



# ASH WEDNESDAY

CONCORDIA SEMINARY

Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus

**Wednesday, February 22, 2023**

Divine Service, Setting One

## Imposition of Ashes

*The assembly gathers in reverent silence to reflect on God's Word and for self-examination prior to Confession and Absolution.*

*One of the following seven penitential psalms or a suitable hymn may be silently prayed: Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143; LSB 419 "Savior, When in Dust to Thee," or LSB 610 "Lord Jesus, Think on Me."*

*During this time of preparation, worshippers may approach one of the ministers located at the entrance to the nave to receive the imposition of ashes. As the minister traces the sign of the cross on each forehead, he says, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," recalling the Lord's words first spoken to Adam and Eve when they had fallen into sin (Gen. 3:19).*

*Ashes are a sign of mortality and death and from ancient times have been used in rites of penitence and reconciliation.*

*At the conclusion of the Imposition of Ashes, the presiding minister continues with the Litany.*

*Stand*

### Litany

**P** Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

*Kneel*

*Silence for reflection.*

**P** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy.  
**P** O Christ,  
**C** have mercy.  
**P** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy.  
**P** O Christ,  
**C** hear us.

**P** God the Father in heaven,  
**C** **have mercy.**

**P** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
**C** **have mercy.**

**P** God the Holy Spirit,  
**C** **have mercy.**

**P** Be gracious to us.  
**C** **Spare us, good Lord.**

**P** Be gracious to us.  
**C** **Help us, good Lord.**

**P** By the mystery of Your holy incarnation;  
 by Your holy nativity;  
 by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation;  
 by Your agony and bloody sweat;  
 by Your cross and passion;  
 by Your precious death and burial;  
 by Your glorious resurrection and ascension;  
 and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

**C** **Help us, good Lord.**

**P** In all time of our tribulation;  
 in all time of our prosperity;  
 in the hour of death;  
 and in the day of judgment:

**C** **Help us, good Lord.**

**P** We poor sinners implore You  
**C** **to hear us, O Lord.**

**P** To prosper the preaching of Your Word;  
 to bless our prayer and meditation;  
 to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith;  
 and to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** To draw all to Yourself;  
 to bless those who are instructed in the faith;  
 to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers;  
 to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy;  
 and to have mercy on us all:

**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** To turn our hearts to You;  
 to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers;  
 and graciously to hear our prayers:

**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
**C** **we implore You to hear us.**

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**C** **have mercy.**

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**C** **have mercy.**

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**C** **grant us Your peace.**

**P** O Christ,  
**C** **hear us.**

**P** O Lord,  
**C** **have mercy.**

**P** O Christ,  
**C** **have mercy.**

**P** O Lord,  
**C** **have mercy. Amen.**

**P** O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### Confession and Absolution

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

*Sit*

