

Worship Plan - Church Year C
2021-2022



3/2/2022 - Ash Wednesday

SERIES THEME

CRUSHED

When someone is devastated or defeated or despondent we speak of him being "crushed." It could be due to some agonizing loss or unrealized dreams. It could be due to carrying a crushingly heavy load of guilt over some past mistake. In a broken world, it is simply a matter of time before we feel crushed. This is why we need Lent. The word Lent comes from an Old English word for Spring: "lengten," when the days grow longer. For 1400 years the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of repentance and renewal. Believers humbly acknowledge that sin is the ultimate source of all the crushing moments in life. Our sin even crushed Christ. Yet, on Easter Sunday, Jesus took up his life again. Our Savior crushed both death and the serpent's head. Yes, Lent is a solemn season. But it is also a season of great hope. With the psalmist we say, "The Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit."

THEME OF THE DAY

SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS IS CRUSHED BY REPENTANCE

When mankind fell into sin, God cursed. "Dust you are, and to dust you will return" (Genesis 3:19). Sin brings death, and together they wreck everything. Sin is the source of all pain. Death robs us of everything and everyone we hold dear. Sinful people's response is to try and minimize their sin. Our natural reaction is to try to balance the scales: "I might sin, but look at how much good I do!" Or compare ourselves to others: "At least I'm not as sinful as my neighbor." Such self-righteous thoughts lead to eternal death. We need the Spirit to give us repentant hearts. As we begin the season of Lent, we remember that death will one day reduce us to ashes—and our hearts need to be reduced to ashes in repentance now.

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 12:1-13 - So that he might appear righteous to Israel, King David hid his sin of adultery by committing another sin, murder. The Lord calls King David to repentance through the prophet Nathan.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2 - There is urgency in God's call to repent. The time is now.

GOSPEL

*** Luke 18:9-14 - Jesus tells a parable about what makes us righteous in God's eyes, not trust in one's own goodness, but trust in God's great mercy.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

The Service (hymn tune canticles) with evening canticles

Ambitious:

The Service (hymn tune canticles) with evening canticles

Opening Hymn:

393 - Savior, When in Dust to You

or

651 - In Hopelessness and Near Despair

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 51A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. (Joel 2:13)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Additional Settings

Lent Set 2 - Year C by S Janco

Hymn of the Day:

650 - From Depths of Woe, Lord God, I Cry

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

*668 - Jesus Comes Today with Healing

Closing Hymn:

982 - With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

651 - In Hopelessness and Near Despair

652 - Lord, Have Mercy

658 - With All My Heart I Praise You, Lord

Notes for the conservative service:

650 - note that the alternate hymn of the day (654) is being reserved for Lent 4C just below;

651 - retuned from CWS with a tune that was in TLH;

658 has two confession/absolution stanzas and a third for pre-communion, with a familiar tune

Notes for the ambitious service:

652 - This will become a staple so some congregations may wish to prep it for this service

Worship Plan - Church Year C
2021-2022



3/6/2022 - First Sunday in Lent

SERIES THEME

CRUSHED

When someone is devastated or defeated or despondent we speak of him being "crushed." It could be due to some agonizing loss or unrealized dreams. It could be due to carrying a crushingly heavy load of guilt over some past mistake. In a broken world, it is simply a matter of time before we feel crushed. This is why we need Lent. The word Lent comes from an Old English word for Spring: "lengten," when the days grow longer. For 1400 years the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of repentance and renewal. Believers humbly acknowledge that sin is the ultimate source of all the crushing moments in life. Our sin even crushed Christ. Yet, on Easter Sunday, Jesus took up his life again. Our Savior crushed both death and the serpent's head. Yes, Lent is a solemn season. But it is also a season of great hope. With the psalmist we say, "The Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit."

