# 2Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

1991 S. Oneida St. Denver, CO 80224 (303) 756-0735

**Education Hour 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M.**

Pastor Mike Lemke

**Ash Wednesday**

**THE RITE OF PENITENCE**

**Prelude**

**The Welcome**

**Opening Hymn *“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”* ELW 324**

*P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion*

*of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**C And with you also.**

**Prayer of the Day**

***Confession***

*P Gracious Lord, ashes remind us of our human frailty and mortality. You*

*are eternal, but we are limited in our days. Someday we will return to*

*dust and ashes. You remind us of this in your Word:*

**C Dust we are and to dust we shall return.** (Genesis 3:19; Psalm 90:3)

*P Ashes speak of condemnation for sin. When Adam fell into sin,*

*judgment and death came to all. Since we are all born into sin, we are*

*marked for death and ashes.*

**C Dust we are and to dust we shall return.**

*P Ashes speak of our total dependence upon you O God. We are but frail*

*human beings who must rely upon you, dear Father. We think we are*

*capable of taking care of ourselves and make our own plans for*

*greatness. However, so often these plans fail and crumble into ashes.*

**C Dust we are and to dust we shall return.**

*P Ashes speak of our humiliation and repentance. As people in the Bible*

*humbled themselves and expressed their repentance and mourning in*

*the signs of sackcloth and ashes, we also humble ourselves before you,*

*O God, as we ask you to forgive our sins through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

*As we repent, we put on dust and ashes.*

**C Dust we are and to dust we shall return.**

*P People of God, as we see the meaning of ashes and dust for us as*

*Christians, we now make our earnest confession unto the Lord.*

**C Almighty God, you have always warned your people against**

**trusting in false gods. We are sinful and this nature has given**

**birth to sinful deeds; things we have done and things we have**

**left undone. We are but dust and ash of the ground and we**

**deserve nothing more than to return to the dust. Though we**

**deserve your stern judgment, but for the sake of our Lord Jesus**

**Christ, forgive and renew us. Amen.**

*P You have heard the Word of the Lord, “Repent, and believe the gospel.”*

*With these words, Jesus began his ministry and now directs us to make*

*repentance and hear his good news. Therefore, as you have made*

*repentance, now hear the gospel. I, as a servant of Christ, announce to*

*you, the grace of God. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father,*

*and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

***Imposition of Ashes***

*All are invited to come forward by way of the center aisle to receive the sign of penitence, a cross of ashes placed on the forehead and worn throughout the remainder of the service. After receiving the ashen cross, worshippers may wish to kneel at the altar rail for a time of meditation and reflection.*

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Old Testament Lesson Joel 2:10-13

**Psalm 51** (Read responsively)

*P Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
   according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.*

**C Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,**

**and cleanse me from my sin.**

*P For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.***C Against you, you alone, have I sinned,**

**and done what is evil in your sight,**

**so that you are justified in your sentence**

**and blameless when you pass judgment.**

*P Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.*

**C You desire truth in the inward being;**

**therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

*P Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;*

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

**CLet me hear joy and gladness;**

**let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

*P Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.*

**C Create in me a clean heart, O God,**

**and put a new and rightspirit within me.**

**Do not cast me away from your presence,**

**and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore to me the joy of your salvation,**

**and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

*P Then I will teach transgressors your ways,*

*and sinners will return to you.*  
**C Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,**

**O God of my salvation,  
    and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.**

*P O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.***C For you have no delight in sacrifice;**

**if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.**

*P The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;*

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

**ALL Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;**

**rebuild the walls of Jerusalem,**

**then you will delight in right sacrifices,**

**in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;**

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

**2nd Reading 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10**

**Gospel Matthew 6:1-7, 16-21**

**Hymn *“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”* ELW 712**

**Sermon Pastor Mike Lemke**

**Nicene Creed**

ALL: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate

from the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into

heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**The Prayers**

**The Peace ELW p. 180**

*A gesture of peace between worshipers is a visible sign of Christ’s reconciling power. Worshippers are invited to greet one another with a word of peace.*

**The Offering of Tithes and Gifts**

**Offertory**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Hymn *“Change My Heart, O God”* ELW 801**

P*Go in peace, serve the Lord,*

**C Thanks be to God.**