

## FEBRUARY 18, 2026 - ASH WEDNESDAY

**Prelude** - "Savior, When In Dust To You" tune *Aberystwyth*, setting by Janson.

*Stand*

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### Lenten Address

- P** Brothers and sisters in Christ, Almighty God created us to live in communion with Him and with one another in love. Yet sin separates us from Him and each other, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended. By our sins, we also grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under His judgement, but to turn to Him and live.

As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against all sin and temptation that would lead us away from loving God and our neighbor. Let us pray to our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son, and in the power of His Holy Spirit, that He would grant us grace to amend our lives, and that He would have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

*Kneel*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father:  
**C** **We confess to You, and to one another, that we have greatly sinned in our thoughts and in our words, in what we have done and in what we have failed to do.**
- P** We have not loved You with our whole heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as You have forgiven us.  
**C** **Have mercy on us, O Lord.**
- P** We have been deaf to Your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to our calling as Your children. We have grieved Your Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Have mercy on us, O Lord.**
- P** Our negligence in our use of Your Word, in our life of prayer, and in our worship; and our failure to live the faith that is in us,  
**C** **we confess to You, O Lord.**
- P** Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, our dishonesty in daily life and work,  
**C** **we confess to You, O Lord.**
- P** All our past unfaithfulness, our pride, hypocrisy, and impatience,  
**C** **we confess to You, O Lord.**
- P** Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,  
**C** **we confess to You, O Lord.**
- P** Our anger at our own frustrations, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,  
**C** **we confess to You, O Lord.**
- P** Accept our repentance, Lord, for all the wrongs we have done. For looking to ourselves for our highest good, and not looking to Your Word and Your will,  
**C** **accept our repentance, Lord..**

- P** For our blindness to need and suffering in Your creation, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty in our world,  
**C** **accept our repentance, Lord..**
- P** For all false judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward all who differ from us,  
**C** **accept our repentance, Lord..**
- P** Restore us, good Lord, and let Your anger depart from us.  
**C** **Hear us, Lord, for the sake of Your Son. Amen.**

*Sit*

**Imposition of Ashes** (*Those who desire may come forward to receive ashes on their forehead or the back of their hand.*)

The Parish Choir sings Psalm 51.

*Kneel*

- P** God the Father in heaven,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- P** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- P** God the Holy Spirit,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- P** Be gracious to us.  
**C** **Spare us, good Lord.**
- P** We poor sinners implore You  
**C** **to hear us, O Lord.**
- P** O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that we would turn from our wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins, that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C** **Amen.**
- P** Almighty God made you His child in Holy Baptism, and grafted You into the vine, our Savior Jesus. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray.  
 Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

Joel 2:12–19

<sup>12</sup>“Yet even now,” declares the LORD,  
 “return to me with all your heart,  
 with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
<sup>13</sup>and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

Return to the LORD, your God,  
 for he is gracious and merciful,  
 slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;  
 and he relents over disaster.

<sup>14</sup>Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,  
 and leave a blessing behind him,  
 a grain offering and a drink offering  
 for the LORD your God?

<sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
 consecrate a fast;  
 call a solemn assembly;  
<sup>16</sup>gather the people.

Consecrate the congregation;  
 assemble the elders;  
 gather the children,  
 even nursing infants.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,  
 and the bride her chamber.

<sup>17</sup>Between the vestibule and the altar  
 let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep  
 and say, “Spare your people, O LORD,  
 and make not your heritage a reproach,  
 a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the peoples,  
 ‘Where is their God?’”

<sup>18</sup>Then the LORD became jealous for his land  
 and had pity on his people.

<sup>19</sup>The LORD answered and said to his people,  
 “Behold, I am sending to you  
 grain, wine, and oil,  
 and you will be satisfied;  
 and I will no more make you  
 a reproach among the nations.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

*We speak the Psalm in unison.**Psalm 103:8–14*

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
 slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup>He will not always chide,  
 nor will he keep his anger forever.

<sup>10</sup>He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
 nor repay us according to our iniquities.

