

# ASH WEDNESDAY

A STORY OF TWO KINGS  
WEDNESDAY, February 14, 2018

**AS WE GATHER** Today we begin the season of Lent and embark on our journey through the story of two kings. One was perhaps the greatest earthly king in Israel's history: King David. The other is the King of kings and Lord of lords who is enthroned as King for all eternity: Jesus, the Christ. As we enter this season of Lent, we will take a close look at temptation and the battle that continues to wage on in our lives. We will see King David fall to temptation, as we all have done. We will see Jesus overcome it. Finally, we will take to heart words of power in battling temptation and words of promise and comfort when we fall.

## OPENING HYMN #440 "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

Jesus, I will ponder now On Your holy passion;  
With Your Spirit me endow For such meditation.  
Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish  
Of Your suffering, pain, and death That I may not perish.

Make me see Your great distress, Anguish, and affliction,  
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness And Your crucifixion;  
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,  
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.

Yet, O Lord, not thus alone Make me see Your passion,  
But its cause to me make known And its termination.  
Ah! I also and my sin Wrought Your deep affliction;  
This indeed the cause has been Of Your crucifixion.

Grant that I You passion view With repentant grieving.  
Let me not bring shame to You By unholy living.  
How could I refuse to shun Ev'ry sinful pleasure  
Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure?

If my sins give me alarm And my conscience grieve me,  
Let Your cross my fear disarm; Peace of conscience give me.  
Help me see forgiveness won By Your holy passion.  
If for me He slays His Son, God must have compassion!

Graciously my faith renew; Help me bear my crosses,  
Learning humbleness from You, Peace mid pain and losses.  
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Savior,  
That I may in heav'n above Sing Your praise forever.

## (Rise) INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**People: O my God, in you I trust;**

Pastor: let me not be put to shame;

**People: let not my enemies exult over me.**

Pastor: Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;

**People: they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**

Pastor: Make me to know your ways, O Lord;

**People: teach me your paths.**

Pastor: Lead me in your truth and teach me,

**People: for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.**

## RESPONSE "Return to the Lord, Your God"

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Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.  
(Be seated)

## THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Ashes are a sign of repentance and reminder of the wages of sin; Death.

*The pastor and assistants receive ashes first, followed by the congregation.  
Using the right thumb, the pastor or an assistant places the ashes on the  
forehead of each person in the sign of the cross, saying:*

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

*The words are heard repeated over each person. After receiving the ashes, each  
person returns to pews in silence.*

## 6:00 BELL CHOIR "What Wondrous Love Is This?"

## HYMN DURING IMPOSITION OF ASHES

### #419 "Savior, When in Dust to Thee"

Savior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the adoring knee;  
When, repentant, to the skies Scarce we lift our weeping eyes;  
O, by all Thy pains and woe Suffered once for us below,  
Bending from Thy throne on high, Hear our penitential cry!

By Thy helpless infant years, By Thy life of want and tears,  
By Thy days of deep distress  
In the savage wilderness, By the dread, mysterious hour  
Of the insulting tempter's pow'r.  
Turn, O turn a fav'ring eye; Hear our penitential cry!

By Thine hour of dire despair, By Thine agony of prayer,  
By the cross, the nail, the thorn, Piercing spear, and torturing scorn,  
By the gloom that veiled the skies O'er the dreadful sacrifice,  
Listen to our humble sigh; Hear our penitential cry!

By Thy deep expiring groan, By the sad sepulchral stone,  
By the vault whose dark abode Held in vain the rising God,  
O, from earth to heav'n restored, Mighty, re-ascended Lord,  
Bending from Thy throne on high. Hear our penitential cry!

(Rise)

### **CONFESSION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF GRACE**

Pastor: Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

**People: I am by nature sinful and unclean.**

Pastor: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

**People: I confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you.**

Pastor: According to your steadfast love remember me,

**People: I have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed.**

Pastor: For the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

**People: I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them.**

Pastor: Good and upright is the Lord; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.

**People: I flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble His way.

**People: Have mercy on me and for His sake grant me remission of all my sins.**

Pastor: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

**People: For your name's sake, O Lord, pardon my guilt, for it is great.**

Pastor: Take comfort in God's grace! For Jesus' sake, all your sins are forgiven. Who is the man who fears the Lord? Him will He instruct in the way that he should choose. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.

