

An Invitation to a Holy Lent

Dear People of God: From the early days of our faith, Christians have observed the remembrance of Christ's passion and resurrection with great reverence.

It became the custom to prepare for that observance by a season of prayer and fasting, and the reconciliation of those who had been separated from the community of faith.

By keeping the season of Lent, we take to heart God's call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and practice in our daily lives the work of reconciliation.

I invite you, therefore, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

To make a right beginning to this season it is appropriate to receive the mark of ashes as a the reminder of our mortal nature and of God's invitation to receive Christ's redeeming work.

Lenten Services at Christ Church, Lutheran

Ash Wednesday - Today, 7 pm

Sunday Worship - Sundays, 10 am

Morning Prayer - 10:30 am
Wednesday-Friday

Noon Prayer - 12:15 pm
Tuesday-Friday

Evening Prayer - 5:30 pm
Wednesdays

Bible Study - Wednesdays, 6 pm

Holy Week March 24 - March 31

Palm Sunday - 10 am

Maundy Thursday - 12:15 & 7:30 pm

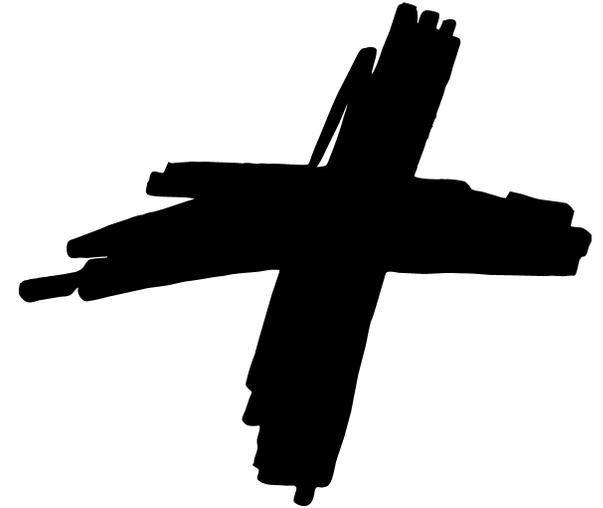
Good Friday - 12:15 & 7:30 pm

Easter Vigil 3/30 - 7:30 pm
Reception follows

Easter Sunday - 10 am
Easter Breakfast - 9 am

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REMEMBER THAT
YOU ARE DUST...



...AND TO DUST
YOU SHALL
RETURN

ASHES
TO GO
2013

Why “Ashes to Go”?

Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence. From the Middle Ages it became the custom to begin Lent by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross. The reminder that we are dust turns our attention to the creative power of God, and God’s ability to heal the brokenness in our lives when we offer that brokenness to God. That turning to God is the work of Lent, preparation for the celebration of Easter.

We’re offering ashes on the street corner today because that reminder of need, humility, and healing shouldn’t be confined to a church building. We probably need it more when we are in the middle of our daily business! The ashes we receive here are to remind us throughout the day of our need for God, and of God’s call to us.

There is much more to the beginning of Lent than ashes alone, and we encourage you to make time for worship with a community of faith, for the support of others and of the great traditions of faith in our work of repentance and renewal. But God meets us not just in worship, but in the midst of life, and we offer the opportunity to remember our faith to those whose schedules make it hard to stop and pray with others today.

Prayers for keeping Lent

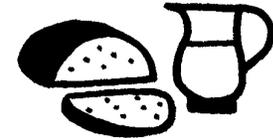
God our Creator, the strength of all who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers; and because, in our weakness, we can do nothing good without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, faint-heartedness, lust of power and idle talk. But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to your servant, O Lord and King. Grant me to see my own errors and not to judge my brothers and sisters; for you are blessed through all ages of ages. Amen.



prayer for the good of your soul



fasting for the good of your body



almsgiving for the good of your neighbor