

*“A bit of prayer and reflection ... in a place
we know so well ...”*

**ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH “Oasis of Joy” USA
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**ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2018
Noon and 7:30**

*Welcome to all ... as the season of Lent begins.
We have coffee, wine, and hot water for tea in Charter Hall.
We ask you please to respect the quiet and solemnity of
this moment ... our 1st worship service of the Lenten season.*

OPENING PRAYER

Lord ... there’s a lot in my heart and soul today.
Some of it so personal ... I just keep it to myself. But I know, Lord,
you listen to my soul and heartsong.
I want to smile more ... give more ... laugh more.
I don’t want to be afraid to cry ... to doubt ... to be human.
I need to accept myself more ... and have the patience to accept
and support those around me.
I never want to stop growing ... changing what I need to change.
I’m grateful for this time ... this place ... this moment ...
Thanks, Lord ... amen.

opening song

“Beneath the cross of Jesus” 338

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd ... I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures ... he leadeth me beside
the still waters ... he restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of
righteousness for his name’s sake. Yea, tho’ I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I fear no evil. For thou art with me. Thy rod
and thy staff ... they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in

the presence of mine enemies ... thou anointest my head with oil ...
my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all
the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

reading for the day

“The gift of love” Kathy and Mike (noon)

“Just as I am” 592 (7:30)

****brief meditation****

“THE ASH GROVE”

The ash grove how graceful, how plainly ‘tis speaking ... the harp thro’
it playing has language for me.

Whenever the light thro’ its branches is breaking ... a host of kind
faces is gazing on me.

The friends of my childhood again are before me ... each step wakes a
mem’ry as freely I roam. With soft whispers laden ... its leaves rustle
o’er me ---- the ash grove, the ash grove alone is my home.

My laughter is over, my step loses lightness ... old countryside
measures steal soft on my ear.

I only remember the past and its brightness ... the dear ones I
mourn for again gather here.

From out of the shadows, their loving looks greet me ... and wistfully
searching the leafy green dome. I find other faces, fond bending to
greet me ---- the ash grove, the ash grove alone is my home.

THE SHARING OF ASHES

OFFERING OF GIFTS

(choir anthem, 7:30 --- “The gift of love”)

Prayers and Sharing the Lord’s Supper

“Be not afraid” --- Kathy and Mike

from hymnal --- 628, 629 (vv. 1,2,3), 632 (vv.1,2,3,4)

closing song

“Jesus, Remember Me” 616 (followed by benediction)

A COUPLE LENTEN REMINDERS

*We return to Thursday night worship next week ...

7:30, with the Lord's Supper.

*Lenten suppers at 6:30 ... for the next 5 Thursdays. Please rsvp for supper. Also, if you'd like to help with salad, dessert, or sandwiches, indicate that on the sign-up form. Please come ... a great way to meet folks.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

I have a class for kids who have not yet begun receiving the Lord's Supper. This is for young people 3rd grade and older. The class is Sunday, March 18, immediately following the 11:00 service ... so, we begin about 12:15. At least one parent needs to be present. The kids will receive their 1st Communion at a special service on Palm Sunday: March 25 at 2:00 PM. You can begin signing up for the class in the narthex.

EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to donate one or more plants for our worship on Easter Sunday ... the forms and payment envelopes will be available beginning this Sunday. Easter Sunday is April 1.