

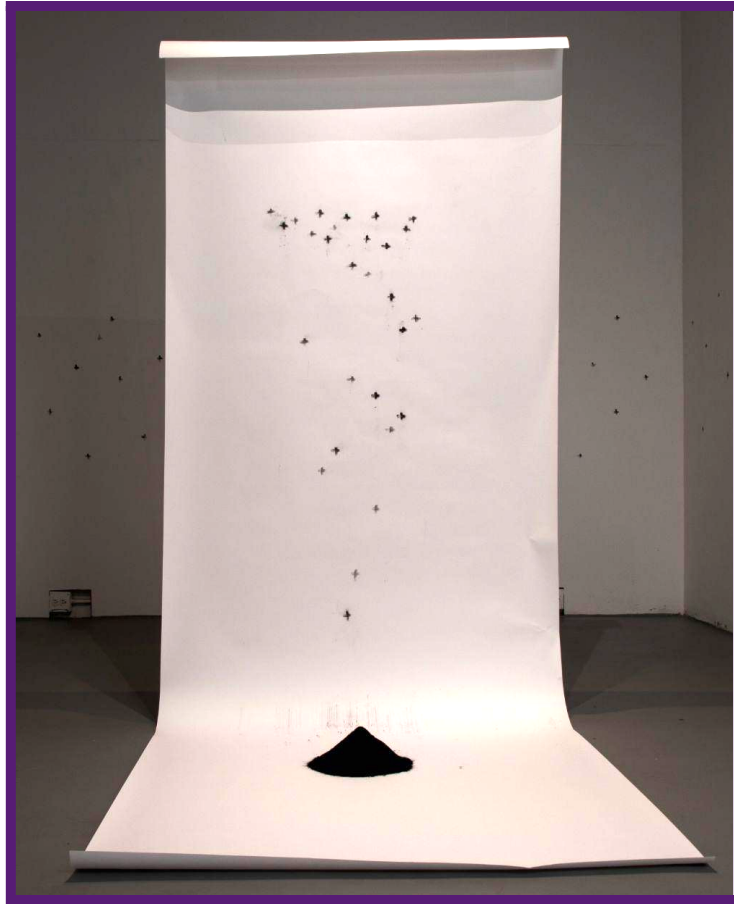


GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Grace changes everything.

Dana Point, California

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ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14, 2024 12:00pm and 7pm

WELCOME to worship! Ash Wednesday begins the Season of Lent, preparing our hearts, minds, and lives for Easter. Today, we receive the "Imposition of Ashes" on our foreheads - an ancient sign of repentance and desire to start anew. We also begin the series on *Bread for the Journey*. That is, strength to follow Jesus to the cross through prayer, study, service, worship, and more. (John 6) Thank you for joining us on the journey!

PRELUDE: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* by Craig Courtney Fred Johnson, Organist/Pianist

THE WELCOME AND INVOCATION

THE ORDER OF CONFESSION (Psalm 51)

(People read/sing **bold** words.)

Have mercy on me, O God,

according to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy

blot out my transgressions.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned,

and done what is evil in your sight,

so that you are justified in your sentence

and blameless when you pass judgment.

Hide your face from my sins,

and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,

and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence,

and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

and sustain in me a willing spirit. Amen.

(A moment of silence for confession. The forgiveness will be pronounced later with the service.)

THE GATHERING HYMN: *Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross*

#335 vv. 1-3

Jesus, keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain;

free to all, a healing stream flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

Refrain: **In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever;**

till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;

there the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me. (Refrain)

Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;

help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me. (Refrain)

(The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.)

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. (Please be seated.)

THE FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 58:5-12

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? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? 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? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. 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, 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. 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. 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.

(Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**)

THE VIDEO PRESENTATION

Arts & Outreach Minister Michelle Lum

THE SECOND LESSON: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as

punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

(Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**)

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand.)

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Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew the 6th chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 6: 1-4, 16-18

"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

(The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**)

THE HYMN: ***O Sacred Head, Now Wounded***

#351 vv. 1-3

**O sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;**

**O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.**

**How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn;
how does thy face now languish, which once was bright as morn!
Thy grief and bitter passion were all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.**

**What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever, and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.**

THE MESSAGE: *Bread for the Journey*

Pastor David R. Mattson

THE OFFERING (12:00pm): *What Wondrous Love Is This* by Matt Limbaugh Fred Johnson
(7:00pm): *Antiphonal Kyrie* Sanctuary Choir, Music Director Kathy Person

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Take, O, Take, Me as I Am (sung 2x) #814
Take, oh, take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BLESSING OF THE ASHES

THE IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

(We invite you to come forward for the imposition of ashes. The ushers will guide you down the center aisle and then return down the side aisle.)

**Abide with Me #629
Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.**

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;**

**change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.
I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me.**

**I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me!**

**Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes,
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.**

**How Deep the Father's Love for Us
How deep the Father's love for us How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One Bring many sons to glory**

**Behold the man upon a cross My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life I know that it is finished**

**I will not boast in anything No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart His wounds have paid my ransom**

**Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart His wounds have paid my ransom**

THE ABSOLUTION (Please stand)

Through the cross of Christ, God has mercy on you, pardons you and sets you free! Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. May God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, in the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen!**

**THE SENDING HYMN: What Wondrous Love Is This #666
What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!**

**What won-drouous love is this, O my soul!
What won-drouous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?**

**When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.**

**To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I Am,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.**

**And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing his love for me,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.**

THE POSTLUDE: *More Love to Thee, O Christ* by A. Giannico Fred Johnson, Organist/Pianist

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GLORIA DEI STAFF

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Youth Director Paige Gulck (youth@mygloriadei.org)
Music Director Kathy Person (music@mygloriadei.org)
Organist/Pianist Fred Johnson (organist@mygloriadei.org)
5pm Worship Leader Micaela Lum

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to our readers: Jay Pederson (12pm) and Kim Santore (7pm). Thank you also to our ushers: Craig Collins & Diane Kelly (12pm) and Dave & Susan Warneke (7pm)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS - Bill & Teri Abrams; Clayton, Michelle & Emmaline Dietrich; Natalie, Sean, Isabelle, Grace & Aria Hribar-Kelly; Steven, Kim, Micah & Kennedy Merchant; AnnMarie & Mitchell Thomas; Pam & Patrick Thomas; and Mary & Tom Whitman.

