

Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.
Ecclesiastes 3:20

Ash Wednesday
February 14, 2024

SERVICE THEME:
After the Ashes, the Righteousness of God



Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024 – St. Andrew Lutheran Church

SERVICE THEME: After the Ashes, the Righteousness of God

WELCOME — We are so glad that you have joined us for this worship service! Please let us know if there is any way we can be of service to you at this time.

OUR MISSION — The mission of St. Andrew Lutheran Church is to guide people to know Jesus as their Savior, to grow in their faith, and to show Jesus to others.

OUR BELIEF — We believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and the only source of all Christian doctrine and teaching. We believe that the only true God is the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that we are saved not by anything we do, but only through faith in Jesus Christ, who gave his life for our sins. We will be happy to tell you more about what we believe!

OUR HISTORY — St. Andrew Lutheran Church was established in 1888 and is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), a confessional Lutheran church body with over 1,200 congregations in North America and with more than 30 sister church bodies worldwide.

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INTRODUCTION TO LENT, ASH WEDNESDAY, & IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the Christian's 40-day journey with the Lord to the cross and tomb, preparing for the proclamation of Jesus' resurrection on Easter. The 40 days are reminiscent of several biblical events: Jesus' 40-day fast at the beginning of his ministry, Moses' stay on Mount Sinai at the giving of the Law, and Elijah's fast on his way to the mountain of God.

Ash Wednesday begins the Christian's Lenten journey with a reminder of our mortality and a call to repentance (see Genesis 18:27; Job 42:6; Jeremiah 6:26; Matthew 11:21). The ancient practice of "imposing" (marking) ashes on the foreheads of believers gives Ash Wednesday its name. The church father Tertullian (c. A.D. 160-215) writes of the practice as a public expression of repentance and of our human frailty that stands in need of Christ. The ashes remind us forcefully of our need for God's redeeming grace as they recall words from the rite for Christian burial: "... earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust..." (see Genesis 3:19 and Ecclesiastes 3:20) – words that will someday be spoken over us all.

The imposition of ashes has never been an exclusively Roman Catholic practice, and today it is observed widely by Christians of many traditions, including a number of Lutheran churches in our fellowship (WELS and ELS).

At a designated point in the service, after the confession of sins, those who desire to receive the sign of ashes come forward, and the minister applies ashes to the forehead in the shape of a small cross, saying: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (see Genesis 3:19). The imposition of ashes is not required; any who wish to participate may do so, while others may remain seated during that part of the service. (Children may come forward for the imposition of ashes at their parents' discretion.)

Adapted from *Christian Worship: Occasional Services*, Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House, 2004, 149ff.

REMAIN SEATED

PSALM 51

*Psalm 51 (EHV) is **spoken responsively**: the minister reads the odd-numbered verses, and **the congregation reads the even-numbered verses**.*

¹Be gracious to me, God,
according to your mercy.

Erase my acts of rebellion
according to the greatness of your compassion.

²**Scrub me clean from my guilt.
Purify me from my sin.**

³For I admit my rebellious acts.

My sin is always in front of me.

**⁴Against you, you only, have I sinned,
and I have done this evil in your eyes.**

So you are justified when you sentence me.

You are blameless when you judge.

⁵Certainly, I was guilty when I was born.

I was sinful when my mother conceived me.

**⁶Since you desire truth on the inside,
in my hidden heart you teach me wisdom.**

⁷Remove my sin with hyssop, and I will be clean.

Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness.

Let the bones you have crushed celebrate.

⁹Hide your face from my sins.

Erase all my guilty deeds.

¹⁰Create in me a pure heart, O God.

Renew an unwavering spirit within me.

¹¹Do not cast me from your presence.

Do not take your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation.

Sustain me with a willing spirit.

¹³I will teach rebels your ways,

and sinners will turn to you.

¹⁴Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,

the God who saves me.

My tongue will shout for joy about your righteousness.

¹⁵Lord, open my lips,

and my mouth will declare your praise.

¹⁶For you do not delight in sacrifice,

or I would give it.

