



# HOLY VESSELS

## A LENTEN SEASON OF RECOVERY

[www.worshipdesignstudio.com/vessels](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com/vessels)

*In the shadow of Mount Si sits a small country church, wonderfully illuminated by the light of God. We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person with all your complexities, gifts, questions, and challenges. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world. We believe our mission is to serve, reach out and grow in grace. ALL are welcome to join us in this quest.*

**If you are a first-time guest, a member, or a regular attendee, we are glad you are here!** Guests are encouraged to fill in a welcome card located in the entry to the Sanctuary or pew racks so we can keep in touch or answer any questions you might have. Please place cards in the offering plate or hand them to an usher.

**The Lil' Mount Si Wiggle Room is located at the back of the sanctuary.** We welcome all children into our wiggle room. We ask that a parent or designated friend or family member stay with the child/children. There are speakers so you can continue to participate in worship.

**Pick up a Rainbow Bag for your child in the Narthex on the way into worship.** The bags are filled with quiet activities for your child during church service.

**If you would like additional information on our programs and ministries,** you will find our monthly newsletter and brochures available in the narthex as you enter the building. We are glad to share more information and help you find a place which fits your gifts and affinities in God's ministries here at Mt. Si—or, possibly, your passions will help begin an entirely new ministry at Mt. Si.

*During our worship this evening you are welcome to participate in the liturgy by reading the parts in **bold** and singing along to the music as you feel comfortable. The Lord's Supper is open to all as Christ is the one who sets the table and extends the invitation. It is wonderful to worship with you this evening!*

## Ash Wednesday – February 18, 2026

### Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Lector

L: Welcome to worship at Mt Si Lutheran Church for our special service of Ash Wednesday. We welcome Pr. Olaf Baumann who will be preaching and presiding for our worship this evening while Pastor Krista is with the mission team in Belize.

Welcome to those who are watching from home. You can download a copy of the service from the front page of the website. For those gathered in person, a program was provided as you entered. You can follow the order of worship there and on the screen.

#### Introduction

#### Lector

L: Christians gather on Ash Wednesday to mark the beginning of Lent's preparation for Easter. On this day, the people of God receive an ashen cross on the forehead, a gesture rooted in baptism, hear the solemn proclamation to keep a fast in preparation for Easter's feast, and contemplate anew the ongoing meaning of baptismal initiation into the Lord's death and resurrection. While marked with the ashes of human mortality, the church hears God's promise of forgiveness and tastes God's mercy in the bread of life and the cup of salvation. From this solemn liturgy, the church goes forth on its journey to the great feast of Easter.

I invite you to take a deep breath followed by a moment of silence as you center your hearts and minds on our worship this evening. *Leave 15 seconds of silence.* Come, let us worship our God.

*Vessels are brought in and placed on the altar.*

#### Gathering Song

O God, Why Are You Silent, Red Hymnal #703

*See pg. 9*

#### Prayer of the Day

#### Lector

L: Let us pray together,

**All: Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Confession & Absolution****Pastor**

*Musician invite the congregation to sing through twice*

**Vessels, holy and whole  
Broken, needing the One  
Open, body and soul  
Healer, come. X2**

*Pastor:* Ash Wednesday is a time of naming brokenness. As we enter the season of Lent, we commit to enter also into a season of healing and recovery that requires the naming of what has been shattered as a first step. We take “the yoke” of responsibility as disciples of Jesus to be the Body of Christ—a body of those who need healing and offer healing in the world. The promise of Jesus is that he is with us in our weariness and burdens. Let us sing together:

**Vessels, holy and whole  
Broken, needing the One  
Open, body and soul  
Healer, come. X2**

*Pastor:* We will be living with stories of Jesus’ healing in the Gospel of Matthew in this Lent season. We will see how Jesus encouraged people to open up about their lives as part of the healing process—no matter how broken. Ash Wednesday developed as a doorway to speaking the truth of our lives, a time to lay the brokenness of life before God. Let us pray:

**All: Merciful God, we have lived a year of Lent.  
In the midst of it all we have seen love shine through at times  
but as we look back in this moment,  
it feels like a year of shattered dreams and shattered peace.  
We are discouraged.  
Even though so much feels out of our control,  
we also see the ways our own faults and failures  
to love each other fully, to care for the least, to honor your creation,  
to stand for what is right and good, have contributed to the shattering.**

**And so we come to you in pieces.  
Fragments, broken shells of our past selves.  
As we walk along the shores of Uncertainty and Pain,  
we ask that you meet us here.**

**Help us, Healer. Show us our strength. Forgive us.  
In this silence, we sense and acknowledge  
our yearning for wholeness.**

*Silence*

**Vessels, holy and whole  
Broken, needing the One  
Open, body and soul  
Healer, come. X2**

*Pastor:* Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

**All: That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

*Pastor:* By the Cross and Passion of your Son, our Savior,

**All: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

*Pastor:* You are invited forward at this time to receive the sign of the ashes.

