



# **St. John's Lutheran Church**

*Sharing God's Grace, Serving Through Love*

***Ash Wednesday***  
***February 18, 2026***  
***12:00 pm & 7:00 pm***



## ***Welcome Visitors!***

*Out of a broken and divided world, all are welcomed into the whole body of Jesus Christ at St. John's. We trust in a God who loves all people, no matter their economic status, age, marital status, ethnicity, race, country of origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, diversity of ability, or religious background. Together we join in sharing God's grace and serving through love, experiencing the transforming love of our Savior.*

*All who seek the Lord are invited to share in Holy Communion. We believe that Christ is present in, with, and under the bread and wine with his body and blood, gifting us with forgiveness and faith. Because we are not all able to gather in person, we also celebrate Holy Communion together in streaming worship. Households may prepare any kind of bread or cracker and any kind of wine or juice for use at home.*

*St. John's offers online worship opportunities by streaming services at [www.Facebook.com/StJohnsBeaufort](https://www.Facebook.com/StJohnsBeaufort). Generally the earlier of our two Sunday services and other special services are streamed. You may join live or at a later time.*

*Personal Listening Devices and Large Print Bulletins are available.*

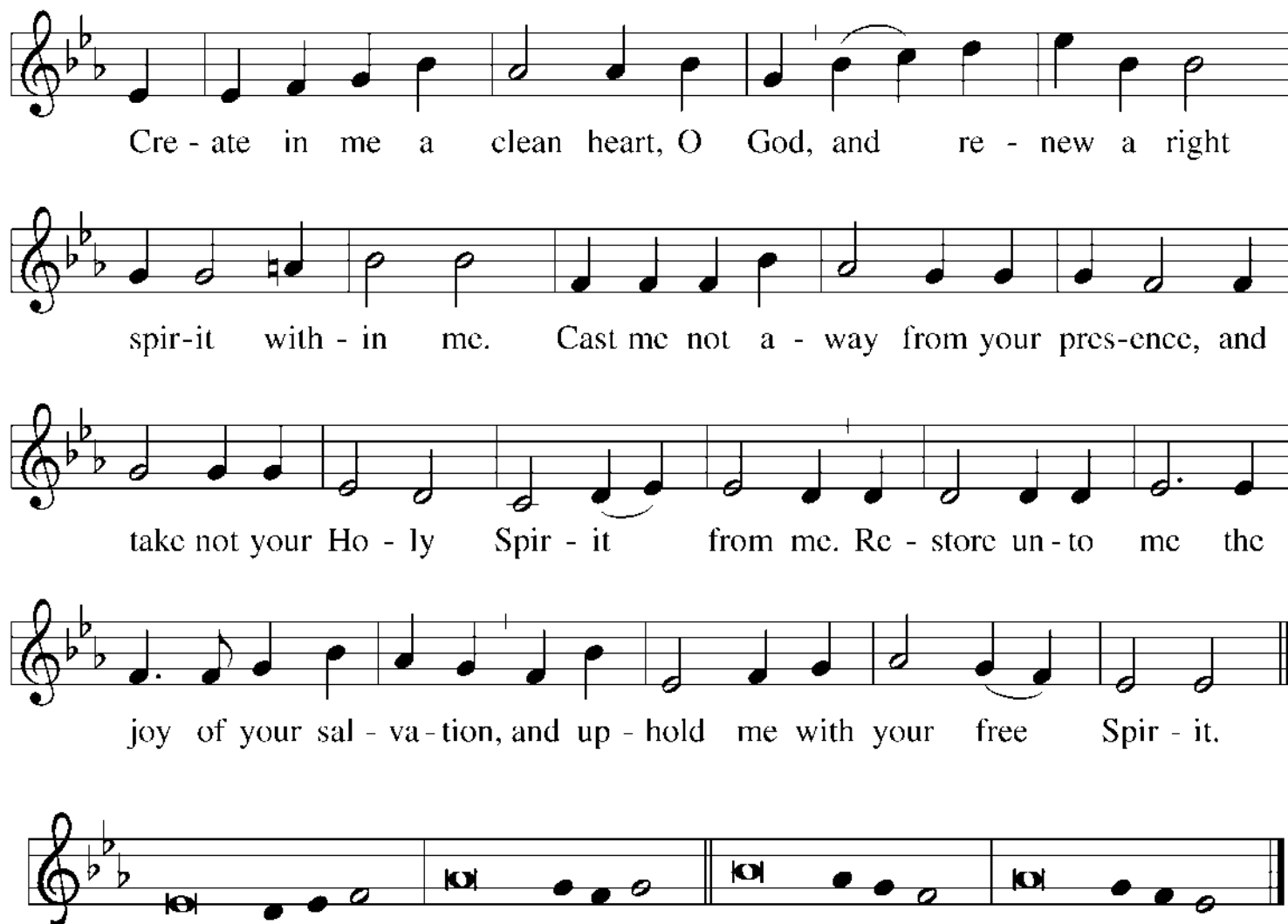
**[www.StJohnsBeaufort.org](https://www.StJohnsBeaufort.org)**

