

AN EVENING PRAYER

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Arr. by C. H. G.

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HOMER A. RODEHEAVER, OWNER

Chas. H. Gabriel



1. If I have wounded an - y soul to - day, If I have caused one foot to
2. If I have ut-tered i - dle words or vain, If I have turned a - side from
3. If I have been perverse, or hard or cold, If I have longed for shel-ter
4. For-give the sins I have con-fessed to Thee; For-give the se - cret sins I



go a-stray, If I have walked in my own will-ful way, Dear Lord, for-give!
want or pain, Lest I of-fend some oth-er thru' the strain, Dear Lord, for-give!
in Thy fold, When Thou hast given me some fort to hold, Dear Lord, for-give!
do not see; O guide me, love me, and my keep-er be, x x x x A - men.

† We welcome our brothers and sisters from the Methodist, Brethren, and Presbyterian Churches to our Ash Wednesday worship service.

† Thank you to the confirmation students for helping lead worship tonight!

† We hope you will join us as we continue to explore the "I AM" sayings of Jesus each week of our midweek Lenten worship series.

February 21 - I AM...The Bread of Life

No meal this week - Refreshments will follow the worship service
6:15 - Lenten Worship at United Methodist Church

February 28 - I AM...The Light of the World

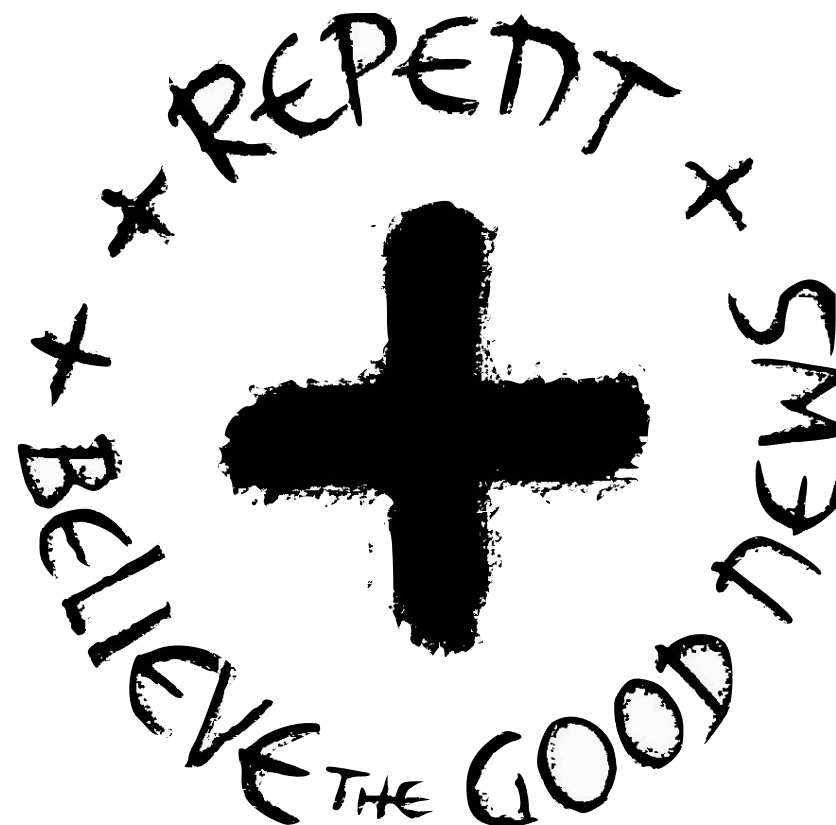
5:30 - Supper at St. Peter Lutheran Church
6:15 - Lenten Worship at First Presbyterian Church

