



# HOLY COMMUNION

## ASH WEDNESDAY

February 13, 2013

\* -- those who are able may stand

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### GATHERING

\* Gathering Song

*Your Heart, O God*

#602

(first line of each stanza sung by choir)

\* Apostolic Greeting and Prayer of the Day

### WORD

First Reading

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalm 51:1-8



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

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

All **For I know | my offenses, \***  
**and my sin is ev- | er before me.**

**Against you only | have I sinned \***  
**and done what is evil | in your sight;**

Choir so you are justified | when you speak \*  
and right | in your judgment.

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

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

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

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

\* Gospel Acclamation (*"Glory and Praise sung by all, before and after the Proper Verse"*)  
Verse (sung by choir)

p. 160

Return to the LORD, your God, who is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. (Joel 2:13)

* Gospel	Matthew 6:1-21	p. 160
Sermon		
* Hymn of the Day	<i>Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright</i>	ELW #745
* Ash Wednesday Liturgy		p. 252
* Prayers of Intercession		p. 161
*Peace		p. 161

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**MEAL**

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* Offering	<i>Create in Me</i>	#188
* Great Thanksgiving		p. 161
Communion		
<i>Lamb of God</i>		p. 164
<i>O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days</i> (sung by choir)		R. Gieseke

*We Join, O Christ, Your Journey*

Tune: MUNICH (ELW #810)

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| <p>1. We join, O Christ, your journey<br/>these solemn forty days,<br/>as with your twelve disciples<br/>you walk imperiled ways.<br/>Like theirs, our steps are halting,<br/>our faithfulness unsure.<br/>Lord, when we falter, help us<br/>to follow and endure.</p> <p>2. Your self-denial shames us<br/>when safety is our goal,<br/>when, keen to claim advantage,<br/>we win – but lose our soul.<br/>We watch you reach to others<br/>with open, giving hands<br/>and see again our failure<br/>to answer love’s demands.</p> | <p>3. You came, O Christ, among us,<br/>with might and right to reign;<br/>yet, though a kingdom beckoned,<br/>you chose the path of pain.<br/>A robe, a crown, a scepter –<br/>you counted these but loss<br/>and gained at last your kingdom<br/>enthroned upon a cross.</p> <p>4. This Lent, O Lord, empow’r us<br/>to grow in faithfulness.<br/>Let self-concern diminish;<br/>let selfless love increase.<br/>Christ, keep your cross before us<br/>till ours we daily bear<br/>and walk with you to Calv’ry<br/>the pain of God to share..</p> |
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--Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 2003;

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\* Blessing and Prayer after Communion

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**SENDING**

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\* Blessing and Dismissal

## WORSHIP LEADERS

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Presiding Minister

Jessica Crist  
*Bishop, Montana Synod (ELCA)*

Preacher

Mark Vitalis Hoffman  
*Professor of Biblical Studies*

Assisting Minister

George Scott (Senior MDiv candidate)

Lector

Jeff Martin (1<sup>st</sup> year MDiv candidate)  
Jan Martin (1<sup>st</sup> year MAMS-DM candidate)

Director of Music

Stephen Folkemer  
*Seminary Cantor*

Seminary Choir

Barbara Braband, *accompanist*

### WELCOME TO TODAY'S PRESIDER

**The Rev. Jessica Crist** is Bishop of the Montana Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Prior to assuming that office, Pastor Crist served as Associate to the Bishop for 5 years, and Director of the Northern Rockies Institute of Theology for 18 years. She served congregations in Great Falls, Montana, and Cambridge, Massachusetts, and started in ministry as a campus pastor. Her community service over the years has included chairing boards for the local YWCA, the PTA and the hospital's Women's Health Board. She writes a monthly column for Montana Woman Magazine.

