

Ash Wednesday

Salem Lutheran Church 4700 West 72nd Street, Indianapolis, IN 46268

salemELCA.com - facebook.com/salem175 youtube.com/@salemindy

February 22, 2023



Welcome to our Ash Wednesday worship service with Holy Communion, the Imposition of Ashes, scripture, music and Pastor James M. Capers' message "Forty Days of Transformation." This is online ONLY with the premiere on YouTube at 7:30 pm EST on February 22, 2023.

Here is the link to view the service: <https://youtu.be/bwRxfbJ5C-A>

Please prepare the ash you picked up or requested by adding cooking oil to the ash. See the instructions on the packet. Also, please have the bread and fruit-of-the-vine ready to eat and drink during the Holy Communion.

Pastor Capers invites you to find time for Bible study and Sunday worship. We offer a Saturday morning class using Zoom. Please email the office at the address below to request the login information. Our worship is available for in-person attendance, listening on our campus on the radio, or watching our YouTube channel: [@salemindy](https://youtube.com/@salemindy)

Whether you are a first visitor to our service, or watch us weekly - we welcome your feedback and comments: <mailto:office@salemELCA.com>

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GATHERING

P The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

All Amen.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray:

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All Amen.

WORD

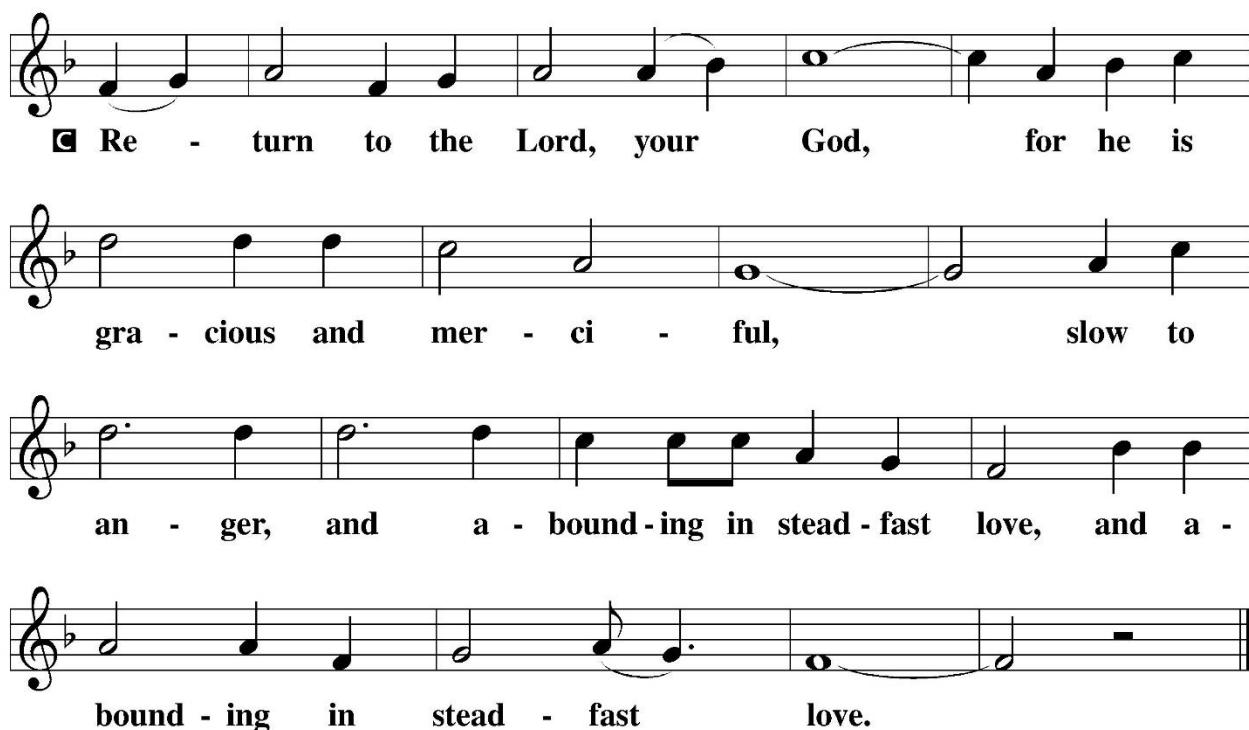
THE FIRST LESSON Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

PSALM 51 Verses 1-12

THE SECOND LESSON 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

All



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is
gra - cious and mer - ci - ful, slow to
an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love, and a -
bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THIS FAR BY FAITH Setting Two

Music: Liturgy of Joy, James M. Capers

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THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

HOMILY “Forty Days of Transformation” INVITATION TO LENT

Pastor James M. Capers

CONFESSION OF SINS

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

Most merciful God,

All **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you 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; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

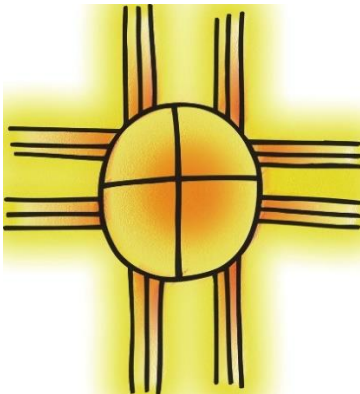
All **Amen.**



IMPOSITION OF ASHES

(Please repeat the following words as you mark the sign of the cross with ashes on the forehead of you or another):

“Behold you are (I am) dust and to dust you (I) shall return”
(Genesis 3:19b)



MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.
God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Ecumenical version)

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen**



HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

Merciful God accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Salem Lutheran Church, 4700 West 72nd Street, Indianapolis, IN 46268 -
salemELCA.com office@salemELCA.com facebook.com/salem175

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

All Amen.

A 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.

All Thanks be to God.

SONG

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me **ELW 325**

LeeAra Watson and Pastor Capers

Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

Text: African American spiritual

Music: African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version

ASH WEDNESDAY

We wish to thank our worship team:

The Rev. Dr. James M. Capers, Celebrant

Laura Morgan, Worship Assistant

Dardhe Lake, Lector

LeeAra Watson, Cantor

Kalamo Adolphe, Acolyte

Devoe Slisher, Media Director and Office Manager