You do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

¹⁷The sacrifices God wants are a broken spirit.

A broken and crushed heart, O God, you will not despise.

¹⁸As it pleases you, do good for Zion.

Build up the walls of Jerusalem.

¹⁹Then you will be pleased with righteous sacrifices,

burnt offerings and whole offerings.
Then bulls will be offered up on your altar.

Silence for meditation

INSTRUCTION FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2), our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father (Genesis 6:6-7), who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live (Ezekiel 33:11). Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21).

During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God (Hebrews 12:2). The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death (Philippians 3:10). As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle. Let us be silent. Let us be still. Let us pause now for a time of reflection and self-examination.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

The congregation may kneel.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M:** Most holy and merciful Father,
- C:** **We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned by our own fault,**
by our own grievous fault
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
- M:** 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.
- C:** **Have mercy on us, Lord.**
- M:** We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.
We have grieved the Holy Spirit.
- C:** **Have mercy on us, Lord.**
- M:** We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.
The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives
- C:** **We confess to you, O Lord.**
- M:** Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people
- C:** **We confess to you, O Lord.**
- M:** Our anger when our selfish aims are denied and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves
- C:** **We confess to you, O Lord.**
- M:** Our love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work
- C:** **We confess to you, O Lord.**
- M:** Our negligence in worship and prayer and our failure to show the faith that is in us
- C:** **We confess to you, O Lord.**
- M:** Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
- C:** **Forgive us, O Lord.**
- M:** For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us,
- C:** **Forgive us, O Lord.**
- M:** For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,
- C:** **Forgive us, O Lord.**

- M:** Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.
C: **Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.**

Those who desire to receive the sign of ashes come forward. Children may come forward at their parents' discretion.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

The minister applies ashes to the forehead of each in the form of a small cross, saying:

- M:** Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

After all who desire have received ashes, the minister says:

- M:** Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation
C: **That we may show forth your glory in the world.**
M: By the cross and suffering of your Son, O Lord,
C: **Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

ABSOLUTION

- M:** Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live.
Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: **Amen.**

HYMN – *Savior, When in Dust to You* – CW93 #124 – printed on the following page

LENT

124

Savior, When in Dust to You



1 Sav - ior, when in dust to you Low we bow in
 2 By your help - less in - fant years, By your life of
 3 By your hour of dire de - spair, By your ag - o -
 4 By your deep ex - pir - ing groan, By the sad se -



hom - age due, When, re - pen - tant, to the skies
 want and tears, By your days of deep dis - tress
 ny of prayer, By the cross, the nail, the thorn,
 pul - chral stone, By the vault whose dark a - bode



Scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes; Oh, by all your
 In the sav - age wil - der - ness, By the dread, mys -
 Pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn, By the gloom that
 Held in vain the ris - ing God, Oh, from earth to



pains and woe Suf - fered once for us be - low, Bend - ing
 te - rious hour Of th' in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r, Turn, oh,
 veiled the skies O'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice, Lis - ten
 heav'n re - stored, Might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord, Bend - ing



from your throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 turn a fav - 'ring eye, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 to our hum - ble sigh, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
 from your throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, abr., alt.

Tune: SPANISH CHANT (77 77 D) Spanish melody, 17th century, adapt.

FIRST READING – Joel 2:12-19 (EHV)

¹²Even now, declares the LORD,
return to me with all your heart,
with fasting and weeping and grief.

¹³Tear your heart and not your clothing.
Return to the LORD your God,
for he is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and abounding in mercy,
and he relents from sending disaster.

¹⁴Who knows?

He may turn and have pity and leave behind a blessing—
grain offerings and drink offerings for the LORD your God.

¹⁵Blow the ram’s horn in Zion.

Set aside a day for fasting.

Call a solemn convocation.

¹⁶Gather the people.

Consecrate the assembly.

Bring together the elders.

Gather the children, even those nursing at the breast.

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

¹⁷Let the priests, who minister before the LORD,
weep between the temple porch and the altar.

