



Mission Statement

As men, women and children united in faith and worship by the Word of God, we are **committed to making disciples**, using the gospel to win the lost for Christ, and nurturing believers for Christian service, all to the glory of God.

Service Times

Sundays 8:00 & 10:30; Monday 6:30pm

Television: Sundays, 12:30 pm,
channel 98 analog; channel 983 digital

Adult Bible Study and Sunday School (K4-8th)

Sunday mornings 9:15-10:15

www.peacewels.org

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RETURN
to the
LORD
your
GOD
+

ASH WEDNESDAY

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

232 Windsor St. Sun Prairie, WI 53590
February 14, 2018

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We love that you are here today! May your visit with us bring you closer to your Savior and the Christians with whom you worship. For your convenience, restrooms are located in the foyer by the library. There is a cry room in the back of the sanctuary.

TODAY'S FOCUS

The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of a 40-day journey of repentance and renewal in preparation for Easter. Return to your God!

WHY "ASH" WEDNESDAY?

After Adam and Eve sinned, God told them, "From dust you came, to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19). Historically, Christians through the centuries have observed this day with a practice called the Imposition of Ashes. Ashes are placed either on the forehead or the back of the hand as a reminder of our mortality and need for a Savior. Though this practice had fallen out of use among Lutheran churches in America, in recent decades, many have sought to reintroduce a purified observance of this day, Ash Wednesday.

DO I HAVE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES?

The Imposition of Ashes is not commanded in the Bible. Only those should participate who freely wish to. Children are welcome to participate at the discretion of their parents.

The Imposition of Ashes does not bring you closer to God or gain you His approval. It simply serves as a reminder of our sin and mortality. God's interest is a "broken and contrite heart" (Psalm 51:17).

The Imposition of Ashes will be observed during the 7:00 service only.

SOME IDEAS FOR OBSERVING LENT

As Jesus began His public ministry by fasting for 40 days in the wilderness being tempted by Satan, we observe a 40-day period (counting 6 1/2 weeks, Monday thru Saturday) of preparation leading up to Easter.

Down through the centuries, Christians have observed various ways to make the season stand out. Here are some ideas:

- First and foremost, we observe this season with special worship services on Wednesdays. We receive the "one thing needful."
- Consider working your way through a devotional or other book which are on display from our church library.
- Each day of Lent pray for a Peace member/family that you are not related to. (Directories are available on the media table.)
- Many Christians "give up" something for Lent. This doesn't gain us heaven or make us more righteous (Cl 2:23; 1Tm 4:1-5). On the other hand, some Christians like to do this 1) as a means of consciously crucifying the flesh by deprivation (1Co 6:12-13a; 8:8) as opposed to living for gluttony. For example, if you really love ice cream but give it up for Lent –each time you suffer a pang for ice cream, it is a reminder of the much greater suffering of Christ for your sake. 2) as a way of enhancing the Easter celebration. Food doesn't bring us closer to God, but to have ice cream once again on Easter Sunday is simply a way to enhance the celebration. (That's the ancient fast/feast concept.) You are NOT less of a Christian if you don't do this.
- Practice charity: each week go out to eat one less time and give the money to a charity or someone in need.
- Each day, for forty days, mail a hand-written note, or text, or in some other way communicate a word of encouragement to someone.
- Each day, for forty days, read a psalm before you go to sleep.

While things like worship, charity, avoiding gluttony, and encouraging others are not optional for the Christian, and God wills that we do them year-round, whether we consciously practice these things in a special way for a special season and/or how we do them is optional. This list is only meant to offer helpful ideas.

Remember that dust you are, and to dust you shall return.

After all who desire have received ashes, the minister motions for all to stand and says:

M Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation

C That we may show forth your glory in the world.

M By the cross and suffering of your Son, O Lord,

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

M Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

On My Heart Imprint Your Image | red hymnal 319

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister Rev. Luke C. Werre
Pianist (noon) Mrs. Cathy Gresens
Organist (7:00) Mrs. Lisa Schoenherr
Choir Mrs. Joan Eggert

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Please remain seated.

PSALM 51

The congregation and the minister read the Psalm together.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

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

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

Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

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

Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

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

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

Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

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

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
 and sinners will turn back to you.
 Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me,
 and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
 O Lord, open my lips,
 and my mouth will declare your praise.
 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
 you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
 a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
 In your good pleasure make Zion prosper;
 build up the walls of Jerusalem.
 Then there will be righteous sacrifices, whole burnt offerings to delight you;
 then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Silence for meditation

Please stand when presider indicates.

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.**

Please be seated.

fortunate than ourselves

C **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M Our love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work

C **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M Our negligence in worship and prayer and our failure to show the faith that is in us

C **We confess to you, O Lord.**

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

C **Forgive us, O Lord.**

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

C **Forgive us, O Lord.**

M For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,

C **Forgive us, O Lord.**

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

C **Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.**

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

HYMN

Savior, When I Dust to You | red hymnal 124

When O'er My Sins I Sorrow | red hymnal 109

Come forward at the usher's direction. If you wish to receive ashes on the hand, please hold your hand out for the minister.

The minister applies ashes to the forehead or hand of each in the form of a small cross, saying:

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

CONFESSION OF SINS

M Most holy and merciful Father,

C We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned
by our own fault,
by our own grievous fault in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

M 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.

C Have mercy on us, Lord.

M 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 the Holy Spirit.

C Have mercy on us, Lord.

M We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.
The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives

C We confess to you, O Lord.

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

C We confess to you, O Lord.

M Our anger when our selfish aims are denied and our envy of those more

THE WORD

HYMN

Wondrous Are Your Ways, O God | red hymnal 307

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 59:12-20 | pew Bible pg. 1154

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 130 | red hymnal, page 114

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2 | pew Bible pg. 1799

CHOIR ANTHEM (7:00); HYMN #396 (Noon)

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 18:9-14 | pew Bible pg.1628

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

From Depths of Woe I Cry to You | red hymnal 305

SERMON

Luke 18:9-14

Layers

Please stand. When presider indicates.

CREED

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil,

not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood, and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death, and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

Be seated.

OFFERING

Please stand when presider indicates.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

BLESSING

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.

CLOSING HYMN

Chief of Sinners Though I Be | red hymnal 385

THOSE WHO DO NOT WISH TO REMAIN FOR THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES MAY DEPART DURING THE HYMN. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SING THE WHOLE HYMN, THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO DEPART DURING A POSTLUDE FOLLOWING THE HYMN. PLEASE SEE THE FRONT COVER FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

INSTRUCTION FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT (7:00)

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