Principal

*Mr. Dan Markgraf  
dan.markgraf@sjtosa.org*

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