NEW COUNCIL FOR 2024 - We thank the following people who were elected as Gloria Dei's Leadership Team for this year: Christian Asis (President), Lora Schultz (VP), Shelly Higgins (Treasurer), Zac Welin (Treasurer), Dianne Scott (Secretary), Tim Boyd, Julie Hettmann, Bill Jonas, Scott Neiderhiser, Greg Person, Susan Warneke, Chelsea Weiss.

BIBLE YEAR STUDY Thursdays, 6:30pm, Pastor David leads a study on the readings and answers questions. (2/11/24: Proverbs 1:1 - Proverbs 13:25). This group will be taking a break for Lent and begin after Easter.

PRESCHOOL TOURS & REGISTRATION (fall 2024) in full swing for church members & returning students. If interested, please contact Preschool Dir. Shelli Parajekas at preschool@mygloriadei.org.

MEN'S SPRING TRAINING RETREAT (Arizona). Wonderful time of watching baseball and fellowship. Leave early Friday morning from the church and return late Sunday afternoon. (March 1-3). See the sign-up. There's room for only 30.

LENT 2024

The Great Lutheran Bake Off (John 6)

SEASON OF LENT begins with Ash Wednesday, February 14. Theme for Lent will be based on John 6, Bread for the Journey as we follow Jesus to the cross and then on to the empty tomb. Also, check out the Lenten Artwork by Art Minister Michelle Lum which will be in the Sanctuary.

ASH WEDNESDAY/VALENTINE'S DAY: February 14. Three opportunities for The Imposition of Ashes, 8-9am (drive-thru-upper circle); noon worship in the Sanctuary, 7pm worship in Bankson Hall (Soup suppers begin that night, 6pm).

SOUP SUPPERS FOR LENT - begin February 14. Sign-up to provide soup. Every Wednesday soup is served from 6pm-6:30pm before worship. Join in! Thanks for providing soup.

FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION begins for young children in the Sanctuary on three Wednesdays: February 28, March 6, & March 13 at 5:15pm. Sign-up. Child and a parent need to attend. Questions, speak with Pastor David or Assistant Minister Dana Becker.

HOLY WEEK: Palm Sunday, March 24 (Procession with Palms and a donkey; First Communion); Maundy Thursday, March 28; Good Friday, March 29 (Tenebrae - 7 Last Words. Noon & 7pm); Easter - Resurrection Sunday, March 31 (6:30am-outside; 8:30am, 10am)

BOWERS MUSEUM TOUR - All women are welcome on February 17, 11am. Cost - \$17 general or \$15 for seniors. Sign-up & pay at the Welcome Table. Carpool? Meet at the church at 10am.

BILLY STEELE - Three time Grammy winner Billy Steele leads Gospel music at the morning services on Sunday, February 25 (8:30am & 10am. No 5pm service). Invite a friend to this wonderful time! Pick up a flier at the Welcome Table and invite a friend to hear him.

WOMEN'S ONE DAY RETREAT - March 16, 2024 at Marina Hills Clubhouse, 9am - 4pm. Speaker is Stephanie Spencer from *40 Orchards* in Minnesota. She'll lead us through scripture circles around grace & wholeness. All women are welcome. Sign-up at the Welcome Table.

TIME & TALENT - Volunteer schedule for February - July 2024, has been distributed, via email & by mail. If you expected to receive a schedule but didn't, please contact Carol Weinhardt at gloriadei@mygloriadei.org or 949-493-3414. Thanks for making Gloria Dei run by volunteering!

NEW ARTWORK by Arts & Outreach Minister Michelle Lum and volunteers, "*Lights of the World*" is hanging from the window near organ pipes/bell choir. Thanks to Jeff Contestabile for helping construct the artwork & to all those who made it possible!

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Age 4 - 5th grade/8:30am & 10am service). Kids leave worship with their teacher following the Children's Message and return at Communion. To [register](#) your child for Sunday school, speak with Susie Boland: fellowship@mygloriadei.org. Thanks to all our leaders and teachers!

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - Every Wednesday at 10am all women are invited to join in! Great way to start the new year! Study is led by Assistant Minister Dana Becker and Pastor David.

MICHELLE LUM'S MFA EXHIBIT at Claremont Graduate University will take place on Tuesday, March 19, 5pm - 7pm. For details or information about carpooling, please see the sign-up at the Welcome Table.

"FOOTSTEPS OF SAINT PAUL" (Greece Trip) - Pastor David will be leading a group to Greece (land/sea), April 9-20, 2024. [One spot is open for a woman](#). For all participating, a meeting will be held Sunday, February 18, 6pm in the Sanctuary.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Good Friday Services (12pm & 7pm); Easter Sunday Services (March 31, 6:30am, 8:30am & 10am); Children's Eggstravaganza Hunt (March 31, 9:30am); Good Shepherd Petting Zoo (April 21); Youth Fundraiser Dinner for National Youth Gathering (April 19); Gen2Gen Cinco de "Magico" Dinner (May 5, 5pm); Mom's & Mimosa Pancake Breakfast (May 12, 11am); Church Campout (June 7-9); Vacation Bible School (June 17-21)