March 7 - I AM...The Gate

No meal this week
6:15 - Lenten Worship at United Methodist Church

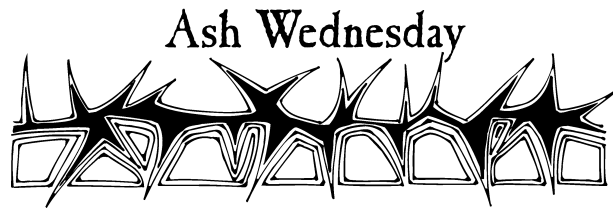
St. Peter Lutheran Church

Greene, Iowa



Ash Wednesday

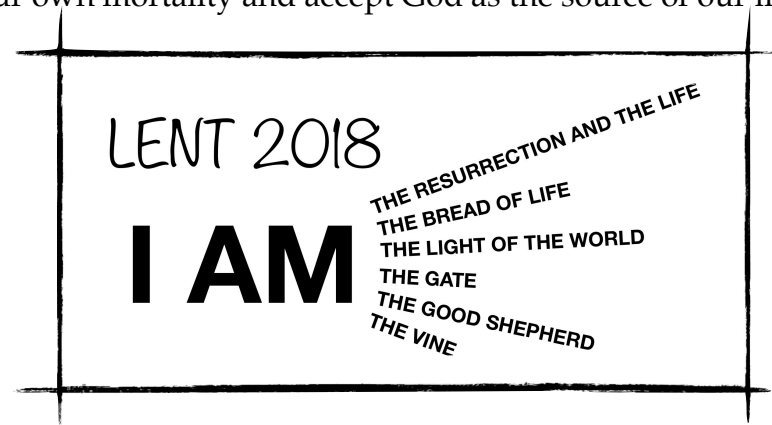
February 14, 2018



Welcome in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, to this Ash Wednesday worship service and the season of Lent.

Lent focuses on repentance and reflection on our sin, that which keeps us from the life to which God calls us. This season lasts for the next forty days leading up to Easter Sunday. Sundays are not counted as each Sunday is a "Little Easter" - a celebration of the resurrection where we witness and celebrate God's love for us despite our sin.

Lent begins with tonight's service of confession and ashes. For Jews and Christians, ashes suggest our repentance before God's just condemnation of our sin, as well as our total dependence upon God. Genesis 2 speaks of God forming humans out of the dust of the earth and breathing into us the breath of life. With the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" we recognize our own mortality and accept God as the source of our life.



This year during Lent, we will be looking at the "I AM..." sayings of Jesus in John's gospel, exploring who Jesus is for us. Tonight, as we remember that we are dust, we will hear the promise that out of the ashes of our lives, **Jesus brings resurrection and new life**. We hope you will join us every Wednesday in Lent to learn more about the promises of new life and hope found in our Savior, Jesus.

C: "Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come."

Offering Prayer

L: God our Father,

C: All we have and all we are is a gift from you, and we return to you a small token of what is yours. Take our feeble gifts and make something beautiful out of them for your work. Take our lives and use us for your glory. Call us out of the tomb into new life in Jesus. Amen

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

A word about communion:

All who are baptized and share the confident hope that Christ's body and blood are given to us in the bread and wine are invited to come and share in the Lord's Supper. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers and kneel at the altar rail. You will receive a piece of bread to eat, then a cup of wine to drink. The purple cups at the edge of the tray contain grape juice, and gluten free wafers are also available if that is helpful for you. If coming up the steps to the rail is difficult, please let an usher know and the sacrament can be brought to you. Those not communing are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Distribution - Lamb of God - page 93

Hymn #107 - "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

An Evening Prayer - back of bulletin

Sending

Sending Hymn #482 - "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of the DayL: Let us pray. Almighty God,*

C: In the beginning you formed life out of nothing, breathing new life into dust to form your people. Create in us clean hearts, O God. Stir up your Holy Spirit within the dust of our lives, 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

Word**John 11:1-44**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."

⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."

⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep.

¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother

would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

*R: The word of the Lord.***C: Thanks be to God.****Sermon: "I AM...The Resurrection and the Life"**

Prayer

L: Holy God, You created us out of the dust of the ground. May these ashes remind us that we are dust and shall return to dust. May they also remind us of the resurrection to new and everlasting life promised by Jesus Christ on the cross.

C: Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen

Imposition of Ashes

All are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive ashes on their foreheads. Ashes in the sign of the cross, the sign of promise given at baptism, are imposed with these words:

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

Song: "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Create in me a clean heart, O God; And renew a right spirit within me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; And renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, O Lord

And take not Thy holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;

And renew a right spirit within me.

Hymn #91 - "Savior, When in Dust to You"

After all who desire ashes have received them, the presiding minister proclaims to the assembly the promise of forgiveness and new life in Christ.

Promise of Absolution

P: People of God, hear this good news: Our prayer for forgiveness is answered in the person of Jesus Christ. Because of Jesus, all of your sins are forgiven. Death no longer has a hold on you. Out of the dust of your life, God is creating something beautiful. Live as forgiven, beloved, redeemed children of God.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God!

Meal**Offering**

Offerings given in envelopes will go to the individual churches. Loose offerings and Lutheran envelope offerings at midweek Lenten services support the work of Lutheran Services in Iowa and the Greene Community Food Bank.

Please fill out a communion card and place it in the offering plate as well.

***Sung Offertory - page 66**

Gathering**Welcome & Invocation**

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: We gather tonight in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Let us humble ourselves in God's presence, begging for forgiveness and trusting in God's grace. You may kneel or stay seated as we begin with our Psalm of confession.

***Psalm 51:1-17**

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

C: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

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

C: Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

P: Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

C: You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

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

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

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

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

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

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

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

C: Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

P: O LORD, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

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

P: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;

C: A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

***Hymn #309 - "Lord Jesus, Think on Me"**