

February 17, 2021
7:00 p.m.



Sierra Evangelical Lutheran Church
101 North Lenzner Avenue, Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635
520-459-0444 - www.selcaz.org

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in today's readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

GATHERING

We gather in Silent meditation. If alone, you may wish to have a mirror handy to see your forehead on which to mark the cross with ashes.

Psalm Litany: Psalm 51:1-17 (*Read responsively*)

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

WORD

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

*Gospel Acclamation

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

Sermon

Pastor Mark Perry

Time for Silent Reflection

Special Music

Invitation to Lent

***Confession of Sin**

Imposition of Ashes

(As quiet music is played, all are invited to make the sign of the cross with ashes upon your own forehead, if alone, or that of your companion, if living in the same household. The one making the cross is to say, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," with the recipient responding with "Amen")

***Conclusion of Imposition**

***Prayers of Intercession**

MEAL

Holy Communion/Words of Institution

***Lord's Prayer**

Invitation to Communion

(If you have bread and wine or grape juice at home or the fellowship cup from the Lenten bag, you're welcome to lift it up as does the pastor and partake of it together or alone in your home).

Communion

***Prayer after Communion**

SENDING

***Blessing**

***Sending Hymn**

"Bless Now, O God, the Journey"

ELW #793

Dismissal

Postlude

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

African American Spiritual

