

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

## 5<sup>th</sup> Midweek Lenten Service



The word “lent” has its origin in the same root as one of the German words for “spring,” Lenz. As nature awakens from the death of winter, so the Christian finds newness of life in Christ, rising from sin’s death.

During the 40 days of Lent, God’s baptized people cleanse their hearts through the discipline of Lent: repentance, prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lent is a time in which God’s people prepare with joy for the paschal feast (Easter). It is a time in which God renews His people’s zeal in faith and life. It is a time in which we pray that we may be given the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God.

## Opening Hymn

## TLH 156 Not All the Blood of Beasts

**P:** O Lord, open my lips.

**C:** And my mouth shall declare Your praise.

**P:** Hasten to save me, O God.

**C:** O Lord, come quickly to help me.

**P:** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit:

**C:** A broken and contrite heart You will not despise.

**P:** To You, Lord, I confess my sins.

**C:** Lord, hear me in Your great mercy.

## SONG OF A REPENTANT HEART (see insert)

**P** Do not let your heart be troubled. Your sins are forgiven.  
The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## The Passion History

### Hymn of Response:

### TLH 179 On My Heart

### Confession of Faith:

### From Luther's Small Catechism

**P** The Second Article of the Creed focuses on the Person and work of Jesus:

**C** I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**P** What does this mean?

**C** I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true.

**Hymn:** **WS 779 Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven**

**Sermon:** **Luke 23:33-34**

## **On the Road to Easter Jesus Forgives His Enemies**

### **Create in Me**

Create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen

### **The Offering of Thankful Hearts**

### **Prayer & Lord's Prayer**

### **Benediction**

**Hymn:** **TLH 552 Abide With Me vs 1-2,7-8**

**Silent Prayer**