**People: Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.**

### **PSALM 51**

Pastor: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

**People: according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

Pastor: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

**People: and cleanse me from my sin!**

Pastor: For I know my transgressions,

**People: and my sin is ever before me.**

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

**People: so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.**

Pastor: Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,

**People: and in sin did my mother conceive me.**

Pastor: Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,

**People: and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

Pastor: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

**People: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

Pastor: Let me hear joy and gladness;

**People: let the bones that you have broken rejoice.**

Pastor: Hide your face from my sins,

**People: and blot out all my iniquities.**

Pastor: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

**People: and renew a right spirit within me.**

Pastor: Cast me not away from your presence,

**People: and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

Pastor: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

**People: and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

Pastor: Then I will teach transgressors your ways,

**People: and sinners will return to you.**

Pastor: Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation,

**People: and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.**

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips,

**People: and my mouth will declare your praise.**

Pastor: For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;

**People: you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.**

Pastor: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

**People: a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

Pastor: Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;

**People: build up the walls of Jerusalem;**

Pastor: then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;

**People: then bulls will be offered on your altar.**

**All: 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.**

(Be seated)

**HYMN #610 "Lord Jesus, Think on Me"**

Lord Jesus, think on me And purge away my sin;  
From worldly passions set me free And make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me, By anxious thoughts oppressed;  
Let me Your loving servant be And taste Your promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me Amid the battle's strife;  
In all my pain and misery, O be my health and life!

Lord Jesus, think on me Nor let me go astray;  
Through darkness and perplexity Point out Your chosen way.

Lord Jesus, think on me That, when this life is past,  
I may the eternal brightness see And share Your joy at last.

**FIRST READING** 2 Samuel 11:1-17, 26-27; 12:1-10, 13-14

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel. And they ravaged the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful. And David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, "Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" So David sent messengers and took her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she had been purifying herself from her uncleanness.) Then she returned to her house. And the woman conceived, and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant." So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab was doing and how the people were doing and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." And Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to

Uriah, "Have you not come from a journey? Why did you not go down to your house?" Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah dwell in booths, and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field. Shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing." Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. And David invited him, and he ate in his presence and drank, so that he made him drunk. And in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house. In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, that he may be struck down, and die." And as Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah to the place where he knew there were valiant men. And the men of the city came out and fought with Joab, and some of the servants of David among the people fell. Uriah the Hittite also died.

When the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she lamented over her husband. And when the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD. And the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds, but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. And he brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children. It used to eat of his morsel and drink from his cup and lie in his arms, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. And I

gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.' David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David,

"The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die. Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the LORD, the child who is born to you shall die."

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**6:00 CHOIR ANTHEM** "Just As I Am"

(Rise) **SECOND READING Luke 4:1-13.**

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."

And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." And Jesus answered him, "It is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'" And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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## THE APOSTLES' CREED

(Be seated)

### HYMN #524 "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds In a believer's ear!  
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, And drives away our fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole And calms the heart's unrest;  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul and to the weary, rest.

Dear name! The rock on which I build, My shield and hiding place;  
My never failing treasury filled With boundless stores of grace.

O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend, My Prophet, Priest, and King,  
My Lord, my life, my way, my end, Accept the praise I bring.

How weak the effort of my heart, How cold my warmest thought!  
But when I see Thee as Thou art, I'll praise Thee as I ought.

Till then I would Thy love proclaim With ev'ry fleeting breath;  
And may the music of Thy name Refresh my soul in death!

### SERMON "A King Who Faces Temptations"

(Based on our Scripture readings for today)

### OFFERTORY #956 "Create in Me"

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.  
Amen.

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

### (Rise) PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray. Father in heaven, today we have seen your servant, King David of old, fall to temptation and into sin. Yet, in love you sent Nathan to confront David, hear his confession, and restore him by your grace and forgiveness. Thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to be the King who conquered Satan, sin, and death.

**People:** Empower us by your Holy Spirit to resist temptation and walk in your ways. When we fall, grant us true sorrow over our sin, repentant hearts, and turn us again to Jesus for forgiveness and restoration.

Pastor: Gracious and merciful God, we turn to you, praying for the nations of the world and your good creation. We fear the wars and civil strife, the rising seas and severe droughts that may occur.

**People:** Strengthen our faith and give us hope. Instill a desire for peace and justice in the leaders of the nations, and awaken in us all a sense of devotion to the care of your good creation.

Pastor: Redeeming Lord, we turn to you, praying for all who are denied human dignity for any reason and all who are enslaved to their personal addictions.