# Ash Wednesday

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GATHERING - PSALM 51:1-17

*We sing the traditional Ash Wednesday confessional Psalm in unison,  
singing the Psalm refrain before and after the reading.*



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and  
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the  
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The musical notation is written on a single staff in G minor (three flats) and 4/4 time. It consists of five lines of music. The first four lines contain the lyrics, and the fifth line is a repeat sign. The melody is simple and unison, with a key signature of three flats and a 4/4 time signature.

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your <sup>|</sup> steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out <sup>|</sup> my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>Wash me through and through <sup>|</sup> from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me <sup>|</sup> from my sin.

<sup>3</sup>For I know <sup>|</sup> my offenses,  
and my sin is ev- <sup>|</sup> er before me.

<sup>4</sup>Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil <sup>|</sup> in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right <sup>|</sup> in your judgment.

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my | mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.

<sup>8</sup>Let me hear | joy and gladness,  
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.

*Psalm Refrain*

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face | from my sins,  
and blot out | all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean | heart, O God,  
and renew a right spir- | it within me.

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away | from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.

<sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of | your salvation  
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.

<sup>13</sup>Let me teach your ways | to offenders,  
and sinners shall be re- | stored to you.

<sup>14</sup>Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of | my salvation,  
and my tongue shall sing | of your righteousness.

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, o- | pen my lips,  
and my mouth shall pro- | claim your praise.

<sup>16</sup>For you take no delight in sacrifice, or | I would give it.  
You are not pleased | with burnt offering.

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice of God is a | troubled spirit;  
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will | not despise.

*Psalm Refrain*

## **GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. 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.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Isaiah 58:1-12**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup> Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. <sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. <sup>3</sup> “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. <sup>4</sup> You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. <sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? <sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? <sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. <sup>9</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, <sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. <sup>11</sup> The LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. <sup>12</sup> Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL**

**Matthew 6:1, 19-21**

The holy gospel according to St Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples:<sup>1</sup>“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

<sup>19</sup>“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -  
 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from  
 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -  
 4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.  
 fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.  
 tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.  
 we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

## INVITATION TO LENT

Friends in Christ, we begin this holy season of Lent by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. 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 begin our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

## CONFESSION OF SIN WITH THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new.

**Amen.**

In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May the ashes we are about to receive 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.**

*Ashes are imposed upon the forehead in the form of the cross, with these words:  
Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Fountain of living water,  
**pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

## **PRONOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Each petition ends: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

## **OFFERING**

*As church together we are dependent on one another to meet the financial needs of the congregation. We are grateful to all who generously support the mission we are called to share. In addition to giving during the passing of offering plates in worship, options for giving include:*

- + *mailing checks to the church office*
- + *using your personal bank's online bill payment system to set up a recurring gift*
- + *using St. John's online giving system which allows you to make one time and recurring gifts, using either a bank draft or a credit card. To access this online giving system, you can scan this QR code with your phone or tablet camera or navigate to **www.SJBft.org/GiveToStJohns** on any browser.*



## OFFERING PRAYER

God of good gifts,  
**receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen**

## LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All who seek the Lord are invited to share in Holy Communion. We believe that Christ is present in the bread and wine with his own body and blood, to gift us with grace, mercy, forgiveness, community, and new life.*