Let them say:

Have compassion on your people, O LORD.

Do not subject the inheritance you have given us to the scorn of
the nations.

Do not make us notorious among the nations as an object of
ridicule.^a

Why should they say among the peoples,
“Where is their God?”

¹⁸The LORD is zealous for his land,
and he will take pity on his people.

¹⁹The LORD will respond to them:

I am sending you grain, new wine, and fresh oil,
enough to satisfy you fully.

Never again will I subject you to scorn among the nations.

^a Or *notorious so that the nations rule over us*

GOSPEL – Luke 12:13-21 (EHV)

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

¹³Someone from the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But Jesus said to him, “Man, who appointed me to be a judge or an arbitrator over you?”

¹⁵Then he said to them, “Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because a man’s life is not measured by how many possessions he has.”

¹⁶He told them a parable: “The land of a certain rich man produced very well. ¹⁷He was thinking to himself, ‘What will I do, because I do not have anywhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸He said, ‘This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and goods. ¹⁹And I will tell my soul, “Soul, you have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy. Eat, drink, and be merry.”’

²⁰“But God said to him, ‘You fool, this night your soul will be demanded from you. Now who will get what you have prepared?’

²¹“That is how it will be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

After the reading of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose

again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

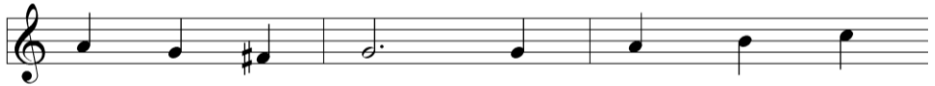
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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Your Works, Not Mine, O Christ



1 Your works, not mine, O Christ, Speak glad -
 2 Your blood, not mine, O Christ, Can heal -
 3 Your cross, not mine, O Christ, Has borne
 4 Your death, not mine, O Christ, Has paid
 5 Your right - eous - ness, O Christ, A - lone



ness to this heart. They tell me all
 my sin - ful soul; Your wounds, not mine,
 the dread - ful load Of sins that none
 the ran - som due; Ten thou - sand deaths
 can cov - er me; No oth - er right -



is done; They bid my fear de - part.
 con - tain The balm that makes me whole.
 could bear But the in - car - nate God.
 like mine Would have been all too few.
 eous - ness Can set a sin - ner free.

Refrain



To whom but you, who can a - lone For



sin a - tone, Lord, shall I flee?

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, alt.
 Tune: ST. JOHN (66 66 88) *The Parish Choir*, London, 1850.

SERMON – 2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:2 – After the Ashes, the
Righteousness of God

We urge you, on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹God made him, who did not know sin, to become sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

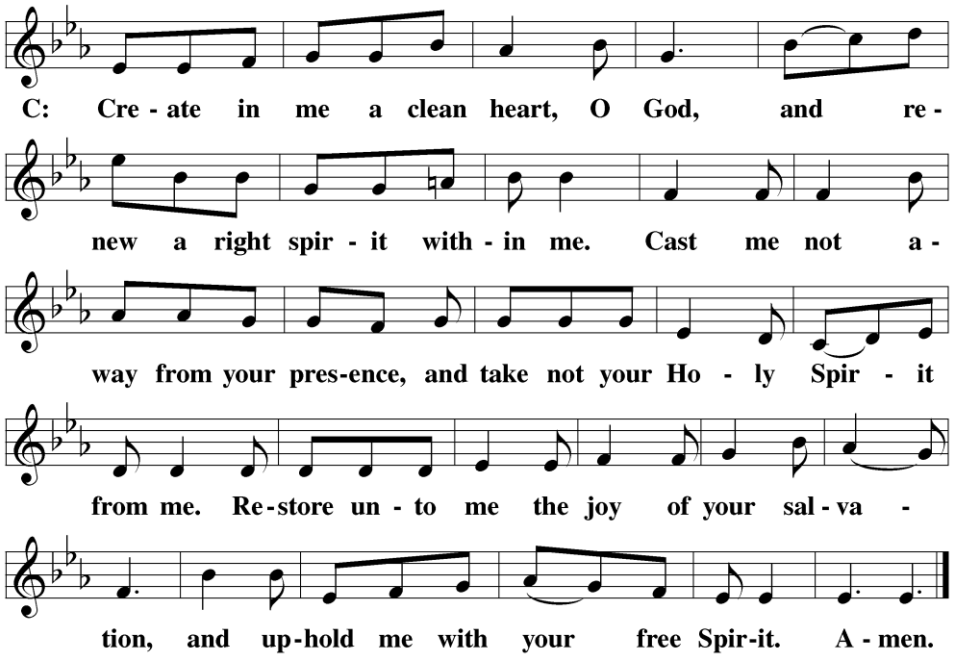
^{6:1}As fellow workers we also urge you not to receive God’s grace in vain.