Bishop Crist was elected Chair of the ELCA Conference of Bishops. She currently serves on the Board of the Montana Association of Churches, on the Board of Luther Seminary, and on the Board of Lutheran World Relief. She is a member of the ELCA Task Force on Communal Discernment, the Bishops' Liaison Committee for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, and the Bishops' Domestic Ready Bench.

### RECEIVING COMMUNION

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"Believing in the real presence of Christ, this church practices eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcomed to Communion when they are visiting in the congregations of this church." (from the ELCA's sacramental practices statement)

As a sign of the unity the sacrament gives, we all share the same elements. If you are unable to receive wine, be sure that in a single element you receive the Presence and all the gifts of the sacrament. **The bread at today's service is gluten-free.**

We'll be receiving the sacrament at stations today. Simply come forward by the center aisle (in two lines), receive the bread from the person in the center, then go to the side to receive the wine from a common cup or pouring chalice.

If you are not prepared to receive the elements today, but would like to come forward for a blessing, bring a copy of the bulletin with you -- that'll be the sign of your intention for the distributors.

### JANUARY'S AND FEBRUARY'S OFFERINGS

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All the offerings from Communion services during these months will be donated to Survivor's Inc., which provides education and safe housing for Adams County residents affected by domestic abuse.

## UPCOMING IN CHAPEL

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- Thurs., Feb. 14 11:55 AM** Commemoration of Cyril and Methodius, with Bp. Jessica Crist preaching
- Fri., Feb. 15 11:55 AM** Chapel led by Daniel Burris and Courtney Weller
- Mon., Feb. 18 11:55 AM** Commemoration of Martin Luther
- Tues., Feb. 19 11:55 AM** Chapel led by Martha Boyd and McFred Brown
- Wed., Feb. 20 6:30 PM** Holy Communion, with Michael Cooper-White presiding and Pr. Kathy Ierien preaching.

## LENT – MORE THAN GIVING UP CHOCOLATE!

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For seventeen centuries or so, the weeks before Easter have been ones of intensive, intentional preparation for Christians. The Great Three Days – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter – are the Christian Passover, a time when we do not simply remember Christ’s passage through death into life, but share in it. In that great service we are embraced so closely by Christ that he carries us with him in that passage.

Lent, then, is a time to prepare for that transformation. If we pass from death into life, from bondage into freedom because we are so tightly embraced by Christ, then it makes sense to prepare for that passage by breaking, or at least relativizing, all other embraces. As you map out your Lenten discipline you might want to consider these questions:

1) **What are the embraces about which I need to be concerned?** What is claiming the kind of attention and energy that only your relationship with God should? Are there other places you are looking for your identity or security? What are your besetting sins?

2) **How might the historic disciplines of Lent serve as allies in freeing me from those embraces?** Might **fasting** (of food, or television, or internet sites) free up time or resources, and free you from some temptation? Might **study** (keeping a short, perhaps memorized text as a companion throughout the day and exploring its meaning) replace some of the unhealthy “tapes” now playing in your head with the Word of God? Might **prayer** provide the constant, consistent communication on which any relationship thrives? Might **good works** provide you with a focus outside of yourself, and a way of mirroring the ministry of Jesus?

3) **How can the community be of support?** The most obvious way would be to be more diligent in attendance at worship, where the prayers and proclamation of the whole community can provide sustenance in your efforts. But you might also want to establish a partnership with another person, asking them to pray for you throughout the 40 days, and meeting weekly to report on how the effort is going.

## SAVE THE DATES!

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### **Every Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8 AM in Valentine 311**

Anyone interested is welcome to join in a **prayerful reading of Scripture**, using Luther’s version of *lectio divina* to attend to the lessons for the next Sunday. For more information, see Pr. Oldenburg

### **Fri., Feb. 22 at 7:30 PM in our chapel**

Music, Gettysburg! presents the **U.S. Army Chorus**, one of the nation’s best choral groups, singing classical, popular, and patriotic music ranging from barber shop through Broadway to ballads. Free and open to all, but very well attended, so get there early!