THEME OF THE DAY

OUR TEMPTATION IS CRUSHED BY CHRIST'S OBEDIENCE

It was a custom known as "battle by champion." Two opposing armies would each send out their best warrior to fight each other. That is what we see this week. The demons send their champion: Satan. Humanity's best warrior, Jesus Christ, steps forward to meet him. In this fight he does not use his divine power. He uses the same weapon we have, God's Word. Because Christ fought the battle against Satan as one of us, he won that battle for all of us. Jesus is our perfect substitute. Even as the devil still seethes in rage against us, we can face him and his temptations unafraid, confident that our champion has already won the victory.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 17:4-11,32-40,45-49 - Against a powerful enemy an unlikely champion emerged. David's victory over Goliath is as much a spiritual victory as a military one, for it teaches us the battle is the Lord's.

SECOND READING

*** Hebrews 4:14-16 - Jesus understands how hard life is because he faced every temptation we have faced, and more.

GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13 - Weak and in the wilderness, Jesus faces Satan's temptations. He overcomes them, winning the victory for us.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

The Service (hymn tune canticles) [German]
with Setting 2 Kyrie

Ambitious:

Setting 2 Kyrie, GA
Setting 1 Sanctus and Agnus

Opening Hymn:

546 - Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 91A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. (1 John 3:8)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Additional Settings

Lent Set 2 - Year C by S Janco

or

Setting 2

Hymn of the Day:

863/864 - A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

*677 - The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

Closing Hymn:

842 - Jesus, Still Lead On

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

546 - Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus

561 - Before the Throne of God Above

538 - Jesus, My Great High Priest

802 - All Is Well

Notes for the conservative service:

546 - chorale AAB type tune; should be easily picked up;

561 - should be introduced if used

538 - would benefit from introduction

Notes for the ambitious service:

802 - has themes of the second lesson; needs intro; cong. can sing refrain at first

Make plans throughout Sundays in Lent to rehearse (choir) and audition (pre-service?) Setting 2 Gloria, anticipating use on Easter Sunday

Worship Plan - Church Year C
2021-2022



3/13/2022 - Second Sunday in Lent

SERIES THEME

CRUSHED

When someone is devastated or defeated or despondent we speak of him being "crushed." It could be due to some agonizing loss or unrealized dreams. It could be due to carrying a crushingly heavy load of guilt over some past mistake. In a broken world, it is simply a matter of time before we feel crushed. This is why we need Lent. The word Lent comes from an Old English word for Spring: "lengten," when the days grow longer. For 1400 years the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of repentance and renewal. Believers humbly acknowledge that sin is the ultimate source of all the crushing moments in life. Our sin even crushed Christ. Yet, on Easter Sunday, Jesus took up his life again. Our Savior crushed both death and the serpent's head. Yes, Lent is a solemn season. But it is also a season of great hope. With the psalmist we say, "The Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit."

THEME OF THE DAY

SHORTCUTS ARE CRUSHED BY DETERMINATION

Last week we talked about temptation. This week we see what is at the center of every temptation: a promise of a shortcut to glory. Even in a world as sharply divided as ours, there is near universal agreement that the preferred path to glory is the shortest and easiest. To walk the path our Savior puts us on, one on which the cross comes before the crown, puts us out of step with the world. Thankfully, the determination required to walk this path starts with our Savior and not with us. Because of his determination, we are offered a glory far superior to anything the world can offer.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 26:8-15 - Jeremiah was concerned for the salvation of God's people. Therefore, even in the face of death, he was determined to preach the call to repentance.

SECOND READING

Philippians 3:17-4:1 - Being a follower of Jesus means that our path in life will resemble his. The path to heaven inevitably includes crosses. Paul encourages us to follow his example of determination.

GOSPEL

*** Luke 13:31-35 - The Pharisees offer Jesus a shortcut to safety. But Jesus was determined to continue down the path he was on for us and our salvation.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

The Service (hymn tune canticles) [German]
with Setting 2 Kyrie

Ambitious:

Setting 2 Kyrie, GA
Setting 1 Sanctus and Agnus

Opening Hymn:

395 - What Grace Is This

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 42A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!
(Philippians 2:8)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Additional Settings

Lent Set 2 - Year C by S Janco

or

Setting 2

Hymn of the Day:

817 - Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

513 - In You Is Gladness

Closing Hymn:

