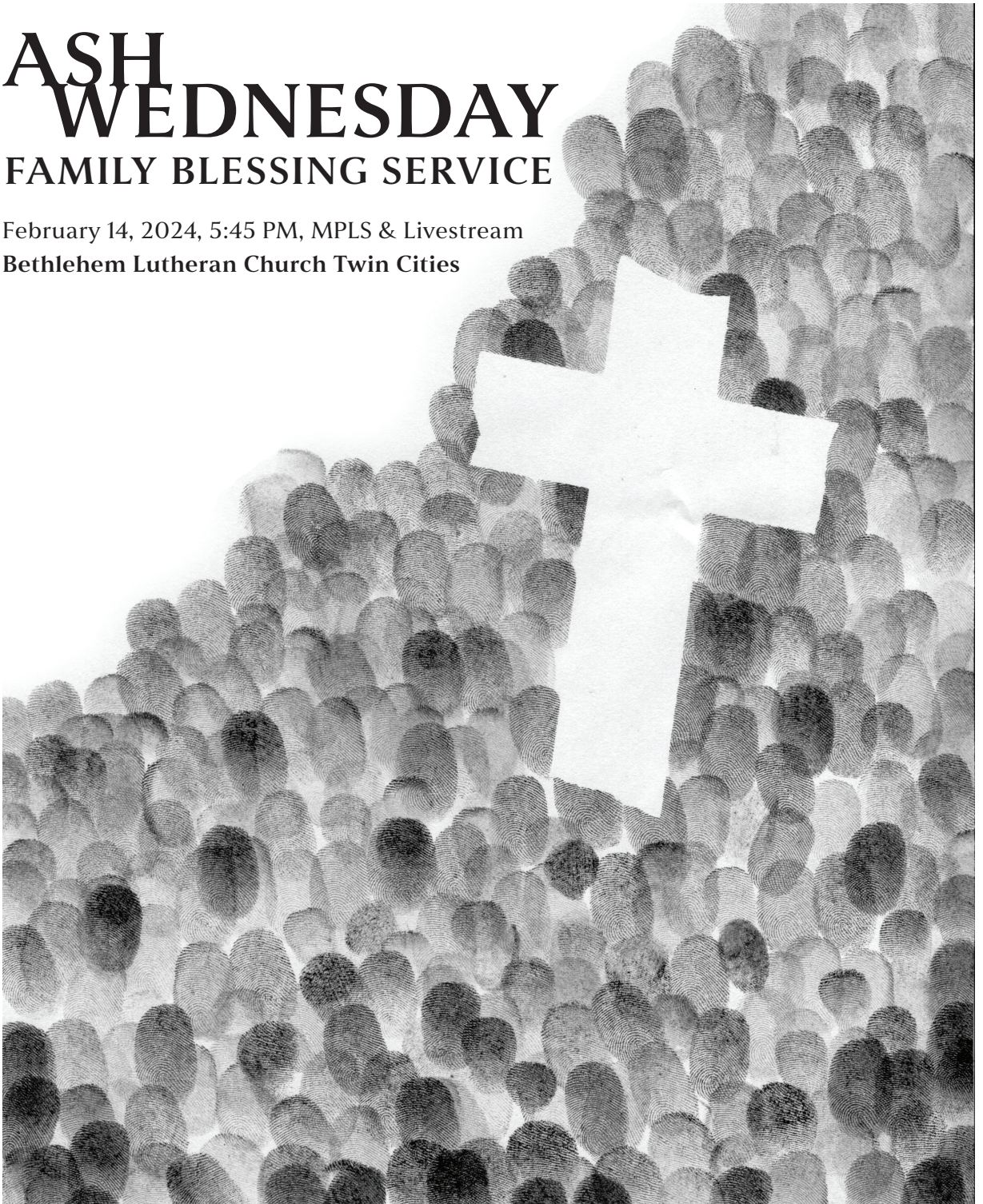


# ASH WEDNESDAY

## FAMILY BLESSING SERVICE

February 14, 2024, 5:45 PM, MPLS & Livestream  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Twin Cities



## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

## OPENING SONG

### “THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE”

#677 (RED)