**People:** Open their hearts and minds to the truth of the freedom from sin you won for us. Release them from individual prisons of every kind. May they break forth in joy for their newfound freedom.

Pastor: Hope of the hopeless, we turn to you, praying that you be with all who are frustrated by inadequate housing, unemployment, and isolation.

**People:** Surround them with supportive people of faith and guide them to the resources they need. Restore in them the certainty of your presence so that they may stand to face whatever the future holds.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we turn to you, praying for those near and dear to us, and all who call out to you who are beset with various crises of faith and health.

**People:** Remind them of our Savior, who overcame death and the grave and rose on the third day. Use the skills you have placed within medical professionals and counselors of all sorts to show your love, unknown to them in their present hour.

Pastor: O Thou who changest not, we turn to you, praying for those who have strayed from the family of faith.

**People:** Open their ears to hear you calling them home. Surround them with people to speak your Word and demonstrate your care. May they ponder anew what the Almighty can do.

Pastor: O Holy Spirit, we turn to you who tires not in inviting us to return, praying for all who are burdened with guilt or shame.

**People:** Remind them that it is the Savior who calls; let every ear hear and respond, confessing their sins in the sure hope of gracious forgiveness.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, you returned to Jerusalem, passionate in your mission to show mercy and love.

**People:** Give us confident faith at every reception of your body and blood in the Lord's Supper. Gather us as a hen gathers her chicks that the whole Church may rejoice together under your eternal protection.

Pastor: O Word of God Incarnate, you were sent by the Father to do His will.

**People:** We give thanks that by your obedient death and resurrection you returned to Him, having accomplished your mission and offering pardon to all who bring their requests to Him in your name.

Pastor: These and any other things you would have us ask of you, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

**People:** Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

**People:** Amen.

### AGNUS DEI

### "Lamb of God"

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O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

### HYMN # 611 "Chief of Sinners Though I Be"

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die  
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus' love, Higher than the heavens above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity!  
Love that found me wondrous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.

Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart,  
Peace that flows from sin forgiven, Joy that lifts the soul to heaven,  
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.

Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;  
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.  
He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.

O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your word!  
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

### **HYMN # 729 “I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus”**

I am trusting thee, Lord Jesus, Trusting only Thee;  
Trusting Thee for full salvation, Great and free.

I am trusting Thee for pardon At Thy feet I bow,  
For Thy grace and tender mercy Trusting now.

I am trusting Thee for cleansing In the crimson flood;  
Trusting Thee to make me holy By thy blood.

I am thrusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead,  
Ev’ry day and hour supplying All my need.

I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.  
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me Must prevail.

I am trusting Thee. Lord Jesus’ Never let me fall.  
I am trusting Thee forever and for all.

### **HYMN # 609 “Jesus Sinners Doth Receive”**

Jesus sinners doth receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder  
Who in sin’s delusions live And from God and heaven wander!  
Here is hope for all who grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

We deserve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich grace revealing,  
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim; Here our ills have perfect healing.  
Firmly in these words believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shepherd e’er forsaketh;  
Weary souls that lost their way Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh  
In His arms that they may live: Jesus sinners doth receive.

I, a sinner, come to Thee With a penitent confession.  
Savior, mercy show to me; Grant for all my sins remission.  
Let these words my soul relieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Oh, how blest it is to know: Were as scarlet my transgression.  
It shall be as white as snow By Thy blood and bitter passion:  
For these words I now believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Now my conscience is at peace; From the Law I stand acquitted.  
Christ hath purchased my release And my ev’ry sin remitted.  
Naught remains my soul to grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Jesus sinners doth receive; Also I have been forgiven:  
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to Him I cleave: Jesus sinners doth receive.

### **COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

#### **COLLECT FOR PEACE**

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels,  
and all just works, give to us, your servants, that peace which the world  
cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments

**People: and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may  
live in peace and quietness;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

#### **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give  
you peace.

**People: Amen.**

### **HYMN #398**

#### **“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”**

**Stanzas 1-4**

Hail to the Lord’s anointed, Great David’s greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression And rule in equity.

He comes with rescue speedy To those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers Upon the fruitful earth;  
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, Spring in His path to birth.  
Before Him on the mountains Shall peace, the herald, go;  
And righteousness in fountains From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before Him And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore Him, His praise all people sing.  
To Him shall prayer unceasing And daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing, A kingdom without end.

Preacher

Liturgist

Organist & Bell Choir Director

Choir Director

Pastor Harold Bender

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Michelle Prince

Nancy Hoelke