

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

118 State Street ♦ Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



ASH WEDNESDAY

February 22, 2012

7:00 p.m.

PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP

O God, you delight not in pomp and show, but in a humble and contrite heart. Overturn our love of worldly possessions and fix our hearts more firmly on you, that, having nothing, we may yet possess everything, a treasure stored up for us in heaven. Amen.

Blessed Lord, yours is the greatness, the power, the victory and the majesty. We come before you trusting in your promises to forgive our sins. Wash us in Jesus' precious blood from all our sin and iniquity. Let your benediction fall upon us as we come to your holy table. As we partake of this bread and wine, may we remember your life giving death and resurrection. Through the body and blood of Jesus may we find forgiveness, strength, and thankful hearts, to praise, serve and obey you. Amen.

WORSHIP NOTES

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.

Persons with impairments - St. Michael offers to those with any type of hearing difficulty a small, remote personal speaker which provides the user an amplified, high quality audio of the entire service. We invite our guests who may have the need for such an accommodation to ask an usher for a personal speaker. (They are available upon entering the Nave.) We welcome any comments concerning St. Michael's efforts to accommodate persons with impairments or disabilities.

We extend a welcome to all who worship with us this evening.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister	The Reverend Larry Hawkins, St. Michael
Preaching	The Reverend Laurie Roberts, Messiah
Imposition of Ashes	The Reverend Jody Silliker, Christ
	The Reverend Rochelle Lewis, Memorial
Director of Music	Daniel W. Deitzel III, St. Michael
Assisting Minister	Elizabeth Benion, St. Michael
Eucharistic Minister	David Evrard, Messiah
Acolyte	William Hawkins
Cantor	Wayne Noss, St. Michael
Lector	Rich Walton, Messiah
Greeters	Norma Ickes, St. Michael
	Jackie Rucker, Messiah
	Wendy Baker, Christ
Ushers	Clair Gunnet, Jr., St. Michael
	Paul Vollmer, Christ
Altar Guild	Guy Kehler and Lindsay Mills, St. Michael

PHONE AND INTERNET INFORMATION

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

+++GATHERING+++

We gather in silence for meditation. The people stand as the ministers enter.

PSALM

PSALM 51:1-17

The refrain is sung by the choir, repeated by the assembly. The psalm is sung antiphonally by the cantor and assembly, beginning with the cantor.

Have mer - cy on me, O
God, ac - cord - ing to your stead - fast love.

The assembly sings the refrain where marked.

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

**Wash me through and through ¹from my wickedness,
and cleanse me ¹from my sin.**

For I know ¹my offenses,
and my sin is ev-¹er before me.

**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil ¹in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak
and right ¹in your judgment. R**

Indeed, I was born ¹steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my ¹mother's womb.

**Indeed, you delight in truth ¹deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom ¹deep within.**

Remove my sins with hyssop, and I ¹shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur-¹er than snow.

**Let me hear ¹joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken ¹may rejoice. R**

Hide your face ¹from my sins,
and blot out ¹all my wickedness.

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- it within me.**
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- it from me.
**Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- tiful Spirit. R**

Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be re- stored to you.
**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

O Lord, o- pen my lips,
and my mouth shall de- clare your praise.
**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.
You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise. **R**

GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

+++WORD+++

FIRST READING

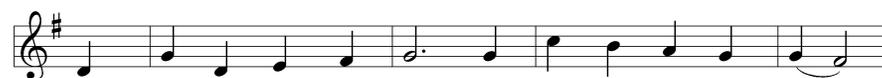
JOEL 2:1-2, 12-17

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 —
²a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains

SONG AFTER COMMUNION

We Give Thee but Thine Own

VS 1



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
3 Hearts still are bruised and dead, and homes are bare and cold,
4 To com - fort and to bless, to find a balm for woe,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
and lambs for whom the Shep - herd bled are stray - ing from the fold.
to tend those lost in lone - li - ness, is an - gels' work be - low.

5 The captive to release,
the lost to God to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace—
it is a Christlike thing.

6 And we believe thy word,
though dim our faith may be:
whate'er we do for thine, O Lord,
we do it unto thee.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+++SENDING+++

BLESSING

The blessing of God Almighty, the wisdom and power of + Christ Jesus, and the light of the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