*If you wish to receive ashes, please come forward when instructed. Pastor will apply ashes to your forehead saying, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return”. Upon receiving ashes return to your seat for a time of personal prayer and reflection.*

*Pastor continues once all are seated...*

*Pastor:* Throughout the season of Lent, we will be contemplating the symbol of broken glass—beach glass to be specific. An unknown author has said this about the glass fragments that are collected on various shores:

“Ordinary pieces of tableware or beer or soda bottles are flung into the ocean. Years pass, or decades, and then one day, there it is upon the shore: a small shard from one of those long ago discarded objects. Shifting currents have rounded its edges; abrasion has polished its surface; exposure to the sun has altered its hue. And so, when we happen upon it, here amidst the shells and seaweed, we can’t help but laugh with joy at what seems a miracle: this ordinary fragment of silica that time and adversity have transformed into something beautiful.”

Time and adversity... making something beautiful out of that which, once seen as ordinary and broken, is now considered a transformed and precious piece. This is the journey we undertake.

**All: Amen.**

**First Lesson**

**Isaiah 58:1-12**

**Lector**

*L:* Our first lesson comes from the prophet Isaish, the 58<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup> Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness

and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>3</sup> “Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"  
 Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day  
 and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup> You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.  
 Such fasting as you do today  
 will not make your voice heard on high.

<sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?  
 Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush  
 and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

<sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose:  
 to loose the bonds of injustice,  
 to undo the straps of the yoke,  
 to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
 and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
 when you see the naked, to cover them  
 and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
 and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
 your vindicator<sup>[b]</sup> shall go before you;  
 the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9</sup> Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;  
 you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."  
 If you remove the yoke from among you,  
 the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

<sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry  
 and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
 then your light shall rise in the darkness  
 and your gloom be like the noonday.

<sup>11</sup> The Lord will guide you continually  
 and satisfy your needs in parched places  
 and make your bones strong,  
 and you shall be like a watered garden,  
 like a spring of water  
 whose waters never fail.

<sup>12</sup> Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
 you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
 you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
 the restorer of streets to live in.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Lesson****Matthew 11:28-30****Pastor**

Our Gospel Lesson comes from Matthew, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon****Pastor****Hymn**

Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone

*See page 10*

**Prayers of the People****Lector**

*Lector:* Lover of our souls, You who weeps, bleeds, cries, waits...for us and because of us, we come before you to make our petitions known.

Hear our cries for healing of body, mind, and spirit. We know that already you are at work among us, showing us the way to recovery healing and wholeness in our time.

We pray for those who are shattered by the violence of circumstances, tumbled by the forces of life, and washed up on shores, distant from all that feels whole.

Please lift your prayers in silence after each petition.

On this night, we pray especially—

- for those who govern nations of the world . . .  
*period of silence*
- for our country torn by violence and fear . . .  
*period of silence*
- for all who work for peace and reconciliation. . .  
*period of silence*
- for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction. . .  
*period of silence*
- for the church of Jesus Christ in every land . . .  
*period of silence*
- for all suffering from any illness and those who care for them. . .*period of silence*

At this time you are invited to share aloud the prayers on your heart. . .

*period of silence as prayers are offered by the community*

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord. **All: Amen.**

**Peace****Lector**

L: The peace of Christ, be with you always!

**All: And also with you.**

L: please share a sign of peace with one another and those watching at home.

**Offering****Pastor**

*Pastor:* At this time our usher will bring the plates forward. You are invited to pass your offering to the center aisle. Your generosity enlivens this congregation and its ministry to our neighbors. Thank you for your gifts of present, talents and treasure.

**Meal****Pastor**

*Pastor:* I invite you to stand as prepare to receive a great gift of bread and cup, Jesus, present for us this night.

*Pastor:* The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*Pastor:* Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

*Pastor:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Pastor:* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and gave it to his disciples saying: take, eat, this is my body given for you, do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and give it to them to drink saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins, do this for the remembrance of me. Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. **All: Amen.**

*Pastor:* Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**All: 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.**

*Pastor:* Come to the banquet, for all now is ready!

### Communion Song

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart Red Hymnal #484  
*See page 11*

#### Post-Communion Prayer

Pastor

P: Let us pray together:

**All: God of our pilgrimage, in this meal you nourish us with the gifts of faith and hope. Sustain us on our journey, that refreshed by your grace, we may reach the promised land, the Easter feast of victory in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

#### Blessing

Pastor

*Pastor:* Now go with confidence that,  
 though shattered, we are held.