²For he says:

At a favorable time I listened to you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you.^c

Look, now is the favorable time! See, now is the day of salvation! (EHV)

After the sermon, the congregation sings:



C: 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 un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

OFFERING

Members of St. Andrew Lutheran Church use this time to respond to God’s goodness with gifts of thanks and love. Our giving is guided by God’s Word: “Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits from

^c Isaiah 49:8

your entire harvest” (Proverbs 3:9); “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver. God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will overflow in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:7-8, EHV).

Feel free also to make use of online giving options: 1) via our website: go to <http://standrewchicago.org/> , then click on the “Giving” tab; or just click on [this link](#); or scan this QR code with your mobile device; or 2) via the Vanco Mobile app: use our invite code: GEVWA7, or search for our church name and address (links to the app & more info on p. 24).



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Holy and righteous God, as we begin again the solemn spiritual journey of Lent, we come before you in deep humility. We confess that we are sinners, both by the nature we inherit and by the sinful thoughts and desires, words and actions that our sinful nature produces. Because of our sins, we deserve only your wrath and punishment. Yet you reveal yourself, not only as a God of holiness and justice but also as a God of mercy and love. Despairing of our own merits and worthiness, and in response to your gracious invitation, we come pleading for your forgiveness.

C: Lord, have mercy on us for your holy name’s sake.

M: You have revealed your love and mercy for us sinners in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. You sent him into our world to be the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all people. Help us grasp by faith the great truth that the pain and suffering, the mockery and ridicule, and the death and punishment he endured should have been ours. Help us understand that in incomprehensible love he suffered and died for us.

C: Lord, have mercy on us for Jesus’ sake.

M: In silent meditation let us reflect on our sins, praise our Savior for the forgiveness he has won for us, and ask for God’s continued grace to remove any doubt that we are forgiven.

Silent meditation

M: God of grace and mercy, may your Spirit continue to be with us as we follow the way of the cross. As we contemplate the story of our

Savior's passion, build us up in our faith. Renew in us the zeal to serve you by reflecting your love in our lives. Give us the desire and the ability to boldly proclaim the grace in which we stand, so that all for whom you lived and died may join us in fellowship now and in your presence forever.

C: We offer our humble thanks and praise, our prayers and petitions, and ourselves in body and spirit to you, Lord God. Hear us, according to your promise, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy Supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this Supper, we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

Following the teaching of the Bible (1 Corinthians 10:17; 11:27-29; etc.), our church practices "close communion." We ask that only those who are communicant members of this church or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) partake of the sacrament today. If you are a visitor who is not a member of one of our sister churches, our pastor would be happy to speak with you about receiving the Lord's Supper with us in the future. Please mention it to him after the service.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

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

DISTRIBUTION

At the direction of the usher, communicant members of St. Andrew and our sister churches in the WELS and ELS may come forward down the center aisle, then wait until directed by an usher to go to the communion rail. Communicants may kneel or stay standing. Please hold out your hand to receive the bread. If you wish to partake of the common cup, do not take an individual cup when the assistant comes by with the tray. Those who need to receive grape juice instead of wine may take the purple individual cups in the center of the tray. The minister and assistant will use hand sanitizer before and/or wear sterile gloves during

communion setup and distribution. Gluten-free wafers are available; please speak with the pastor or an usher to receive one.