<sup>11</sup>For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
 so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

<sup>12</sup>as far as the east is from the west,  
 so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

<sup>13</sup>As a father shows compassion to his children,  
 so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

**<sup>14</sup>For he knows our frame;  
he remembers that we are dust.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Epistle

*2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10*

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>1</sup>Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,

“In a favorable time I listened to you,  
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. <sup>3</sup>We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; <sup>7</sup>by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Verse for Lent

*LSB 173*



**C** Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 18:21–35*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

<sup>23</sup>“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup>And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

<sup>33</sup>And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup>So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

### 419 Savior, When in Dust to Thee

1 Sav - ior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the a -  
 2 By Thy help - less in - fant years, By Thy life of  
 3 By Thine hour of dire de - spair, By Thine ag - o -  
 4 By Thy deep ex - pir - ing groan, By the sad se -

dor - ing knee; When, re - pen - tant, to the skies  
 want and tears, By Thy days of deep dis - tress  
 ny of prayer, By the cross, the nail, the thorn,  
 pul - chral stone, By the vault whose dark a - bode

Scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes; O, by all Thy  
 In the sav - age wil - der - ness, By the dread, mys -  
 Pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn, By the gloom that  
 Held in vain the ris - ing God, O, from earth to

pains and woe Suf - fered once for us be - low, Bend - ing  
 te - rious hour Of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r, Turn, O  
 veiled the skies O'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice, Lis - ten  
 heav'n re - stored, Might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord, Bend - ing

from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
 turn a fa - v'ring eye; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
 to our hum - ble sigh; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
 from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt.; Public domain  
 Tune: Joseph Parry, 1841–1903; Public domain

### Sermon

*Stand*

### Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
 the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth  
 and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
 the only-begotten Son of God,  
 begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
 God of God, Light of Light,  
 very God of very God,

begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayer of the Church

*Each petition ends:*

**P** Lord, in Your mercy:  
**C** Hear our prayer!

*The Prayers conclude:*

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all those for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** Amen.

*Sit*

**Anthem** - The Parish Choir sings “*Dust, Remember You Are Splendor*” by Anne K. Organ.

*Stand*

## Preface

LSB 177

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord,  
almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave  
His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal  
feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and  
magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 178



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

LSB 180

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 180



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;

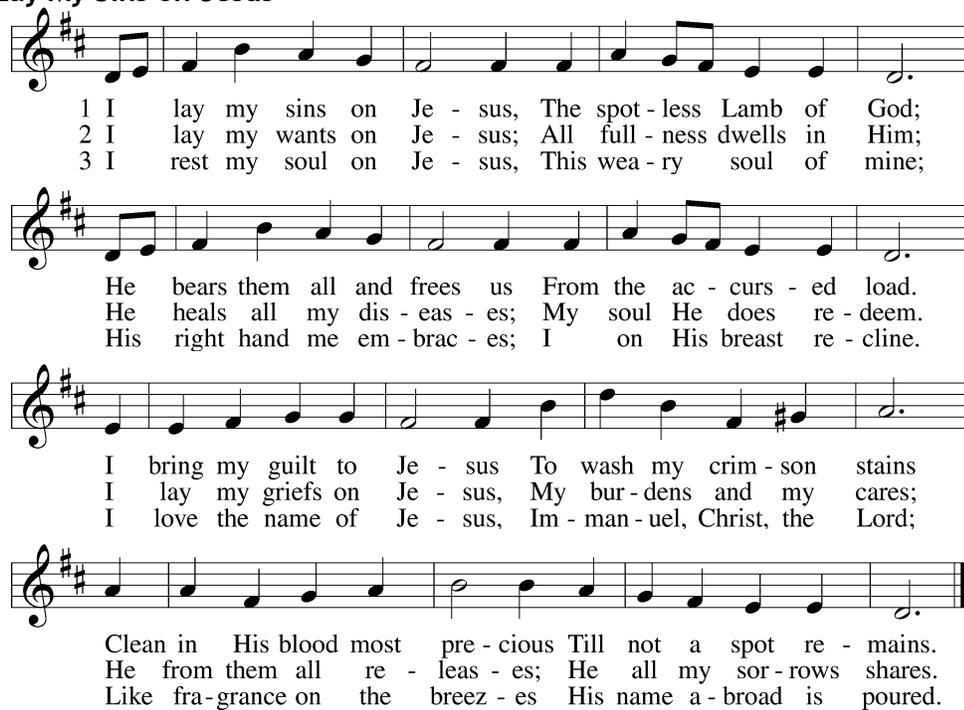


have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
 sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of  
 God, You take a-way the sin of the world;  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Sit*

