†Assurance of Forgiveness

#### GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

†Benediction †Congregational Response Postlude

#628 IV "Threefold Amen"

Worship Leader: Pastor Chad Anderson

#### **WORSHIP SPOTLIGHT**

#### What is Lent?

Lent is a season of 40 days (not counting Sundays) leading up to Easter Morning. It is modeled after the 40 day period Jesus spent in the wilderness being tempted by Satan (Matt. 4:1-11; Mk. 1:12-13; Lk. 4:1-12), which in turn was the fulfillment of many other 40 "day" events in Scripture (the Flood, Israel's 40 years in the wilderness, Moses' time on Mt. Sinai, the repentance of Nineveh, etc). In this period of testing, Jesus showed himself to be the Faithful Son of God who would go on to suffer for our sins and defeat the Serpent once and for all.

As with the rest of the Christian Year, Lent is an attempt to see the life of Christ lived out in the lives of His people. As with the other seasons, the assigned Gospel readings for each Sunday set the tone. These include: Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, His call for costly discipleship, His cleansing of the Temple, and His predictions of his suffering and death.

Therefore, the season of Lent is a season of giving thanks for Our Suffering Servant. It is a season for lamenting and confessing our sin which necessitated his atoning sacrifice. During Lent we will be encouraging one another to follow Jesus through the disciplines of repentance, prayer, and works of mercy—living not by bread alone "but by every Word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4).



#### March 5th, 2025

Ash Wednesday

Prelude

#### **GOD SUMMONS US TO WORSHIP**

Call to Worship Psalm 51:15-17 †Congregational Singing #334 "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

†Responsive Scriptures

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

The Lord has redeemed His people.

O come, let us worship Him.

†Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

†Congregational Singing "How Deep the Father's Love for Us" Address

Brothers and sisters in Christ, every year at Easter we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our commitment to the daily disciplines of repentance, prayer, meditation on the Word, and acts of mercy. We begin this season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

#### **GOD SANCTIFIES US TO HIMSELF**

Call to Confession Genesis 3:17-19
Corporate Prayer of Confession from Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God

according to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy

blot out my transgressions.

For I know my transgressions,

and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned

and done what is evil in your sight,

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

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,

and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,

and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence,

and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

and uphold me with a willing spirit.

†Congregational Singing "Lord Jesus Think on Me"

#### **GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD**

Old Testament Reading

Epistle Reading

†Gospel Reading

The Apostle's Creed
Sermon

Joel 2:12-17

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

Mark 9:33-41

The Apostle's Creed

Pastor Chad Anderson

"He Will Not Lose His Reward"

†Congregational Singing "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

#### **GOD HEARS OUR PRAYER**

Litany of Penitence

Let us pray.

Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. 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.

### Have mercy on us, O God.

We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

# Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness: The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

## we confess to you, O God.

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

## we confess to you, O God.

Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

### we confess to you, O God.

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

## we confess to you, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

#### we confess to you, O God.

Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done. For our neglect of human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

## accept our repentance, O God.

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

### accept our repentance, O God.

For our waste and pollution of your creation and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

### accept our repentance, O God.

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

# Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

That we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

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