

February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday

Ascension Lutheran Church of Navarino

*"Joyfully, we invite and equip all people to share Christ's love"*

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**Welcome and Explanation of the evening's worship including imposition of ashes and communion.**

**Opening Reading** *Psalm 51:1-13*

L: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your lovingkindness;

**C: in your great compassion blot out my offenses.**

L: Wash me through and through from my wickedness,

**C: and cleanse me from my sin.**

L: For I know my transgressions,

**C: and my sin is ever before me.**

L: Against you only have I sinned

**C: and done what is evil in your sight.**

L: And so you are justified when you speak

**C: and upright in your judgment.**

L: Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,

**C: a sinner from my mother's womb.**

L: For behold, you look for truth deep within me,

**C: and will make me understand wisdom secretly.**

L: Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;

**C: wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

L: Make me hear of joy and gladness,

**C: that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

L: Hide your face from my sins,

**C: and blot out all my iniquities.**

L: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

**C: and renew a right spirit within me.**

L: Cast me not away from your presence,

**C: and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

L: Give me the joy of your saving help again,

**C: and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

P: In this holy season the Son of God humbles himself so that we receive mercy.

**C: Humble me once again, O God, that my life would be pleasing and acceptable to you.**

P: In this holy season the Son of God prays for us so that we are made one with him and each other.

**C: Help me to faithfully pray, O God, that my prayers would be pleasing and acceptable to you.**

P: In this holy season the Son of God lives a perfect life so that we receive his perfection.

**C: Fill me with your Spirit, O God, that my life and actions would be pleasing and acceptable to you.**

P: In this holy season the Son of God enters into his Passion and death so that we are exalted.

**C: Grant me your grace, O God, that my faith in Jesus would be pleasing and acceptable to you.**

**Imposition of Ashes** "For dust you are and to dust you shall return"

*After receiving the ashes, spend some time meditating on Psalm 90, found on page 258 in the front of your green hymnal.*

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Having been reminded that we are dust, and to dust we shall return, let us confess our sins:

**C: Most merciful God, we confess that our very nature is sinful. The root of our sin is pride, and pride has made us love ourselves more than we love you or others. Too often we believe that our lives are acceptable to you, when in reality they are not. We have sinned against you by speaking selfish words, by thinking selfish thoughts and by taking selfish action. Above all else, we have failed to love others and you more than ourselves. Have mercy on us sinners.**

P: Since we cannot justify ourselves, our God sent his one and only Son to live a perfect life and die the death we deserved. Because of his generous grace, our sinful pride and all other sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **Song                    *"How Deep the Father's Love"***

**Prayer of the Day - 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. Amen.**

**Bible Lessons**        Joel 2:12-19  
                                 Romans 4:1-8  
                                 Mark 8:1-13

**The Message**        by Pastor Sabin

## **Song                    *"Be Unto Your Name"***

### **Sharing of the Peace**

P: Now may the peace of the Lord be with you all!

**C: And also with you!**

### **Prayers of the People of God**

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*Each petition ends with the following response from Proverbs 3:5-6:*

P: Trust in the Lord with all your heart,

**C: And He will make your paths straight.**

### **Victory Celebration**

P: The Lord is with you!

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise. I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your love and faithfulness. For you have glorified your name and your word above all things. When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me. (Psalm 138:1-3)

## ***"Sanctuary"***

**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.

**Invitation to Communion**

**Communion Distribution**

**Post-Communion Blessing**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen**

**Post-Communion Prayer** - Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Song**

***“You Are My King/Amazing Love”***

**Sending** (*Jude 24*)

P: Now to him who is able to keep you from falling, and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with rejoicing, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever.

**C: Amen!**

**Postlude**

**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED. OUR SERVICE BEGINS!**



**COMMUNION FOR ALL BAPTIZED!!!**

*All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Gluten free wafers and white grape juice are available upon request.*

**\*\*Please place your offering in the collection plate at the back of the sanctuary as you enter or exit.\*\***

