

VASHON LUTHERAN CHURCH



Ash Wednesday
Feb. 14, 2024
11:00 AM Worship

Vashon Lutheran Church
Ash Wednesday
Feb. 14, 2024

PRELUDE

Dinah Helgeson

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

CANDLELIGHTING

GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John Michael Barich

Congregation stands as able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Rev. John Michael Barich

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **C: Amen.**

P: Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✝ Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn (next page):

ELW, #606

Our Father, We Have Wandered

1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,

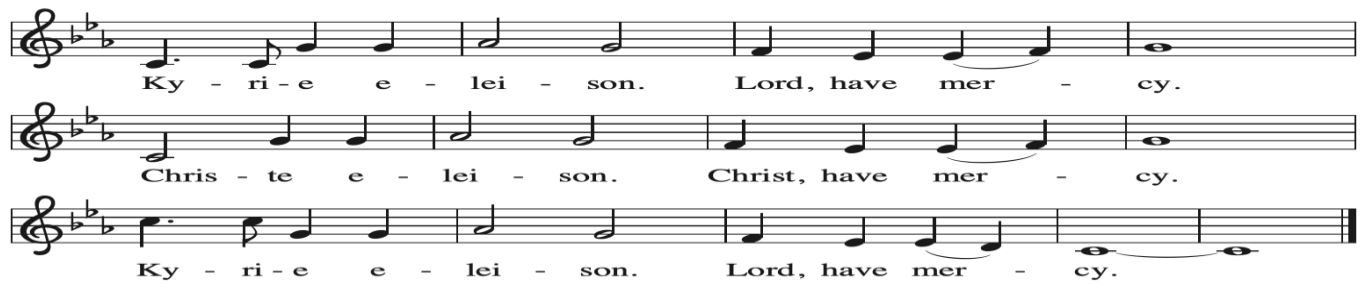
in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
com-pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,

But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.

as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929–2006
Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750
Text from *Resource Collection of Hymns and Service Music for the Liturgy*, © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.
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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 also with you.**



PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** Congregation sits

FIRST READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Patte Wagner, Lector (L)

Lector: A reading from Joel, Chapter 2.

L: Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain!

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—
 a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness!

Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes;
 their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart,
 with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,
 slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him,
 a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD, your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly;
 gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children,
 even infants at the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.

Let them say, “Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery,
 a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is
 their God?’” Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10

Patte Wagner, Lector

L: A reading from 2 Corinthians, Chapters 5 & 6.

L: We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be

sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.” See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.** *Stand as able*

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

ACS, P. 34



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

Rev. John Michael Barich

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 6. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: "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.

"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But

when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.** Congregation sits

MESSAGE:

Rev. John Michael Barich

Hymn of the Day:

ELW, #793

Be Thou My Vision

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!

thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

INVITATION TO LENT

P: 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. 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.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes 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.**

P: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

C: that we may show forth your glory in the world.

P: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

C: bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

P: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

APOSTLES’ CREED:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. *Please sit*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Martha Gebhard, Assisting Minister (A)

A: 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: 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.**

A: 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.**

A: You seek justice and peace, righteous God. Rebuild cities and homelands devastated by war. 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.**

A: 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. We lift up all those in need, either silently or aloud...Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

A: 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. Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

A: You redeem us from death, faithful God. We give thanks for those who served you in the church. Bring us with all the saints into everlasting joy. Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

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

P: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

P: Now is the time for the sharing of our gifts to God.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY RESPONSE:

ELW, #186

Create in Me a Clean Heart
Offering Song

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 to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
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OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Let us pray. **Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

Congregation stands as able

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE:

P: 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 paschal 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::

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
 God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION/LORD’S PRAYER/COMMUNION:

P: 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.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion: P: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

Communion Hymn #1:

ACS, p. 41

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
 Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Communion Hymn (next page):

ELW, #592

Just As I Am, without One Plea

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a con - flict,
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
 4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 man - y_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
 cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
 bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871
 Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

P: Let us pray. Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING:

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace. **Amen**

Sending Song:

ELW, #599

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
 2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
 3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
 4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,

from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.
 let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.
 through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.
 I may the_e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375–430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808–1896, alt.
 Music: SOUTHWELL, W. Daman, *The Psalmes of David*, 1579, alt.

DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace. Share Your Bread. C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE:

Dinah Helgeson

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Worship Assistants This Morning:

Care Pastor – Rev. John Michael Barich
Assisting Minister – Martha Gebhard
Lector – Patte Wagner
Communion Assistants – Roger Gebhard,
Father Evan Clendenin
Usher – Jim Dam
Musician – Dinah Helgeson
Communion Set Up – Sindy Rice

Worship Assistants next week (2/18/24):

Care Pastor – Rev. John Michael Barich
Assistant Minister – June Langland
Lector – Nancy Lee Spears
Communion Assistant - TBA
Usher – Jim Dam
Musician – Marita Ericksen
Cantors – Marita Ericksen, Rev. J. M. Barich
Communion Set Up – TBA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, Pr. John Barich & Fr. Evan Clendenin for your participation in worship today at VLC!

Contact Gail Larson (206/567-4779) with your prayer requests.

VLC Annual Congregational Meeting is next Sunday, Feb. 18, after worship, in the fellowship hall.

Members are encouraged to attend this important meeting to elect council officers, approve the 2024 budget and to listen to committee reports. Refreshments will be served.

IFCH Dinner Program: VLC provides hand out meals at Vashon Presbyterian Church at 5:00 PM the fourth Thurs. of the month. Contact Patte Wagner: pattewags@aol.com to help.

The Care Closet, Medical Equipment/Supplies – 206-473-8715. Vashon Care Network – 206-473-8715.

Email: contact@vashoncarenetwork.org; website: www.vashoncarenetwork.org

VCN FAMILY CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP - Vashon Care Network invites you to join other family caregivers in a safe, supportive space to share the experience of caregiving. Thursdays, 6:30–7:30 PM at VLC. ?? Call Kathy Shafel, kshafel@comcast.net, cell: 206.718-1458 or Tory Hayes, victoriansmith@comcast.net, 206.304-4544.

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

SUNDAY

1st
10:30 AM
6:30 – 8:30 PM
Feb. 18, 2024, following worship

Food Bank Sunday
Worship
AA Group
VLC Annual Congregational Meeting

MONDAY

10:00 AM
4th, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Intercessory Prayer Group
VCN Board Meeting

TUESDAY

2nd, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
3rd, 10:00 AM – noon

Quilt Sewers Group
Vashon Quilting Group

WEDNESDAY

Feb. 14, 11:00 AM
1st, 9:00 AM – noon

Ash Wednesday Service @ VLC
Lutheran Quilters Group

THURSDAY

Feb. 8, 7:00 PM

6:30-7:30 PM

4th, 5:00 PM

VLC ZOOM Council Meeting

VCN Family Caregivers Support Group at VLC

IFCH Dinner prepared by VLC, served at VPC

FRIDAY

7:00 – 8:30 PM

AA Group for Men

LENT – EASTER SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

FEB. 14 – ASH WEDNESDAY 11:00 AM @ VLC (Rev. J. M. Barich presiding, Fr. E. Clendenin assisting)

FEB 21 – MAR 20, MID-WEEK 5:00 PM, WEDS. TAIZE 30-MINUTE SERVICE @ Vashon Presbyterian Church

MAR 24 – PALM SUNDAY 10:30 AM @ VLC w/ CHS (Fr. Evan Clendenin presiding and preaching)

MAR 25, 26, 27– MON, TU, WED 6:00 PM @ VPC

MAR 28 - MAUNDY THURSDAY 5:30 PM @ CHS w/ VLC

MAR 28 – MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 PM @ VPC

MAR 29 - GOOD FRIDAY 7:00 PM @ Vashon Presbyterian Church W/ VLC & CHS

MAR 30 - VIGIL OF EASTER TBA

MAR 31 – EASTER SUNRISE 6:45 AM @ CAMP BURTON

MAR 31 – EASTER SUNDAY 10:00 AM @ CHS

MAR 31 – EASTER BRUNCH 9:00 AM @ VLC

MAR 31 – EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE @ 10:30AM @ VLC



Vashon Lutheran Church

**Rev. John Michael Barich, Care Pastor
(206)422-1974)**

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Hymns for Feb. 14, 2024

ELW, 606

Our Father, We Have Wandered

ELW, 793

Be Thou My Vision

ELW, 186

Create In Me a Clean Heart

ACS, p. 40

Be Known to Us, Lord

ELW, 592

Just As I Am, without One Plea

ELW, 599

Lord Jesus, Think On Me