



ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18th, 2026 7:30 p.m.

LSB Litany p. 288; Corporate Confession p. 290;

Divine Service 3 p. 189

*(No Alleluias during Lent) *=all stand*

Trinity Lutheran Church Norman, OK. www.tlcnorman.org

Pastor Clint McMullin -Vicar Seth Horn Organist: Timothy Schmidt

Elder: Brian Lundmark Acolyte: Sara Lundmark

(Explanation of the 40 Days of Lent and the Lenten Services Schedule are on the back of the bulletin)

PRELUDE

THE ASH WEDNESDAY EXHORTATION *(read by the Vicar)*

THE LITANY pp. 288-289

IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

*(While we sing **LSB 434**, please approach the altar down the left aisle to receive the ashes in the sign of the cross, and return down the right aisle)*

HYMN “Lamb of God, Pure and Holy“ **LSB 434**

***CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** pp. 290-291

* SALUTATION and LITURGY pp. 189-190

* COLLECT OF THE DAY *(Vicar prays; congregation sings “Amen”)*

THE LESSONS *(after each Lesson: “Thanks be to God”)*

The Old Testament Proverbs 1:1-7, 20-33

GRADUAL **PSALM 51:1-13** *(sung responsively by whole verses)*

The Epistle 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

THE VERSE *(spoken by the Vicar)*

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

* NICENE CREED p. 191

HYMN OF THE DAY “O Christ, You Walked the Road” **LSB 424**

SERMON **“The Beginning of Wisdom”**

* OFFERTORY p. 192

OFFERINGS *(signing of the Ritual of Friendship)*

VOLUNTARY

* PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Response: “Hear our prayer.”)*

* **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT** p. 194

- * PREFACE AND PROPER PREFACE
- * SANCTUS p. 195
- * THE LORD'S PRAYER p. 196
- * THE WORDS OF OUR LORD p. 197
- * PAX DOMINI AND AGNUS DEI p. 198

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION **HYMNS:**

“From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee” **LSB 607**

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now” **LSB 440**

“Not All the Blood of Beasts” **LSB 431**

“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain” **LSB 435**

* NUNC DIMITTIS p. 199

* THANKSGIVING, SALUTATION, BENEDICAMUS pp.200-201

* THE BENEDICTION p. 202

* CLOSING **HYMN** “Lamb of God” **LSB 550**

POSTLUDE



HOLY COMMUNION

POLICY:

Holy Communion is administered to Lutheran Church Missouri Synod members and LCMS guests who have been instructed, catechized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. If you are visiting, please speak to the Elder of the day, or to the Pastor about receiving the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper.

ATTENDANCE AND COMMUNION REGISTRATION:

During the gathering of the Offerings, members and visitors please pick up the Ritual of Friendship pad at the end of the pew, take out a white (member) or tan (visitor) sheet and pass the pad down the pew to the people sitting next to you. Please fill out the date, address and phone number information as well as e-mail addresses. The sheets will be collected in the baskets in the narthex as you leave.

LENTEN VESPERS SERVICES in February, March & April

Theme: **“Wisdom: Exhortations from the Proverbs”**

LHM Lenten Devotional Booklet Theme:

“Behold your King!” (distributed on February 15th and 18th)

Wednesday Lenten Vespers Schedule:

6:30 p.m. – Soup and Salad Supper (by various TLC groups, free-will donation)

7:30 p.m. – Vespers Service

Lenten Vespers 2 – February 25 “Wisdom, Folly, & A Warning”

Lenten Vespers 3 – March 4 “Our Mouths, Hands, & Our Neighbor”

Lenten Vespers 4 – March 11 “The Heart, Mind, and God’s Will”

Lenten Vespers 5 – April 18 “The Church, World, & Community”

Lenten Vespers 6 – April 25 “Humility, Contentment, & Peace”

Explanation of the 40 Days of Lent

Early in the Church's history, the major events in Christ's life were observed with special observances, such as His birth, baptism, death, resurrection and ascension. As these observances developed, a period of time was set aside prior to the major events of Jesus' birth and resurrection as a time of preparation. For Lent, 40 days (minus the Sundays) were set aside to recall the 40 day fast of Jesus in the wilderness and his temptation by the devil.

During Lent, the Church's worship assumes a more penitential character. The color for the season is purple, a color often associated with penitence. The "Hymn of Praise" is omitted from the liturgy. The word "Alleluia" is usually omitted as well. By not using the alleluia--a joyful expression meaning "Praise the Lord"--until Easter, the Lenten season is clearly set apart as a distinct time from the rest of the year. Additionally, it forms a powerful contrast with the festive celebration of Jesus' resurrection when our alleluias ring loud and clear.

The penitential character of Lent is not its sole purpose. In the ancient Church, the weeks leading up to Easter were a time of intensive preparation of the candidates who were to be baptized at the Easter vigil on Holy Saturday. This time in the Church's calendar was seen as an especially appropriate time for Baptism because of the relationship between Christ's death and resurrection and our own in Holy Baptism (see Romans 6:1-11). This focus would suggest that the season of Lent serves not only as a time to meditate on the suffering that Christ endured on our behalf but also as an opportunity to reflect upon our own Baptism and what it means to live as a child of God.

The placing of ashes on the forehead in the sign of the cross is both a symbol of repentance (since we return to ashes when we die, and ashes symbolize sorrow over one's sins) and also reminds us that we have been marked as God's saints through the cross and in our baptism.