

COMMUNION HYMNS

Abide With Me ELW 629
My Hope is Built on Nothing Less ELW 597
Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling ELW 608

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION Unfailing Light Pg. 15

SENDING HYMN

Oh Lord Throughout These Forty Days ELW 319

BLESSING Unfailing Light Pg. 17

DISMISSAL Go in Peace, Share your Bread
Thanks be to God!

PLEASE LEAVE THE SANCTUARY IN SILENCE



Lenten Midweek Worship Services Every Thursday (starting February 22nd) 11:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M.

Prayer Around the Cross

These services are based on "Lectio Divina", which means "divine reading" in Latin. It's a meditative way of reading the Bible in which we let go of our own agendas and open ourselves to what God is trying to say to us.

Please plan to join us for these quiet and contemplative services.



Lenten Devotional Materials can be found in the Narthex. Please feel free to take them home and to share with others.

St. Timothy Lutheran Church
812 E. Tarpon Ave. Tarpon Springs, FL 34689
(727) 937-3503
Pastor Curt Snare

ASH WEDNESDAY
February 14, 2024



OUR MISSION
A caring church sharing Jesus Christ with the world by offering help, hope and home.

PRELUDE

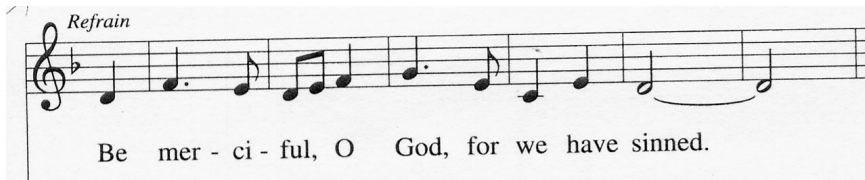
INTRODUCTION

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in today's readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

INVOCATION

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

Amen



REFRAIN

PSALM 51:

Have mercy on me, God, in your goodness;
In the greatness of your love,
Make me clean within, wash me from my guilt
cleanse me from my sin.

REFRAIN

For I confess to you my offenses;
And my sin is always there keeping me from right.
Against you I have sinned, evil in your sight.

REFRAIN

O God, Create in me a clean heart,
And renew a steadfast spirit deep within my being.
Cast me not away; not your spirit from me.

REFRAIN

Oh, give me back the joy of your salvation,
And sustain a willing spirit in me all my days.
Open now my lips; shall declare your praise

REFRAIN

EXHORTATION

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter
the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to
life, and our life in Christ is renewed.
We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need
for repentance and for God's mercy.

You seek justice and peace, righteous God. Rebuild
cities and homelands devastated by war (regions in
conflict may be named). Provide for those seeking help,
hope and home. Prosper negotiations that lead to lasting
peace among the nations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You care for all people, loving God. Heal any who are
scarred by violence, addiction, or trauma of any kind.
Comfort those who grieve and bring relief to any in
pain. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You gather this assembly, abiding God. Unite us in
serving our neighbors and working for justice. We pray
for caregivers and people who are hospitalized, in
treatment, or recovering from illness (especially).
Hear us, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You redeem us from death, faithful God. We give thanks
for those who served you in the church (especially Cyril
and Methodius, missionaries, whom we commemorate
today). Bring us with all the saints into everlasting joy.
Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and
receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ,
our Savior. Amen.

GIFTS OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

SPECIAL MUSIC

MEAL

Unfailing Light Pg. 9

FIRST READING: **Genesis 11:1-4**
PSALM: **Psalm 103:8-14**
SECOND READING: **2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:
 Unfailing Light pg. 7

GOSPEL: **Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY **Give Me Jesus** **Hymn 770**

SERMON

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God’s promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

You call us to return to you, steadfast God. Renew a right spirit within the church and cleanse the hearts of your people. Strengthen those who proclaim your gospel in word and deed. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You sustain your creation, generous God. Supply all that is needful for life to flourish. Protect endangered species and fragile habitats. Teach us to live lightly upon the earth and to honor it as our home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You seek justice and peace, righteous God. Rebuild cities and homelands devastated by war (regions in conflict may be named). Provide welcome, help, and safety to refugees. Prosper negotiations that lead to lasting peace among the nations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a 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.

Silence for reflection and self-examination precedes the confession.

CONFESSION

Most holy and merciful Father:

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.

We have been deaf 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.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

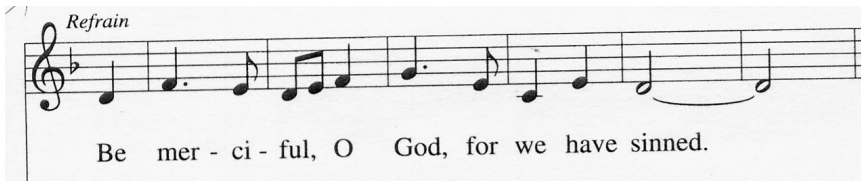
REFRAIN

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

REFRAIN

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

REFRAIN



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

REFRAIN

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

REFRAIN

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have
done. For our blindness to human need and suffering,
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

REFRAIN

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

REFRAIN

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

REFRAIN

Restore us good Lord, and let your anger depart from
us.

Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*Those who desire to receive ashes may come forward at
the direction of the ushers. The ministers apply ashes to
the forehead of each person with the words:*

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

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 your Son, our Lord,
**bring us with all your saints to the joy of his
resurrection.**

**Just As I Am, without One Plea
Our Father We Have Wandered**

**ELW 592
ELW 606**

GREETING

Unfailing Light Pg. 6

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you
have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are
penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that,
truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you,
the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**