



## St. Mary's Lutheran Church

2001 80th Street—Kenosha, WI 53143

## Ash Wednesday Service

February 18, 2026

6:00pm



### PRELUDE

*STAND*

### GREETING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY (see yellow insert)

*Please be seated.*

### WORD (see yellow insert)

#### First Reading: Joel 2:1-1, 12-17

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 51:1-17 (read responsively)

#### Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*STAND*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
steady - fast love, and a - bound - ing in steady - fast love.

### Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The holy gospel according to Matthew the 6th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*SIT*

### SERMON

*STAND*

**HYMN OF THE DAY Hymn #326 "Bless Now, O God, the Journey"**

*S/T*

## **INVITATION TO LENT**

Let us pray.

As we start on our Lenten journey, we remember travelers:

Those who are traveling by choice: for work, to see friends and family, to experience new cultures and see the world.

Those who are forced to travel: to leave their homes because of fire or flood or war.

Those who must leave their countries due to fear of violence and who hope to resettle in another country.

For all travelers, we ask your blessing.

**Lord, give them strength for the journey.**

As we start on our Lenten journey, we remember travelers.

Those whose journey involves giving something up in order to deepen their relationship with you, each other, and creation.

Those on a journey away from self-destructive habits and addictions.

Those who haven't chosen to give things up but have had them taken away.

For all travelers, we ask your blessing.

**Lord, give them strength for the journey.**

We, too, travel through the season of Lent as disciples of Jesus. In this season, we are called to travel a path of discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

*Penny Guy (Aotearoa/New Zealand)*

*from Gifts in Open Hands: More Worship Resources For the Global Community*

*edited by Maren Tirabassi and Kathy Wonson Eddy*

*Cleveland, OH: The Pilgrim Press, 2011*

*adapted from ELW*

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

## **CONFESSON OF SIN**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

**have mercy on us.**

For boundless love of self, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

**have mercy on us.**

For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

**have mercy on us.**

For misuse of human relationships, and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

**have mercy on us.**

For jealousies that divide families and nations, and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

**have mercy on us.**

For inequity in sharing the gifts of God, and for carelessness with the fruits of creation:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

**have mercy on us.**

For hurtful words that condemn and angry words that harm:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

**have mercy on us.**

For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ, and for squandering the gifts of love and grace:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

**have mercy on us.**

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

**have mercy on us.**

### **IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*After those who desire ashes have received them, the service will continue.*

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 our Son, our Savior,

**bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**Amen.**

**STAND**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**Amen.**

### **OFFERING**

#### **MUSICAL OFFERING**

*Adult Choir*

*"Lamb of God" by FM CHRISTIANSEN*

*Lamb of God most holy! Who on the cross didst suffer,*

*Patient still and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer;*

*Our sins by Thee were taken, Or hope had us forsaken;*

*Have mercy on us, O Jesu!*

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

***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.***

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

### POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

Let us pray together. **Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life 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.**

### BLESSING

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### SENDING SONG *Hymn #793 "Be Thou My Vision"*

### DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness;  
be of good courage;  
hold fast to that which is good;  
render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted;  
support the weak;  
help the afflicted;  
honor all people;  
love and serve God,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

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### WORSHIP LEADERS

**Lead Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Jordan Miller-Stubbendick

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Debbie Hartfield

**Sound/Video:** Adam Fonk/Julie Scmit

**Reader:** Ken Winkle

**Musician:** Deb Black

**Adult Choir:** Dr. Richard Sjoerdsma, Director

**Communion Assistants:** Laura Miesbauer,  
Kay Manderfeld, Sandy Bear

**Sacristan:** Pat Gallo, Kay/Dave Manderfeld