

**Ash Wednesday**  
**FEBRUARY 14, 2024**



**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

- Prelude
- Invocation
- Opening Hymn ELW 319
- Imposition of Ashes  
*“Stir the Ashes”*  
*Soloist-Carolyn Sturtevant*  
*St. John’s Chancel Choir*
- Prayer of the Day
- First Bible Reading  
*“Have Mercy on Me, God” based on Psalm 51*
- Second Bible Reading
- Gospel Acclamation ELW page 151
- Today’s Message
- Hymn of the Day ELW 599
- Prayers & Peace
- Offering
- Offertory Song ELW 186
- Offertory Prayer
- Eucharistic Liturgy & Lord’s Prayer p. 154
- Lamb of God & Distribution p. 154
- Blessing & Prayer p. 155
- Benediction & Sending Hymn ELW 326
- Dismissal



**WEEKLY WORSHIP**  
**BULLETIN FOR**  
**ST. JOHN’S**  
**LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**OF THE ERIE LUTHERAN PARISH**

2216 PEACH STREET, ERIE PA 16502  
814.456.7596 WWW.STJOHNSERIE.ORG

**YOU BELONG HERE**

We welcome you to our congregation this Lenten season! We are glad to have you with us. We celebrate Holy Communion at every service. If you are a baptized Christian, please join us at the Lord’s Supper. We ask that you come down the center aisle as directed and receive your wafer and wine as you walk back to your seat.

If you are new to us, everything you need for worship is projected on the screen and in this bulletin. Please feel free to use the red hymnal found in your pew, if you are more comfortable. The pages and hymn numbers are to the left of this bulletin.

Should you need a bathroom, they are through the glass doors in the back of the nave (sanctuary) and down the hallway on your left. A family/handicap accessible restroom with baby changing station is available in the front lobby (Peach Street entrance).

-----  
**TODAY’S THEME**

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

**Today’s Bible Readings**

- Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 Pew Bible p. 740
- 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Pew Bible p. 940
- Mark 1:29-39 Pew Bible p. 813

**Today’s Message**

*“Walking With the Lord”*

*by Rev. Ralph Mineo*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

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.**

**OUR PRAYER LISTS:**

**Members:** Gayle Matthis, Joan Wheeler, Lynn Schrimper, Robert Schlaufman, Kellie Montifiori, Sharon Hetrick, Judy Crissman, Sandy Alwens, Nancy Varner, and Carol Schroeck.

**Cancer treatments:** Ellen Stevens

**Friends of the congregation:** Jeff LaLonde, Ryan Meyers, Sami D, Jamey Price, Ken Marshall, Amanda VanLoon, Richard D., Ernie Winter, Jarod Stolz, Fran Moriarty, Audrey Hetrick, Astro Rys, Vernon Thompson, Amy Nupp, Michelle S., Rev. Rhodes and family as they mourn the loss of Owen Jr., Natalie Zimmerly, David Gaston, Michelle S., Carol B., Christina D., Barb & Jim Wenner, Rosemary, and Rev. Jerry Gray.

**Cancer Friends:** Bishop Lozano, Pastor Ken Larson, Lee S, Janie G, Karen B, Norm S, Tony Paggio, Vicki Hanson, Edward Scarpitti, Beaty Emch, Ruth Stiles, Admiral Brent Scott, Katrina, Arlene Rick, Gliceria Conuel, Becky, Nicole C., Ian Minner, and Jason Beeler.

**Other prayer requests:** The congregation of St. John's to remain strong and faithful as we journey through the months to come.

Lent and Easter are early this year. If you would like to join one of our choirs for just the Lent and Easter seasons, we would love to have you. Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings – Chancel Choir at 9:00 AM and Bell Choir at 11:15 AM.

Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers will begin the week following Ash Wednesday (February 21<sup>st</sup>) with soup supper in the gym at 6PM and worship in the sanctuary at 7PM. These will continue each Wednesday through the Lenten season.

We thank Carolyn Sturtevant and the chancel choir for their gift of music at today's services.