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

PRAYER and BLESSING

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN – Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness – CW93 #376 –
printed on the following page

376

Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness



1 Je - sus, your blood and right - eous - ness My beau - ty
 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day— Who can a
 3 Lord, I be - lieve your pre - cious blood, Which at the
 4 Lord, I be - lieve were sin - ners more Than sands up -
 5 When from the dust of death I rise To claim my



are, my glo - rious dress; Mid flam - ing worlds, in
 word a - gainst me say? Ful - ly through you ab -
 ver - y throne of God For - ev - er will for
 on the o - cean shore, You have for all a
 man - sion in the skies, E'en then this shall be



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
 solved I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
 sin - ners plead, For me— e'en for my soul— was shed.
 ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.
 all my plea: Je - sus has lived and died for me.

6 Jesus, be worshiped endlessly!
 Your boundless mercy has for me,
 For me and all your hands have made,
 An everlasting ransom paid.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–60, abr.; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–91, alt.

Tune: ST. CRISPIN (LM) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

SCHEDULE OF ST. ANDREW'S MINISTRY
February 14-20, 2024

Today	7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Worship Service
Sunday (2/18)	9:30 AM	Worship Service w. Lord's Supper
	11:00 AM	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
Monday	7:00 PM	中文聚会 (Chinese Ministry)
Tuesday	6:30-8:00 PM	Youth Confirmation Class

The paraments are black for Ash Wednesday. Black is the color of death and mourning, and calls for sober reflection on the cost of our redemption.

WELCOME, GUESTS! – We are glad to have you worship with us today! Please sign the guest book in the center church entryway so that we have a record of your visit. Our pastor, Adam Gawel, would be happy to speak with you if you would like; please contact him (see page 2 for contact information). Please join us for worship or Bible study again!

FUNDRAISER FOR BIBLES FOR THE NATIVE AMERICAN APACHE MISSION

The Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) will be raising funds for Native American Missions, specifically the Apache mission in Arizona served by WELS Apache pastor Kirk Massey, for its spring rally Befriend-a-Mission (BAM) offering. The BAM offering will raise funds for Bibles which will cost \$5/ Bible. What we at St. Andrew's have chosen to do is to put hearts with candy inside on a Christmas tree; to make your contribution, simply put a \$5 bill for each Bible you would like to contribute... take the candy out of the heart and put the \$5 bill into it. If you prefer to write a check, please make your check out to "LWMS" and in the memo line write "Native American Missions." The tree is on the back table in church.

BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR CHICAGO – Mar. 4 (Mon.), 6pm, in front of church

Our friends at the McKinley Park News (<https://mckinleypark.news/>) are planning a “birthday party” for Chicago on March 4 (Mon.) at 6:00pm at the center-of-the-city sign out in front of our church building. Plans are still developing, but a number of community organizations have been invited. If you’re able to attend, it would be great to have some of our members there to interact with our other members of our community on St. Andrew’s behalf!

UPCOMING SACRED MUSIC CONCERTS

- The **College Choir of Martin Luther College** in New Ulm, MN (our church-body’s college of ministry [for pastors, teachers, and staff ministers]), will be presenting a concert of sacred music at Trinity Lutheran Church in Crete, IL, on March 1 (Fri.) at 7:00pm.
- The **Prep Singers, the concert choir of Luther Preparatory School** in Watertown, WI (one of our church-body’s preparatory high schools, which provides a general college-prep education and encourages students to consider studying for ministry at Martin Luther College), will be presenting a concert of sacred music at St. John Lutheran Church in Libertyville, IL, on March 16 (Sat.) at 7:00pm.
- Music of the Baroque is presenting **Johann Sebastian Bach’s St. John Passion** on March 11 (Mon.) at 7:30pm at the Harris Theater (205 E. Randolph St., Chicago), and offering our members a 20% discount on tickets. “An intimate and deeply human account of Christ’s betrayal, suffering, and death, Bach’s *Passion According to St. John* sets Scripture and poetry in emotionally moving, expressively beautiful music. Dame Jane Glover leads the chorus, orchestra, and a roster of internationally renowned soloists in one of the greatest sacred works of all time.” **Use code SJP20 at checkout to receive 20% off all available tickets at the Harris Theater.** Tickets and concert information: baroque.org/stjohn .