ELW 319

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

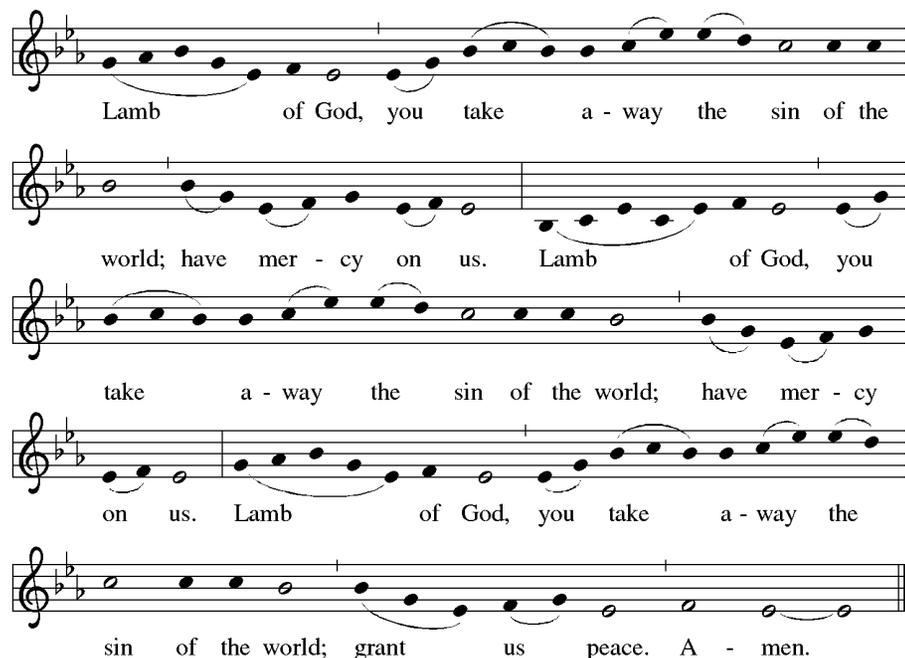
We depart the nave in silence.

COMMUNION

To receive Holy Communion come to the altar as directed by an usher. The pastor will place the Host (bread) in your open hand; an assisting minister will offer you the wine. Wine is offered either from the common cup, or in your own small glass which you can pick up from a tray at the front of the center aisle. Trays for the used glasses are at the front of the side aisles on a window sill.

If you are in doubt about any direction, please look to an usher for assistance.

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

COMMUNION HYMN

Just as I am, without One Plea

ELW 592

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

- ¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,
return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³rend 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.
- ¹⁴Who 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?
- ¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
- ¹⁶gather 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.
- ¹⁷Between 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?'"

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

PSALM 103:8-14

The refrain is sung by the choir, repeated by the assembly. The psalm is sung by the choir. The assembly sings the refrain where marked.

You know full well how we are
formed; you re-mem - ber that we are but dust.

⁸LORD, you are full of compas-¹sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in¹ steadfast love;
⁹you will not al-¹ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an-¹ger forever.
¹⁰You have not dealt with us accord-¹ing to our sins,
nor repaid us according to¹ our iniquities. **R**
¹¹For as the heavens are high a-¹bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for¹ those who fear you.
¹²As far as the east is¹ from the west,
so far have you removed our transgres-¹sions from us.
¹³As a father has compassion¹ for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear¹ you, O LORD.
¹⁴For you know well how¹ we are formed;
you remember that we¹ are but dust. **R**

SECOND READING

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20B—6:10

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For 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. ²For 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! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beat-ings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful

we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your Kingdom, and teach us to pray.

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

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.

With this bread and cup
 we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

O God of resurrection and new life:
 Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
 and on these gifts of bread and wine.
 Bless this feast.
 Grace our table with your presence.



Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
 Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
 Breathe new life into us.
 Send us forth,
 burning with justice, peace, and love.



Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
 with the earth and all its creatures,
 with sun and moon and stars,

speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the
 right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good
 repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet
 are well known; as dying, and see — we are alive; as punished, and yet not
 killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich;
 as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The cantor sings "Glory and Praise" which is repeated by all. The choir
 then sings the proper verse; after which the assembly repeats "Glory and
 Praise."*



Glo - ry and praise to you, O Lord Je - sus Christ.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21

The holy gospel according to Matthew.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

"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.

²"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. ³But
 when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is
 doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees
 in secret will reward you.

⁵"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.
⁶But 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.

¹⁶"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. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so 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.

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

The gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Be Thou My Vision* ELW 793
The assembly is seated.

