

**OUR SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**GREENDALE, WISCONSIN**  
**South 76th Street and Parkview Road**  
**The Reverend Douglas W. Schroeder, Pastor**

**Ash Wednesday      7:15 P.M.      February 17, 2021**

**OUR THEME FOR THIS YEAR IS—Conforming to God’s Son in 2021**

*For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.*

~ Romans 8:29 ~

**Opening Hymn:** LSB 915—Today Your Mercy Calls Us

**Opening Sentences:**

**Pastor:** Return to the Lord, your God,

**Congregation:** *For He is gracious and merciful*

**P:** Slow to anger,

**C:** *And abounding in steadfast love*

**P:** Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, on Ash Wednesday, the Church begins the penitential season of Lent. Our attention is directed to the holy suffering and bitter death of our Lord Jesus Christ. From ancient times, the season of Lent has been kept as a time of repentance, devotion and self-denial. Let us pray that our Father in heaven would bless this Lenten season for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts rejoicing in our Savior’s resurrection from the dead.

Let Us Pray:

**C:** *O holy Lord, you desire not the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain Your promise of forgiveness and salvation for those who believe in Your Son; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Imposition of Ashes**

**Anthem:** Were You There? . . . Wood/Wagner

**Psalm 51: 1 – 13 (Read responsively)**

**Pastor:** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

**Congregation:** *Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.*

**P:** For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

**C:** *Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.*

**P:** Surely I have been a sinner from birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

**C:** *Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.*

**P:** Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

**C:** *Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.*

**P:** Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

**C:** *Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

**P:** Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

**C:** *Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.*

**P:** Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.

**All:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

**Hymn:** LSB 610—Lord Jesus Think on Me

