

I AM ✘ I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE ✘ I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD ✘ I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD ✘ I AM THE GATE ✘ I AM THE RESURRECTION ✘ I AM ✘

THE BREAD OF LIFE · THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD · THE DOOR OF THE SHEEP · THE GOOD SHEPHERD · THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE · THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE · THE TRUE VINE

**I AM**

Ash Wednesday  
March 2, 2022  
1:00 p.m./7:00 p.m.

**Lutheran Church of the Redeemer**  
1800 W. Maple  
Birmingham, Michigan 48009

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD ✘ I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD ✘ I AM THE GATE ✘ I AM THE RESURRECTION ✘ I AM THE WAY THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE ✘ I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE ✘ I AM



2. Make me see Thy great distress, anguish, and affliction,  
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness and Thy crucifixion;  
Make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails, did wound Thee,  
How for man Thou diedst, O God, who with thorns had crowned Thee.
3. Yet, O Lord, not thus alone make me see Thy Passion,  
But its cause to me make known, and its termination.  
Ah! I also and my sin wrought Thy deep affliction;  
This indeed the cause hath been of Thy crucifixion.

### **Invocation and Responsive Reading**

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Today we place the crown of thorns upon the cross. With a crown of thorns we mocked and marred the one who proclaimed a Kingdom we did not want. But today we also remember a redemption that came to us through suffering.

**C: Lord Jesus, with a crown of thorns we mocked the Kingdom you proclaimed. With a crown of thorns we rejected you as our King. Help us say “No” to our private notions of how the Kingdom of God should look. Help us say “Yes” to the cross.**

P: Throughout the centuries we have ascribed greatness to those who bring quick resolutions to our political conflicts. We want immediate results with little cost.

**C: Lord Jesus, we confess we are often disappointed in the Kingdom you reveal. Your Kingdom reflects your patience with creation. Your Kingdom requires our participation. Help us say “No” to our craving for ease and luxury. Help us say “Yes” to the cross.**

P: Our world honors Kings who enforce peace by destroying their enemies. The King we crowned with thorns established peace by dying for his enemies --- the righteous for the unrighteous, to reconcile us to God.

**C: Lord Jesus, we still look for leaders to bring peace through power. To the mighty, the strong, and the beautiful we grant our places of honor. Help us say “No” to our dread of weakness. Help us say “Yes” to the cross.**

P: Almighty God, we want kingdoms with great power. Your Son came in weakness. We want deliverance through conquest. Your Son brought deliverance through suffering. We want freedom from temptation. Your Son participates in our struggles. Free us from ourselves; deliver us from our evil; conform us to the image of your Son. Amen.

## **Children’s Message - 7pm**

### **Scripture Reading**

John 8:48-59

The Jews answered him, “Aren’t we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?” “I am not possessed by a demon,” said Jesus, “but I honor my Father and you dishonor me. I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge. Very truly I tell you, whoever obeys my word will never see death.” At this they exclaimed, “Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that whoever obeys your word will never taste death. Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?” Jesus replied, “If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and obey his word. Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.” “You are not yet fifty years old,” they said to him, “and you have seen Abraham!” “Very truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!” At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

## Hymn of the Day 388

## Just As I Am, Without One Plea

1. Just as I am, without one plea but that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
2. Just as I am and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I  
come.
3. Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

## Sermon

John 8:48-59

"I Am!"

Rev. Randall J. Schlak

**Offering** (offerings will be received at the door)

## Prayer of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

### Confession and Absolution

P: "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust." God made Adam, man of dust, in His image.

**C: Who are we, Lord, that You are mindful of us and care for us? You have made us little less than Yourself, crowning us with glory and honor.**

P: "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust." We deserve God's curse for we have sinned.

**C: You turn us back to dust, Lord. Before the day we die, we come to You with ashes upon our lives, the mark of the curse. We turn from our sin to face You, Lord. Forgive us and restore us, for Jesus' sake, and speak to us another word besides "ashes to ashes, dust to dust."**



## **Anthem** (sung during imposition of Ashes)

1:00                      Jesus, My All – Helvey  
   Steve SeGraves

7:00                      Adoramus Te Christe (We adore Thee, Christ) – Mozart  
   Chancel Choir

## **Benediction**

P: The Lord God formed the man of the dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. (Gen. 2:7)

**C: Dust we are and unto dust we shall return.** (Gen 3:19)

P: Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven. (1 Cor. 15:49) The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

**C: Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn 158**

## Glory Be To Jesus

1. Glory be to Jesus, who in bitter pains  
    Poured for me the lifeblood from His sacred veins!
2. Grace and life eternal in that blood I find;  
    Blest be His compassion, infinitely kind!
3. Blest through endless ages be the precious stream  
    Which from endless torments did the world redeem!

## **Postlude**

Rick Helderop, organist

**As is the tradition, the palms were burned from previous Palm Sunday services and the resulting ashes are being used in today's services.**

Thanks and appreciation to:

Steve SeGraves for providing special music at the 1:00 pm service and the Chancel Choir for providing special music at the 7:00 pm service.

Acolytes

7:00 - Noelle Schneider and Giasella Lucas

Ushers

1:00 - Bob Stewart

7:00 - Jim Grove, captain; Jim Endress,  
Bill Couger, Jeff Kidder, Peter Pridmore, Kevin Browett

Altar Guild

Barb Grattan, Karen Rose, Sara Amos, Jennifer Dobring,  
Robin Swift, Carole Citron, Polly Millichamp

Elders Assisting with Communion

7:00 - Mike Raezler and David Mammel

Audio/Video Operators

7:00 - Jim Endress and David Hardoin

Our Lenten Meal Preparers:

(lunch): Beth Baker

(supper): Michele Margosian and High School Youth

Rev. Randall J. Schlak, Senior Pastor

James Greenwalt, Vicar

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## LENT

**March 9:** I Am The Bread of Life

**March 16:** I Am The Light of the World

**March 23:** I Am The Good Shepherd/Gate

**March 30:** I Am The Resurrection

**April 6:** I Am The Way The Truth and The Life

*1:00pm Chapel and 7:00pm Gym/Sanctuary*

*Each worship service is preceded by a meal  
lunch - 12:00 noon;*

*dinner - 5:30pm confirmands; 6:00pm congregation*

## HOLY WEEK

**Maundy Thursday, April 14**

**Good Friday, April 15**

*1:00pm and 7:00pm each day*

**Easter Eve, April 16**

*5:00pm*

**Easter Sunday, April 17**

*7:30am with Holy Communion,*

*9:00am and 10:30am*

## Order Your Easter Flowers!



**Easter is Sunday April 17, 2022 and it is time to order your Easter flowers!** These Spring flowers will add beauty to our Easter Sunday services. We will use your flowers to decorate the church, then you may take them home or deliver them to a friend or loved one after the 10:30am service. Alternatively, you can donate them to a nursing home or shut-in member. Order forms, with the option to pay online, are available on our website ([click on the Lent/Holy Week box](#)) or scan the QR code. Physical copies can be found around the building. Fill it out and turn it in to the church office along with your check **no later than Sunday, March 13th**. \*Orders placed after this date are NOT guaranteed.



**Can You Help?** We're looking for volunteers to take the donated flowers to nursing homes/shut-in members immediately following the 10:30 Easter morning service. If you're interested, please contact the church office! Thank you for your help and support!

