



All Saints Lutheran Church

Everyone is Welcome here! Seriously, Everyone!

Ash Wednesday

February 18, 2026 at 6:30 pm

Wales, WI

Welcome to Ash Wednesday Worship!

This service will follow the Red Hymnal, beginning on page 251.

Congregational Responses will be in Bold.

Introduction

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in today's readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

Prelude

Judy Knoernschild

Greeting

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Special Music

"Ashes to Ashes"

Carl and Sean Kelly

First Reading:

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17

¹ Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near ²

a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

¹² Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³ rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. ¹⁴ Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD, your God?

¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶ gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

¹⁷ Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10

^{20b} We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1} As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ² For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³ We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴ but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶ by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷ truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Jennifer Rose

Hymn of the Day

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

#803

The offering is an act of worship. We offer a portion of what God has blessed us with for the purpose of doing God’s work in the world through the church. You can donate via collection plate, by scanning the QR Code, or Texting to Give at 262-233-1776.



Invitation to Lent

Confession of Sin

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

(Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.)

P: Most holy and merciful God,

C: 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.

P: 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, O God.

P: 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.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

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

C: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Words of Institution

The 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.

Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion Distribution

Imposition of ashes as a sign of repentance is an ancient practice, often mentioned in the Bible. The ashes remind us of God's condemnation of sin, as God said to Adam, "Dust you are and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19). Ashes suggest cleansing and renewal and were used anciently in the absence of soap. They remind us of the shortness of human life, for it is said as we are buried: "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust," and ashes are a symbol of our need to repent, confess our sins, and return to God.

This is a table of grace where all are welcome! Please come forward to receive Holy Communion. For those of you who are with us online, please find some sort of bread and wine/juice at home to use and share during Communion. Feel free to say to one another, "The body and blood of Christ given and shed for you."

(Please come forward for the imposition of ashes and for Holy Communion. All are welcome.)

Communion Hymn	<i>"Lamb of God"</i>	<i>#195</i>
Communion Hymn	<i>"I want Jesus to Walk with Me"</i>	<i>#325</i>
Communion Hymn	<i>"God Loved the World"</i>	<i>#323</i>

Response

P: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

C: that we may show forth your glory in the world.

P: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

C: bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

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

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, bless you and bring you to life everlasting.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn “O Lord Throughout These 40 Days” #319 vs 1,4

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Judy Knoernschild

Thank you for joining us in worship today!



Saturday, February 21st
9:00 am - 1:00 pm



Bake Sale

Bakers and Buyers Wanted!

Sign up [here](#). Drop off times for goodies are in the Signup Genius. Thanks!



Faith Comes through Hearing

An Audio Bible Study from Pastors Matthew and Jennifer Rose



GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

**A full listening journey through the Word of God
for the daily life of the people of God.**

18 Sessions (Podcast or Video)
about 15 minutes each.
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New Sessions Drop
Mon, Tues, and Thurs
Starting Monday
February 23rd



ASLCWales.org



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Wednesday Nights

6:30 pm

BREATH & BEING:

A Journey Through the Languages of Prayer

February 25 - The Prayer of Lament

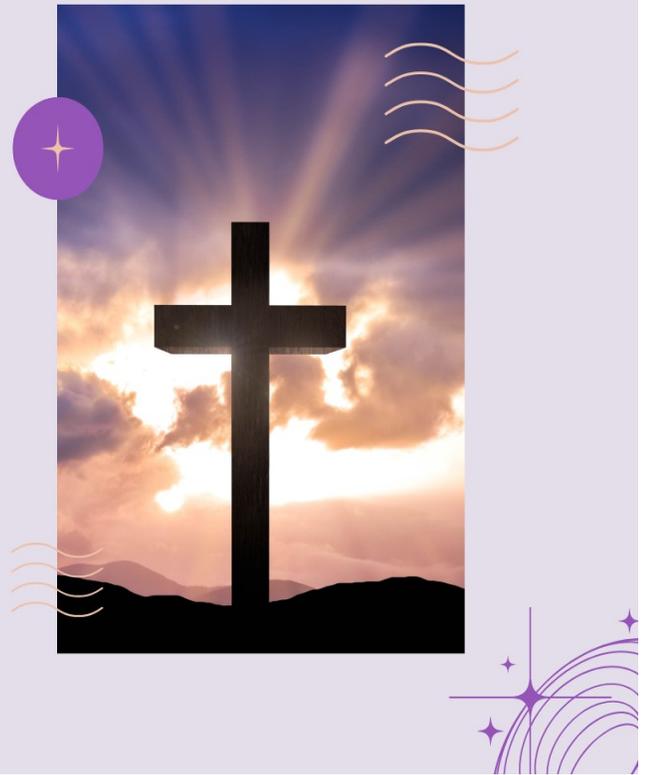
March 4 - The Prayer of Intercession

March 11 - The Prayer of Contemplation

March 18 - The Prayer of Embodiment

March 25 - The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Join us for a lenten series where we experience some powerful ways to tap into prayer that might stretch your ideas of what prayer might look and feel like!



All Saints Lutheran Church

POTLUCK

Sunday, March 1st after Worship

Please bring a dish to pass.

Beverages provided.

**We of All Saints Lutheran Church affirm
that we are a Reconciling In Christ congregation;**

We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace;

**We welcome Lutherans, Christians from every tradition,
and people new to faith;**

**We welcome all who have no church home, want to follow
Christ, have doubts, or do not believe;**

We welcome new visitors and old friends;

**We welcome people of every age and size, color and culture,
every sexual orientation, gender identity and
gender expression, any socioeconomic class, marital status,
ability, challenge, and all other groupings and orientations;**

**We welcome people of all races and
are committed to being an anti-racist community.**

**We welcome believers and questioners,
and questioning believers;**

**This is a place where all are welcome to celebrate and grieve,
rejoice and recover, and where lives are made new.**

There is a place for you here.



All Saints Lutheran Church

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www.allsaintswales.org

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every sexual orientation and gender identity,
any socio-economic status and every ability and challenge.

We welcome believers and questioners, and questioning believers.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP THIS EVENING!

We are glad that you've come to worship with us.

Everything you need to participate in this evening's service is in your handout.

We celebrate God's love and forgiveness with Holy Communion every Sunday
and you are welcome to join us.