INVITATION TO LENT

CONFESSION OF SIN

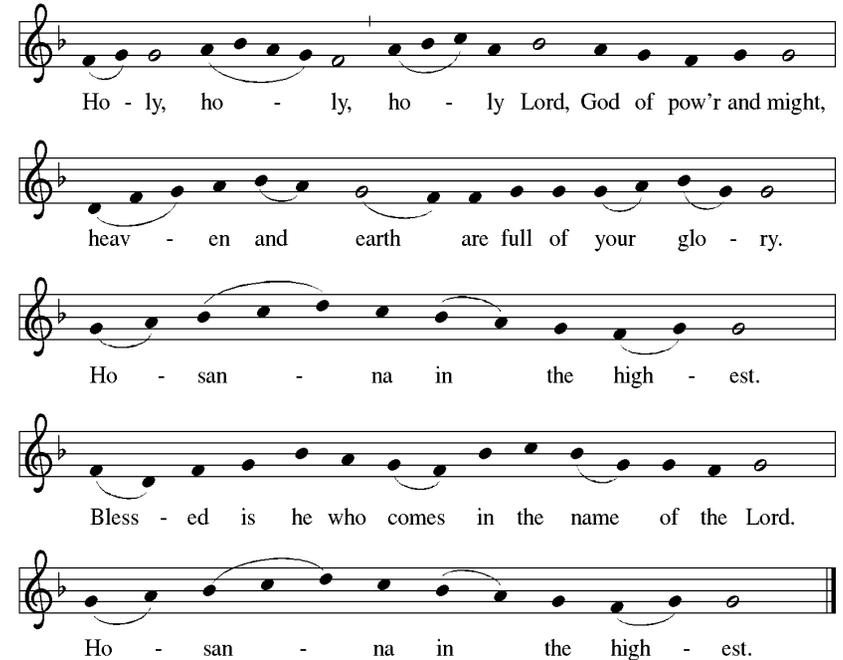
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most holy and merciful God,
we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault,
by our own fault,
by our own most grievous fault,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

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 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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
 Your mercy is everlasting
 and your faithfulness endures from age to age.
 Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
 Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
 Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
 Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
 to the land of milk and honey.
 Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
 Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
 Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Create in Me

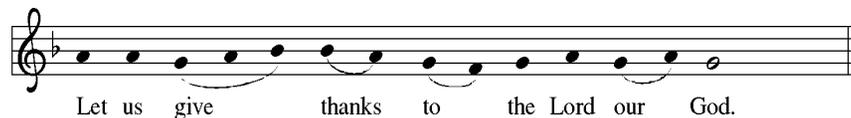


OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

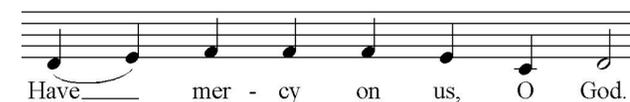
Amen.

DIALOGUE



*Assembly will repeat the musical verse where marked with **

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 shut our ears 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. *

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you. *

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you. *

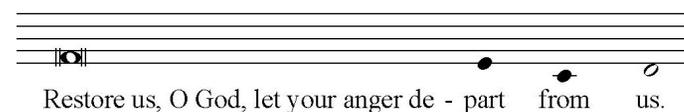
Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you. *

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you. *

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you. *

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you. *

The Intercessor concludes:



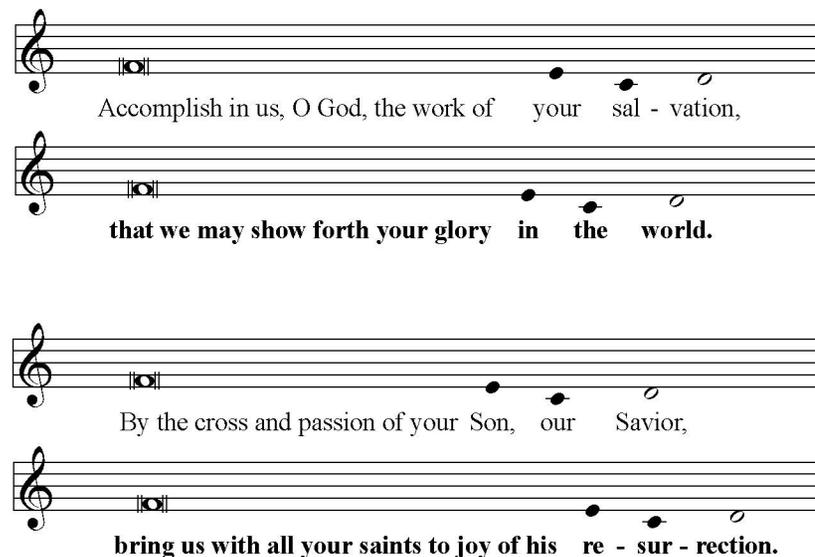
IMPOSITION OF ASHES

People may come forward and kneel or stand to receive the ashes. Following the direction of the ushers, approach by the center aisle in two rows, stand or kneel in front of the minister, and after receiving the ashes, return by the side aisles.

PSALM 90—SILENT MEDITATION

Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.
You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night;
you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:
in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.
Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly
and we are gone.
Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?
So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.
Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry?
Be gracious to your servants.
Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days.
Make us glad as many days as you afflicted us
and as many years as we suffered adversity.
Show your servants your works,
and your splendor to their children.
May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us;
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

After those who desire ashes have received them, all may kneel or sit, and the minister continues.



Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your sal - vation,
that we may show forth your glory in the world.
By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,
bring us with all your saints to joy of his re - sur - rection.

Chanted on a single tone:

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.

The assembly stands.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy, / **hear our prayer.**

+++MEAL+++

CHOIR ANTHEM

Create In Me

John Leavitt