



FEBRUARY 22, 2023

ASH WEDNESDAY

CALLED TO RENEWAL

Ash Wednesday
Wednesday, February 22, 2023
“Called to Renewal”

(indicates the assembly stands)*

Gathering

*Greeting **A: And also with you.**

*Prayer of the Day

Anthem *“Thou Knowest, Lord, the Secrets of our Hearts”* H. Purcell

Word

First Reading Joel 2:12-17

Psalms 51:1-17 (see page 4) (said responsively by full verse)

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

*Gospel Acclamation

*Gospel Reading Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day 320 *“The Glory of These Forty Days”*

Invitation to Lent

Confession of Sin p. 252

Imposition of Ashes p. 254

*Prayers of Intercession **A: receive our prayer.**

Meal

*Offering Hymn 188 *“Create in Me a Clean Heart”*

*Great Thanksgiving p. 206

*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 207

*Thanksgiving at the Table X p. 69

Lord’s Prayer (“Our Father in heaven...”*) p. 208

Lamb of God p. 208

Hymn during Communion 793

*Concluding Prayer

Sending

*Blessing

*Hymn 326

"Bless Now, O God, the Journey"

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Cover image and liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB142079

"Called to Renewal"

God calls us once and forever and over and over again. Called by God through water and the Word, marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are God's beloved children. Nothing can change that - not our greatest successes or our worst failures.

Lent is a time amid this unfinished life in which we are invited into experiences of reset and renewal, trusting that God is with us to help us to imagine again and anew how we live into God's call in daily life.

ALL ARE WELCOMED TO THE LORD'S TABLE where Jesus promises to meet us. **Communion will be at the high altar rail this evening. Please remain kneeling or standing at the rail until all have received the wine or grape juice; there will be a table blessing for each group.** Gluten-free communion wafers are also available. Please indicate this to the Pastor.

Psalm 51:1-17

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

²Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.

³For I know | my offenses,
and my sin is ev- | er before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment.

⁵Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my | mother's womb.

⁶Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.

⁸Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.

⁹Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.

¹⁰Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me.

¹¹Cast me not away | from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of | your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.

¹³Let me teach your ways | to offenders,
and sinners shall be re- | stored to you.

¹⁴Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of | my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing | of your righteousness.

¹⁵O Lord, o- | pen my lips,
and my mouth shall pro- | claim your praise.

¹⁶For you take no delight in sacrifice, or | I would give it.
You are not pleased | with burnt offering.

¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a | troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will | not despise.

Worship Notes

In our prayers John, Marie, Grace, Maureen, Bernice, John and Nancy.

General Announcements

West Tower Door for Emergency Only. Due to the ongoing construction planning, when going in to the church house or washrooms, use the west stair tower door and stay on that floor. Use the hallway by the office to the stairway to the floor below. The stairs in the west tower are closed to the lower level sanctuary and should only be used in case of an emergency to exit the building.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: Rev. Dr. Allen Jorgenson

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Dylan Siebert, Jacob Steinmann

Broadcast: Gary Pootz

Building Monitor: Steve Dickin (519-580-8407)

Important Information for today's worship

- **Self-Screening:** Members are reminded to continue to perform self-assessments if they have COVID symptoms.
- **Masks:** We support people's choice to wear a mask, and we strongly encourage the following of current guidelines.
- **Physical distancing:** Members are encouraged to continue physical distancing where possible indoors.
- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented to the High Altar during the service.
- **The Peace:** We support people's choices for passing of the peace.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.
- **Ministers** will be greeting worshippers after the postlude in the Narthex, without handshakes.
- **Thank you for helping to keep all of us as safe as possible during this pandemic, by following these directions!**

Fire Exits: All Sanctuary fire exits remain operational during lower-level demolition and renovations. This includes the three Narthex (Entrance) doors, the mid-tower door (half-way up the right side), and the staircase at the front left, piano side.

Church Fire Plan For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.

Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462 stmattskw.com

Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer Ext. 3
pastorcarey@stmattskw.com

Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer Ext. 2
pastorsebastian@stmattskw.com

Deacon Scott Knarr Ext. 4
deaconscott@stmattskw.com

Leanne Vanderhout Ext. 6
lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



[Facebook](#)



[Instagram](#)



[YouTube](#)



[Donate](#)



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

**54 BENTON STREET
KITCHENER
N2G 3H2
519.742.0462**

**stmattskw.com
info@stmattskw.com**