**Harrold Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**February 14, 2024 – 7:00 PM**

**Ash Wednesday**

A black and white picture of a cross

Description automatically generated

**WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP!**

* **It is a joy to welcome our visitors!** Please sign the guest book in the

Communication Center at the rear of the church, to the right as you exit, and take a Welcome Packet which is filled with information about Harrold Zion. Please introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave worship. We hope you return soon!

* **Children’s bags** are available in the Narthex.
* **There is a prayer request book** on a podium in the Welcome Center. Please

write name(s) in the book prior to the service to have names included in the prayers.

* **Large print bulletins** are available from any usher for those needing them.
* **Hearing devices** are available from any usher for those needing them.
* **An AED machine** can be found on the wall after the Ladies Room on the left.
* **Receiving Holy Communion -** We believe the body and blood of Christ to be present in the bread and wine. All who are baptized are invited to share in this meal. Please come forward at the usher's direction. Non-communing children may come forward for a blessing. If you desire communion in the pew, please inform one of the ushers so that you may receive communion there.

*Like us on Facebook*

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

***To Worship and Serve God,***

***Grow Disciples and Love our Neighbors***

Vision

***Building Faith that’s Open, Affirming, Authentic, Positive, Inviting, and that Serves Others.***

*Please enter in Silence*

Prelude

*Please face the back of the church and watch the cross as it processes.*

Gathering Hymn # 606 Our Father, We Have Wandered

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. **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.**

First Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

1Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near— 2a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness!  
Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. 12Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; 13rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. 14Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God? 15Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly;  
16gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room,  
and the bride her canopy. 17Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’ ”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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

20bWe entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.  
 6:1As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. 2For 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! 3We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, 4but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, 5beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; 6by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, 7truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; 9as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; 10as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation *Please Stand as able.*

**Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,**

**slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1“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.  
  2“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. 3But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.  
  5“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. 6But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. 16“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. 17But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18so 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.  
  19“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; 20but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn #601 Savior, when in dust to you

Invitation into Lent, Confession, and Imposition of Ashes

Friends in Christ, …the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Please kneel or sit, as able*

Most holy and merciful God,

**we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole**

**company of** **heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own**

**most grievous fault,** **in thought, word, and deed, by what we have**

**done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven

others as we have been forgiven.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We

have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy

Spirit.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that

have infected our lives, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith

that is in us, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our neglect of human suffering and need, and our indifference to

injustice and cruelty, we confess to you. **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,

and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we

confess to you. **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for

those who come after us, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the

earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence,

reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given

eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please come forward by the center aisle to*

*receive ashes and return to your pew by the side aisle.*

Anthem during Imposition of Ashes *Sign Us With Ashes* Rowan

*After imposition:*

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation.

**that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

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

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our

Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the

Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**Amen.**

*Please stand, as able.*

Prayers of the Church *responses:*“…Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.”**

Offertory

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within**

**me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy**

**Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and**

**uphold me with your free Spirit.**

Offertory Prayer

Merciful God, **receive the sacrifice of our praise and**

**thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of**

**the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ**

**our Lord. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving and Proper Preface

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary….we praise your name and join their

unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth**

**are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who**

**comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Eucharistic Prayer

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**

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, **you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on**

**us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on**

**us.** **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

Distribution of the Sacrament

*Instructions*

Communion Hymns: #629,592 & 607.

Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Sending Hymn #599 *Lord Jesus, Think on Me*

Dismissal

Go in Peace. Serve in Love. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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***PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR MIDWEEK LENTEN SERIES***

**Wednesdays in Lent:**

**6:00pm Soup & Study -Soup and Bread Meal with a Bible study**

**6:30pm Discussion, Fellowship, Clean-up, and Adult Bell Practice**

**and Kids Gathering (see below)**

**7:00pm Evening Prayer and Youth Handbells**

**7:30pm Adult Choir Practice**

\*\*Wednesday March 20 will be the final Wednesday.

Special Thank You

Thank you to our Choir Soloists; Jack Molnar, Fred Wineman, Kelsie Coppetti Bernie Zundel and Shawn Carolan.

**Midweek Lenten Kids Gathering**

Sheri Anderson will lead a gathering for elementary-age children during the Midweek Lenten services. While the adults gather for bible studies and worship, children will come to the large Sunday school room for fun, lessons, snacks, and more each Wednesday during Lent. If you have any questions, please contact Sheri at 724-837-7327 or hzlcyouth@gmail.com. The start time is 6:30 pm until the end of Worship. Kids Gathering dates: February 21st, February 28th, March 6th, March 13th, March 20th.