## Distribution

### 606 I Lay My Sins on Jesus



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;  
 2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;  
 3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;  
 He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.  
 He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.  
 His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.  
 I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains  
 I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;  
 I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;  
 Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.  
 He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.  
 Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89; Public domain  
 Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen; Public domain

609 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

sts. 1-2, 4-6



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this  
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich  
 4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -  
 5 Oh, how blest it is to know: Were as scar - let  
 6 Now my con - science is at peace; From the Law I



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live  
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;  
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;  
 my trans - gres - sion, It shall be as white as snow  
 stand ac - quit - ted. Christ hath pur - chased my re - lease



And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for  
 Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these  
 Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my  
 By Thy blood and bit - ter pas - sion; For these words I  
 And my ev - 'ry sin re - mit - ted. Naught re - mains my



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.  
 words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.  
 soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.  
 now be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.  
 soul to grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671-1756. Public domain  
 Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt; Public domain

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.
- C** Amen.

*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis**

LSB 182



**C** Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;  
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

### Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Benediction

LSB 183

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

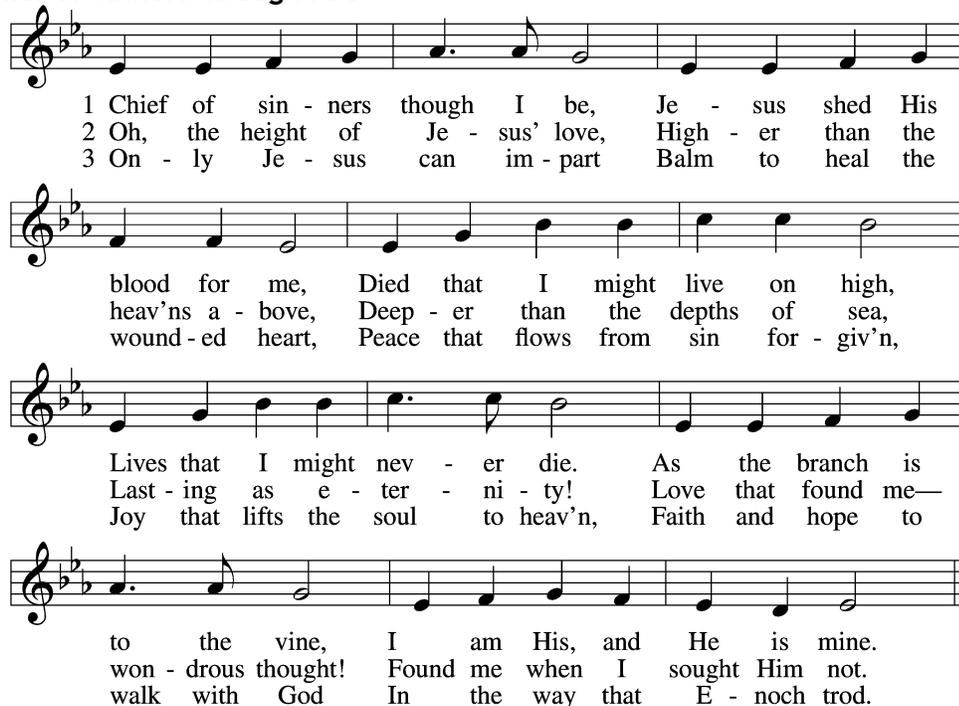
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

### 611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be

sts. 1–3



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His  
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the  
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the  
blood for me, Died that I might live on high,  
heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,  
wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,  
Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is  
Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—  
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to  
to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.  
won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.  
walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.; Public domain  
Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901; Public domain

**Postlude** - “*Christ, The Life Of All The Living*” setting by J. C. Bach.

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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