



**REFLECTIONS
on
REPENTANCE**

SILOAH LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5, 2025



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ASH WEDNESDAY
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Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed- Hymn# 129

Pastor: In the name of The Father, and of The Son(†), and of The Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen!

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips.

Congregation: And my mouth shall declare Your praise.

Pastor: Hasten to save me, O God.

Congregation: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, as we begin our Lenten season, strengthen us to do Your Will and make us eager to follow Your commands. Hear us now as we join to confess:

All: Almighty God, merciful Father, we confess to You that we haven't loved You with all our hearts. At times, we've pursued our selfish way instead of Your Way. We've done things that we should not have done and have failed to do all the things that You've commanded. We haven't loved our neighbor as ourselves, nor have we offered to You the prayers, praise, and offerings that You deserve. We're sorry for our sins. We repent of them. We look to You for forgiveness and mercy.

Pastor: God has been good to us, even when we're not so good to Him. He continues to forgive, pardon, and blot our sins from His book. He sent Jesus, to take away the sin of the world. And for Jesus' sake, our sins are forgiven in the name of The Father, and of The Son(†), and of The Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Instruction for the Beginning of the Lenten Season

SEASONAL RESPONSE

ALL: With my whole heart I have sought You.

Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!

Your Word, I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You. Blessed are You, O Lord!

Teach me Your statutes.

-Psalm 119:10-12

Oh, Come, My Soul- Hymn# 99

Psalm 51:3,4

For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight! That You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge.

REFLECTIONS ON REPENTANCE:

“Recognizing Against Whom We Sin”

OUR LENTEN CREED

I believe in God, The Father, Almighty, Who created Heaven, Earth, and all things. In order to save the world, He allowed His only Son to die on the cross.

I believe in Jesus, The Father’s only-begotten Son, Who was conceived by The Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. Even though He lived an absolutely sinless life, He was subjected to ridicule, pain and suffering—for me and all people. He was crucified under Pontius Pilate and died on the cross. He descended into Hell to proclaim His victory over the Devil, Sin, and Death. On Resurrection Sunday, Jesus rose from the dead and forty days later, ascended into Heaven. He will return to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in The Holy Spirit, Who creates and sustains faith in my heart, and in the hearts of all believers. Through Word and Sacraments, The Holy Spirit will keep me, and all believers in a good and right relationship with God. I am not ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes. I gladly share my faith with others and joyfully await eternal life which God has prepared for me and all those who love Him! This is most certainly true.

LOVE OFFERINGS & GENEROUS DONATIONS

ASH WEDNESDAY PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to The Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to The Lord our God.

Congregation: It is good and right so to do.

Pastor: We give You thanks, Holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who sacrificed Himself on a Tree, so that redeemed, restored, and forgiven, we might eat from The Tree of Life. Therefore, we marvel at the price Jesus paid and ponder His march to the cross.

*Lord Jesus, You Are Going Forth- Hymn# 126:1
Lord Jesus, You are going forth, for me, Your life to off- -er,
For me a sinner from my birth, who caused all You must suff- -er.
So be it, then, my Dearest Friend, I follow after weep-ing,
Tears flowing free, Your pain to see, watch o'er Your sorrows keep-ing.*

JESUS' WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: The peace of The Lord be with you always.

Congregation: Amen.

*Feed Your Children, God Most Holy- Hymn# 616
Feed Your children, God Most Holy. Comfort sinners, poor and lowly.
Jesus, Bread of Life from Heaven, bless the food You here have given.
As these gifts, the body nourish, may our souls in graces flourish,
Till with saints in heav'nly splendor, at Your Feast due thanks we render.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now- Hymn# 98

CLOSING PRAYER

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You have refreshed us this day with the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus. Through The Means of Grace, You raise the dead to life and bring light to those still in darkness. To You alone be glory and honor, now and forever!

Congregation: Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE LORD



SILOAH'S BELIEFS ON THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

The Sacrament of the Altar is:

- *a gift which Christ our Lord has given to His Church.*
- *a tangible form of The Gospel that assures us of sins forgiven.*
- *a sacred act that expresses the full extent of Christ's love for His Church.*
- *an expression of unity and oneness in faith.*

The Sacrament of the Altar is not:

- *a sacred act that shows one Christian's superiority over another Christian.*
- *to be consumed by anyone outside of the Christian Church.*
- *intended for unbelievers.*
- *open to those who are **not in fellowship** with Siloah or the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.*

Scripture plainly says:

- *The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all participate of that one bread. - 1Corinthians 10:16,17*
- *Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of The Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of The Lord.- 1Corinthians 11:27*

Out of love and respect for our Lord Jesus, instruction is given before we receive the Sacrament. All Siloah Partners have been instructed in The Lord's Supper and hold to the beliefs printed above. If you are not a Siloah Partner, neither a member of a Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod church nor a member of a congregation in fellowship with WELS, we gently ask that you refrain from receiving the Sacrament of the Altar.

Remember, the reception of The Lord's Supper does not make a person a true believer, nor does the inability to receive the Sacrament make a person an unbeliever. There will be people in Heaven from all different Christian church-denominations; for Jesus tells us in Mark 16:16, "Whoever believes and is baptized shall be saved."

If you have further questions concerning Siloah's beliefs on the Sacrament of the Altar, or the steps involved in becoming a Siloah Partner, please contact Pastor Coleman.

Email: Pastor.Coleman@siloahlutheran.org (414) 873-5770.