853 - I'm But a Stranger Here

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

707 - Cling Tightly to the Word of God

Notes for the conservative service:

Notes for the ambitious service:

707 - not a difficult tune but should be introduced or cantored the first time

Worship Plan - Church Year C 2021-2022



3/20/2022 - Third Sunday in Lent

SERIES THEME

CRUSHED

When someone is devastated or defeated or despondent we speak of him being "crushed." It could be due to some agonizing loss or unrealized dreams. It could be due to carrying a crushingly heavy load of guilt over some past mistake. In a broken world, it is simply a matter of time before we feel crushed. This is why we need Lent. The word Lent comes from an Old English word for Spring: "lengten," when the days grow longer. For 1400 years the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of repentance and renewal. Believers humbly acknowledge that sin is the ultimate source of all the crushing moments in life. Our sin even crushed Christ. Yet, on Easter Sunday, Jesus took up his life again. Our Savior crushed both death and the serpent's head. Yes, Lent is a solemn season. But it is also a season of great hope. With the psalmist we say, "The Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit."

THEME OF THE DAY

FALSE SECURITY IS CRUSHED BY FAITHFUL PRESENCE

Where is God? This is one of human beings' most frequently-asked and incorrectly-answered questions. We are tempted to believe that evidence of God's presence is found in outward circumstances. We equate good fortune with God's favor and bad fortune with his judgment. So, as long as nothing terrible is happening, God must not be too angry with us, right? We are free to go on sinning. Such foolish assumptions must be crushed. Therefore, God must constantly remind us where he intends to be found—in the gospel. He makes himself present in Word and sacraments. Because he is always present, we realize the urgent need to turn away from the sin he despises. Because his presence is graciously hidden, we are drawn to him for forgiveness rather than driven away from him in fear.

FIRST READING

Exodus 3:1-15 - The Lord reveals his presence to Moses as flames within a bush, fire that warms and gives light, yet does not consume.

SECOND READING

*** 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 - God revealed his presence among the nation of Israel. Instead of his presence leading to repentant faith, the people of Israel, with a sense of false security, set their hearts on evil.

GOSPEL

Luke 13:1-9 - A life with no problems can lead to false security. We are tempted to think those experiencing hardship are the ones who need to repent. Jesus reminds us that we all need to repent, regardless of life's circumstances.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

The Service (hymn tune canticles) [German]
with Setting 2 Kyrie

Ambitious:

Setting 2 Kyrie, GA, Sanctus
Setting 1 Agnus

Opening Hymn:

712 - Delay Not! Delay Not (hymn of the Day moved to opening hymn)

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 85A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. (2 Peter 3:9)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Set 2 - Year C by S Janco

or

Setting 2

Hymn of the Day:

867 - Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

404 - Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing

Closing Hymn:

923 - Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

867 - Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near

532 - As the Deer Runs to the River

833 - I Run to Christ

Notes for the conservative service:

867 - simple tune; congregation can start with refrain, then sing latter verses; cantors would be good;

833 - comments similar to 867

Notes for the ambitious service:

532 - melody should be cantored for introduction, cong can start with refrain but that also should be introduced

Worship Plan - Church Year C

2021-2022



3/27/2022 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

SERIES THEME

CRUSHED

When someone is devastated or defeated or despondent we speak of him being "crushed." It could be due to some agonizing loss or unrealized dreams. It could be due to carrying a crushingly heavy load of guilt over some past mistake. In a broken world, it is simply a matter of time before we feel crushed. This is why we need Lent. The word Lent comes from an Old English word for Spring: "lengten," when the days grow longer. For 1400 years the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of repentance and renewal. Believers humbly acknowledge that sin is the ultimate source of all the crushing moments in life. Our sin even crushed Christ. Yet, on Easter Sunday, Jesus took up his life again. Our Savior crushed both death and the serpent's head. Yes, Lent is a solemn season. But it is also a season of great hope. With the psalmist we say, "The Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit."