Leadership Workshop | St. Matthew’s, Niles, IL | Saturday, Feb. 24th

Christian leadership is important, but what does it look like at church, home, and in society? St. Matthew’s in Niles is hosting a workshop to study what the Bible says about these things. Pastor Paul Prange, a veteran leader in WELS, will lead a study of the book of Titus as we learn about Christian leadership. This workshop is from 9:00am-2:30pm on Saturday, February 24th. Lunch is provided. You may register

online at smniles.org/leadership-workshop or when you arrive. This workshop costs \$25 to cover lunch and materials.

Reviving Relationships Through Biblical Hospitality webinar

WELS Women's Ministry hosted a webinar on *Reviving Relationships Through Biblical Hospitality* on Thursday, January 18, 2024. Did you miss it?! Want to learn about using hospitality to reconnect with others at your church and also as an evangelism tool? This webinar will inspire you to rethink your relationships and get you thinking about your own church culture with new eyes. Panelists will talk about the importance of biblical hospitality in your home, at church, and even in public. Learn more and watch here: <https://wels.net/reviving-relationships-through-biblical-hospitality-webinar/>.

“TRAINING CAMP” WELS YOUTH CAMP – JULY 14-19, INGLESIDE, IL

Proverbs 22:6 says, “Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.” The purpose of Training Camp is to provide an opportunity for kids to grow in God's Word and enjoy God's creation. Youth entering grades 3 - 9 in the fall are eligible to be campers. Youth entering grades 11 and 12 in the fall are eligible to be junior counselors. Under the guidance of Christian counselors, your child will be involved in daily devotions and Bible studies, arts and crafts, hiking, boating, tower climbing, swimming, singing, and athletics of all types. The total cost per camper is \$500. This includes lodging, meals, camp T-shirt, and all activities. Campers do not need extra money at camp. Training Camp is held at YMCA Camp Duncan, in Ingleside, IL. Camp Duncan is on a 65-acre lake and 400 acres of wooded forests and rolling prairies. Pastor Paul Spaude from St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Niles, IL, is the head counselor of Training Camp. You may email him with questions at paul.spaude@smniles.org. Register for camp or find more info at <https://smniles.org/overnight-bible-camp>.

2024 WELS International Youth Rally – June 25-28, Fort Collins, CO

It's time to start planning for the 2024 WELS International Youth Rally, which will be held June 25-28, 2024, at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO. Teens from across the country will gather at the foot of the Rocky Mountains to explore the many messages God delivers “From the Mountaintops” of Scripture. Find out more at www.welsyouthrally.net. Our teens (currently in grades 8-12) have been invited to join up with our

sister church, Resurrection, in Aurora, IL, that has a group of teens and chaperones going. Please speak to Pastor Gawel or Sherry for more info.

WELS & ELS Singles Retreat: Living in Our Season

April 26-28, Camp Shiloh Lutheran Retreat Center, Pittsburg, Texas

We invite all single adult members of the WELS and ELS to join us this spring on April 26-28 for the 2024 WELS/ELS Singles Retreat at Camp Shiloh in Pittsburg, Texas, for a weekend of fun and fellowship. Register by April 8, 2024 at wels-els-singles.com/2024-texas-retreat . If you have single friends who are members of the WELS or ELS and would like to receive information about group events, they can sign up at wels-els-singles.com/subscribe .

BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW CONFERENCE VIDEOS AVAILABLE FREE ONLINE

You can now view and share all the presentations from the November 2023 Biblical Worldview Conference held at St. Timothy in Lombard, IL: "For Such a Time as This – Discernment, Boldness, Compassion."