*Because all are not able to gather in person, we also celebrate Holy Communion together in streaming worship. Households unable to gather in person may prepare bread and wine, taking them together as a community gathered, even while distanced. Any kind of bread or cracker and any kind of wine or juice may be used.*

*Those who do not commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please indicate this by crossing your arms at your heart.*

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.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Easter feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he + who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on their journey, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you sent Jesus to proclaim your love and transform all people, saving humanity from the powers of fear, sin, and death.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal. Make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O Ground of Being, Love made Flesh, Spirit of Life, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **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 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.**

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

## HYMN

### *Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*

ELW 808

Verse 1 in French, Solo

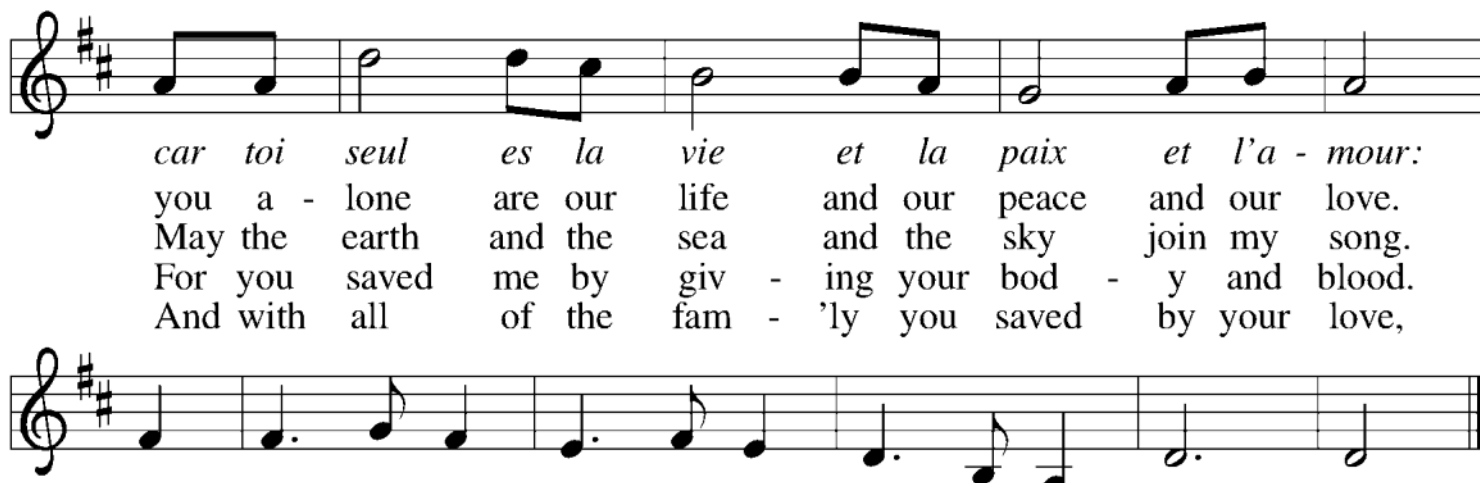
Verses 1-4, All



- 1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*  
1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;  
2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,  
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;



*Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an - non - cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,*  
I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:  
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.  
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.  
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



*car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:*  
 you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.  
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.  
 And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,

*Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.*  
 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.  
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.  
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace, live Christ's Love.

**Thanks be to God.**

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# **St. John's Lutheran Church**

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**Pastor P. Shannon Mullen  
Deacon Katie Justice  
Rolanda Gilliard, Seminarian - Field Worker  
Gloria Bockelman, Worship Accompanist**

**+ + +**

## **Mission Statement:**

*Sharing God's Grace, Serving Through Love*

## **Core Values:**

*We hear the Good News of God's Love in worship and scripture.*

*All are welcome and valued, with no exceptions.*

*We serve and help our neighbors, community, and those who are in need.*

*We love, care for, nourish, and support one another.*

*We are boldly generous with time, talents, space, and resources.*

**+ + +**

**[www.StJohnsBeaufort.org](http://www.StJohnsBeaufort.org)**