

**Augsburg Morning Chapel**  
**February 17, 2021**  
**Ash Wednesday**

*Welcome to Campus Ministry's morning chapel service at Augsburg University.*

**WELCOME & WORD OF INSTRUCTION**

*Those worshipping in Hoversten Chapel are invited to take a small container with ashes for later in the service. Those joining worship on Zoom are welcome to find dirt from a potted plant, ash from a candle wick, or another substitute for marking.*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray:

O God of our salvation, out of your love and mercy

You breathed into dust the breath of life,

creating us to serve you and serve as neighbor in your world.

Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness,

and strengthen us to face our mortality

with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Christ Jesus,

our spring of the water of eternal life.

This we pray trusting in the presence of your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING: Daniel 9:3-7a (Inclusive Bible Translation)**

I turned to the Most High in sackcloth and ashes, with heartfelt prayers and petitions. I prayed and made this confession to YHWH: "O great and awesome God, you keep the Covenant and have kindness for those who love you and keep the commandments. But we have sinned so much! We have sinned against you; we have done wrong; we have acted wickedly; we have turned away from your ordinances and your commandments and rebelled against you. We haven't obeyed your emissaries, the prophets, who spoke in your name to our rulers, our governors, our ancestors and all the people of the land. Justice, O God, belongs to you.

**HOMILY**

Jenn Luong

**INVITATION TO LENT**

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.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Most great and awesome 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.**

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.  
O, how we confess to you.

**God, have mercy.**

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy,  
and apathy that have infected our lives.  
Our self-indulgent appetites and ways,  
and our exploitation of other people.  
Our negligence in prayer and worship,  
and our failure to share the faith that is in us.  
O, how we confess to you.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Our neglect of human need and suffering,  
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty.  
Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,  
and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us.  
Our waste and pollution of your creation,  
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,  
O, how we confess to you.

**God, have mercy.**

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

#### IMPOSITION OF ASHES

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.**

*At this time, those who desire the imposition of ashes may self-administer ashes provided. After self-marking one's forehead with a cross of ashes, the minister will say to the entire assembly, "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

*After those who desire ashes have received them, our worship continues:*

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

**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 the joy of his resurrection.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, renew us for service and prayer, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**Amen.**

#### BLESSING

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness;

be of good courage;

hold fast to that which is good;

render to no one evil for evil;

strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;

help the afflicted; honor all people;

love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And may God, the creator, the Christ, and the Spirit of comfort,

Guide your days (+) and your deeds

Go in peace.

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#### **Worship Leaders**

**Preaching:** Jenn Luong, Pastoral Intern

**Liturgists:** Rev. Babette Chatman, University Pastor; Rev. Justin Lind-Ayres, University Pastor