Bryan Wolfmueller: "The Theology of Pronouns"

John Bombaro: "Christian Witness & Your LGBTQ Friends and Family"

Joshua Nelson: "Confronting Modern Heresies in Schools and Elsewhere"

Jennifer Kom: "Gender Solid Parenting"

Go to <https://www.sainttimothy.org/2023-biblical-worldview-conference-replay/>

SUNDAY SCHOOL – 10:45 / after worship

Sunday school is held after the worship service, either in the church basement or in the ministry center next-door to church. Sunday school is open to children from age 3 through 8th grade. (High-schoolers are welcome to join adult Bible study in church during the same time.) All are welcome!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: "10 Lies About God" – Sundays after worship

On Sundays in adult Bible study, we're going through a series entitled "10 Lies about God," in which we use the Bible to evaluate some popular statements about God and religion that sound good but that actually contain serious errors. Feel free to join us whenever you're able. All are welcome!

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS – Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00pm

Youth confirmation class is open to youth in grades 5 through 8, and to high-schoolers who have not yet been confirmed. If you have a potential student in mind, please speak with Pastor Gawel or St. Andrew's elder for Christian education, George Lawson. All are welcome! The class is currently held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:00, but we can adjust the class day or time if needed, to accommodate the schedules of everyone who is interested.

MONDAY EVENING CHINESE MINISTRY

On Monday evenings at 7:00pm, we have Chinese ministry, which includes elements of a worship service, Bible study, and prayer. New friends are always welcome to join! Please invite any Chinese friends or neighbors. You may share with them the following invitation, which contains the note that we meet in person in our ministry center (the house next-door to our church building), but we also continue to include people by video on Zoom, using speakerphones and webcam: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4900685240> .

每周一晚上 7:00, 圣安得烈基督教路德宗教会会有成人中文圣经学习。欢迎您参加! 高乐仁牧师的手机号码是 773-217-8132。我们在教会的事工中心(教堂隔壁的房子)现场聚会;有些人还通过 Zoom 软件线上参加。欢迎你来现场聚会!如果你不能现场来,你可以点这个链接: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4900685240> , 或在 Zoom 软件或网站上投入会议号: 4900685240 。

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS

This class is open to anyone who is interested in learning more – or who would like a review – about what the Bible teaches and what Lutheran Christians believe. At the conclusion of the class, those who are in agreement in faith are invited to join our church, though this is not a requirement for taking the class. Pastor Gawel is able to teach the class in English and Mandarin Chinese, and we have class materials in Spanish available as well. If you or someone you know are interested in starting Bible information class, please contact Pastor Gawel.

PASTORAL COUNSELING AND PRIVATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor Gawel is available for confidential pastoral counseling and for private confession and absolution. Please feel free to make an appointment to see him if you ever wish to do so. (You may call the

church office, or call or text Pastor Gawel on his cell phone: 773-217-8132.)

ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION

There are a number of ways to give to St. Andrew online: 1) via our website: go to <http://standrewchicago.org/> , then click on the “Giving” tab; or just click on [this link](#); or scan this QR code with your mobile device; or 2) via the Vanco Mobile app: use our church’s invite code: GEVWA7, or search for our church name and address. You can download the Vanco Mobile app from the [Apple App Store](#) for iOS devices or the [Google Play Store](#) for Android devices. Please contact St. Andrew’s elder for stewardship, Sam DeLaurentis del Laurentis.sam@gmail.com with any questions.



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Budgeted need each month	Total offerings received in January
\$14,517.92	\$5,892.08

Offerings received this week (through 2/13): \$2,013.98
(budgeted need each week: \$3,350.29)
Total offerings received so far this month: \$3,935.46

Ministry Attendance This Week

In-church worship attendance Sunday: 46 (32 adults, 14 children)

Sunday service live-stream peak concurrent viewing devices: 7

Monday Chinese ministry: 5

Adult Bible study attendance:

Sunday School: 6

Youth Confirmation Class: 5

God bless you this week as you live and witness for him!