This little light of mine, I’m goin’-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I’m goin’-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I’m goin’-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev’rywhere I go, I’m goin’-a let it shine;  
ev’rywhere I go, I’m goin’-a let it shine;  
ev’rywhere I go, I’m goin’-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I’m goin’-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I’m goin’-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I’m goin’-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

## GREETING

**L** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## PRAYER

## ANTHEM

### “KYRIE ELEISON, LORD HAVE MERCY” (CHERUB AND CHORISTER CHOIRS)

BECKI SLAGLE MAYO

*Kyrie Eleison, Lord have mercy on me.  
When I feel afraid, when I’m all alone,  
when I’ve lost my way bring me safely home.*

## GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 6:5-6, 16-21

*“And when you come before God, don’t turn that into a theatrical production either. All these people making a regular show out of their prayers, hoping for fifteen minutes of fame! Do you think God sits in a box seat? “Here’s what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won’t be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace.*

*“When you practice some appetite-denying discipline to better concentrate on God, don’t make a production out of it. It might turn you into a small-time celebrity but it won’t make you a saint. If you ‘go into training’ inwardly, act normal outwardly. Shampoo and comb your hair, brush your teeth, wash your face. God doesn’t require attention-getting devices. He won’t overlook what you are doing; he’ll reward you well.*

*“Don’t hoard treasure down here where it gets eaten by moths and corroded by rust or—worse!—stolen by burglars. Stockpile treasure in heaven, where it’s safe from moth and rust and burglars. It’s obvious, isn’t it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being.*

## STORYTIME

PASTOR HEATHER ROTH JOHNSON

## SONG

**“WE ARE MARCHING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD”**  
(ECHO SINGERS)

## PRAYERS

## OFFERING

## OFFERING ANTHEM

**“LOVE LIFTED ME”**  
(YOUTH CHOIR)

GREG GILPIN

*Love lifted me. When I was down and out, love lifted me. I was sinkin’ far from the peaceful shore. Very deeply, sinking to rise no more. Oh, love is so mighty, singin’ my soul’s best songs. Love is so true in my heart where it belongs!*

## LORD'S PRAYER

- L** Let us pray together the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us,  
**C** **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## CLOSING SONG

### "JESUS LOVES ME!"

#595 (RED)

Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so;  
little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.

#### *Refrain*

Yes, Jesus loves me,  
yes, Jesus loves me,  
yes, Jesus loves me,  
the Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! he who died heaven's gates to open wide;  
he will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. *Refrain*

Jesus loves me! he will stay close beside me all the way;  
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high. *Refrain*

## FAMILY BLESSING AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*Come forward to receive the ashes and blessing (via the center aisle). Family members will place ashes on each other's foreheads saying: "Remember, you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

*Depart in silence.*



## YOUR GIFTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE! HERE ARE EASY OPTIONS FOR GIVING:

- » Online with a credit card or your bank account. Make your gift here: [blctcmn.co/give](http://blctcmn.co/give)
- » Text BLCTC to 73256–You will get a text back with a link and instructions on how to complete your gift. Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.
- » USPS or Bring to Church

## WORSHIP TODAY:

**Ministers:** Members of the Congregation **Pastors:** Chris Enstad, Meta Herrick Carlson, Kris Tostengard Michel, Heather Roth Johnson **Spirit Garage Pastor:** Holly Johnson **Director of Music:** Mark Paisar **Organ:** Mark Paisar **Organist Emeritus:** Maria Bucka **Technical Director:** Drew Pannebecker **Cherub Choir Director:** Julia Fahey **Youth Choir Director:** Julia Fahey **Chorister Choir Director:** Mindy Mennicke **Children's Choir Accompanist:** Lynn Henry

**Readers:** Grant Newburn, Evelyn Klos, Quinn Barsness

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## COMING UP THIS SUNDAY:

**Series:** “Promises, Promises”

**Message Theme:** “Global”

**Text:** Genesis 9:8–17 Mark 1:9–15

**Preaching:** Pastor Kris Tostengard Michel

**Musical Offering:** Bethlehem Chorale

*We are becoming together,*  
sharing in the work of God's vision  
for a healed world.

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