

ASH WEDNESDAY

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

ORGAN PRELUDE.....Samuel Metzger

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 32:1-2, 5-6..... David A. Bowen

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**Blessed is the man against whom the Lord does not count iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity.

**I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

♠HYMN OF ADORATION: No. 211 "O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"..... EBENEZER

♠PRAYER OF ADORATION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH..... Heidelberg Catechism Question #60

How are you right with God?

**Only by true faith in Jesus Christ.
Even though my conscience accuses me
of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments,
and of never having kept any of them,
and even though I am still inclined toward all evil,
nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace,
God grants and credits to me
the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ,
as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner,
as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me.
All I need to do is to accept this gift of God with a believing heart.
Thanks be to God!**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS..... II Corinthians 7:10, Psalm 51:17

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOMILY *Continual Repentance* Michael G. Stokke

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty and everlasting God,
You hate nothing You have made
and forgive the sins of all who truly repent.
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we,
worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our faults,
may obtain of You, the God of all mercy,
complete remission and forgiveness
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All those who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church as a communing member are warmly welcomed to receive communion today. Non-communing worshipers are encouraged to contemplate the love of Jesus Christ during this time. For those unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

COMMUNION HYMNS

Throughout this time of communion, we invite you to join in singing the hymns below.

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” PASSION CHORALE

**O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns Thine only crown:
How pale Thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn,
How does that visage languish, which once was bright as morn!**

**What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain;
Mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior; 'tis I deserve Thy place;
Look on me with Thy favor, assist me with Thy grace.**

**What language shall I borrow to thank Thee, dearest Friend,
For this, Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?
I make me Thine forever, and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my live to Thee.**

“Before the Throne of God Above” Charitie Lees Bancroft, Vikki Cook

**Before the throne of God above, I have a strong, a perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is “Love” who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heav’n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart, no tongue can bid me thence depart.**

**When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me, to look on Him and pardon me.**

**Behold Him there the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
The great unchangeable I Am, the King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God, with Christ, my Savior and my God.**

✦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

✦Indicates congregation standing

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