Begin the journey of recovering your depth of love for all  
 and your joy of living in this world.

May the words of Jesus ring in your ears:  
 "I will give you rest."

And may the Spirit hover, move,  
 and deliver salve to your soul  
 and a spring in your step.

**All: Amen.**

### Closing Song

Go My Children With My Blessing Red Hymnal #543  
*See page 11*

#### Dismissal

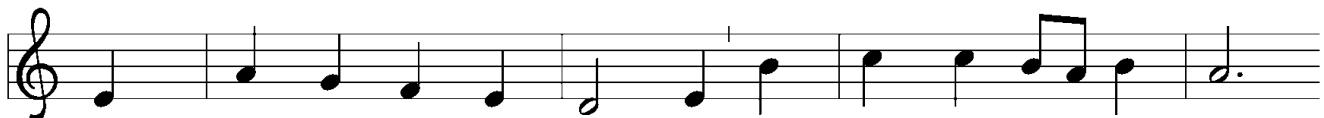
Pastor

P: Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news!

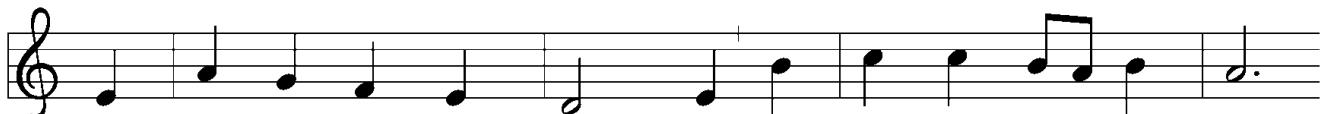
**All: Thanks be to God.**

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## Oh God, Why Are You Silent?



1 O God, why are you si - lent? I can - not hear your voice;  
 2 My hope lies bruised and bat - tered, my wound-ed heart is torn;  
 3 Through end - less nights of weep - ing, through wea - ry days of grief,  
 4 May pain draw forth com - pas - sion, let wis - dom rise from loss;



the proud and strong and vio - lent all claim you and re - joice;  
 my spir - it spent and shat - tered by life's re - lent - less storm;  
 my heart is in your keep - ing, my com - fort, my re - lief.  
 oh, take my heart and fash - ion the im - age of your cross;



you prom-ised you would hold me with ten - der - ness and care.  
 will you not bend to hear me, my cries from deep with - in?  
 Come, share my tears and sad - ness, come, suf - fer in my pain,  
 then may I know your heal - ing through heal - ing that I share,



Draw near, O Love, en - fold me, and ease the pain I bear.  
 Have you no word to cheer me when night is clos - ing in?  
 oh, bring me home to glad - ness, re - store my hope a - gain.  
 your grace and love re - veal - ing, your ten - der - ness and care.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612

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## Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone

Amazing grace  
 How sweet the sound  
 That saved a wretch like me  
 I once was lost, but now I'm found  
 Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
 And grace my fears relieved  
 How precious did that grace appear  
 The hour I first believed

My chains are gone  
 I've been set free  
 My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
 And like a flood His mercy reigns  
 Unending love, amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me  
 His word my hope secures  
 He will my shield and portion be  
 As long as life endures

[2x]  
 My chains are gone  
 I've been set free  
 My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
 And like a flood His mercy reigns  
 Unending love, amazing grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
 The sun forbear to shine  
 But God, Who called me here below,  
 Will be forever mine.  
 Will be forever mine.  
 You are forever mine.

## You, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

*Refrain*

You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.

Come give to us, O sav-ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.

- 1 As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,

*Refrain*

so when you call your fam - ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.  
 that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav'n - ly food.  
 Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?  
 whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.  
 to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

## Go My Children, With My Blessing

- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Soup Supper & Worship

Beginning on Wednesday, February 25.  
 Meet in the Fellowship Hall for soup supper at 6pm.  
 Move to the Sanctuary for worship beginning at 7pm.

Bless this Night Liturgy

Explore a new prayer practice each week!

### Holy Week at Mt. Si Lutheran Church

Palm Sunday



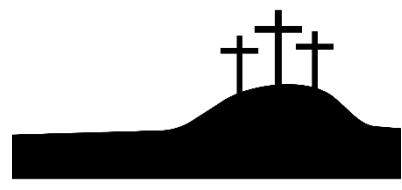
March 29

Maundy Thursday



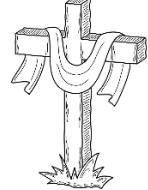
April 2

Good Friday



April 3

Easter Sunday



April 5