THEME OF THE DAY

OUR CONDEMNATION IS CRUSHED BY GOD'S GRACE

We assume people get what they deserve. We assume what goes around comes around. We assume God helps those who help themselves. And all those assumptions must be crushed. God does not operate on the principle of merit but of grace. Like gravity, grace is a constant force at work in how God deals with us and how he wants us to deal with others. No one is beyond the reach of God's grace. God never turns it off. When the weight of our sin makes us fearful of God's condemnation, he reveals his grace yet again.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 12:1-6 - God's grace turns the gloom of our condemnation into the joy of our salvation.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-10 - In Christ Jesus God has already condemned all sin. For us there is only grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL

*** Luke 15:11-32 - How does God respond to those who object to or are angered by his grace? He responds with more grace.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

The Service (hymn tune canticles) [German]
with Setting 2 Kyrie, GA, Agnus

Ambitious:

Setting 2 Kyrie, GA, Sanctus
Setting 1 Agnus

Opening Hymn:

916 - Today Your Mercy Calls Us

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 32A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

There is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents. (Luke 15:10)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Additional Settings

Lent Set 2 - Year C by S Janco

or

Setting 2

Hymn of the Day:

576 - Amazing Grace

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

657 - Baptismal Waters Cover Me

Closing Hymn:

654:1,3,7 - Jesus Sinners Does Receive

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

523 - How Deep the Father's Love for Us

579 - His Mercy Is More

810 - The First Song of Isaiah

Notes for the conservative service:

523 - Fairly straightforward melody; maybe easier for congregation with the melody-only version that builder will have

Notes for the ambitious service:

579 - obviously this song has the English equivalent of Alleluia, so during Lent it can be a judgment call, but the text obviously fits; should be introduced

810 - this is a bit of a production but its use (refrain only or cong sings verses) depends on congregational familiarity and choir/cantor availability; stripped down version of piano only can also work just fine (no choral harmonizing)

Worship Plan - Church Year C 2021-2022



4/3/2022 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

SERIES THEME

CRUSHED

When someone is devastated or defeated or despondent we speak of him being "crushed." It could be due to some agonizing loss or unrealized dreams. It could be due to carrying a crushingly heavy load of guilt over some past mistake. In a broken world, it is simply a matter of time before we feel crushed. This is why we need Lent. The word Lent comes from an Old English word for Spring: "lengten," when the days grow longer. For 1400 years the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of repentance and renewal. Believers humbly acknowledge that sin is the ultimate source of all the crushing moments in life. Our sin even crushed Christ. Yet, on Easter Sunday, Jesus took up his life again. Our Savior crushed both death and the serpent's head. Yes, Lent is a solemn season. But it is also a season of great hope. With the psalmist we say, "The Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit."

THEME OF THE DAY

HUMAN REJECTION IS CRUSHED BY DIVINE EXALTATION

People often look to the judgment of experts. The opinion of experts can greatly influence the general population. That poses a problem when it comes to Christ. The world's experts and culturally elite generally see little value in Christ and his Word. Thankfully, Christ tells us to expect this. He also reminds us that when it comes to judgments about him and his kingdom, only one opinion matters. God the Father would render the final verdict about Christ and his work when he raised his Son from the dead. This week, we learn to evaluate the world's experts properly. They might see heaven's greatest treasure as trash. Fine. That treasure remains ours for the taking!

FIRST READING

*** Isaiah 43:16-21 - Twice the nation of Israel was rejected by other nations and turned into slaves: first in Egypt, then in Babylon. Both times the Lord provided Israel with deliverance and exaltation.

SECOND READING

Philippians 3:4b-14 - What the world considered valuable, Paul no longer valued. What Paul valued was Christ, whom God had exalted in the resurrection. Through Christ God exalts us as well, regardless of what the world thinks of us.

GOSPEL

Luke 20:9-19 - God the Father sent his Son into the world knowing that the world would reject the Son. The cornerstone of the Church would be the One the religious experts rejected.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

The Service (hymn tune canticles) [German]
with Setting 2 Kyrie, GA, Agnus

Ambitious:

Setting 2 (w/o Gloria)

Opening Hymn:

914 - Christ Is Our Cornerstone

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 73A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. (Psalm 118:22)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 2

Hymn of the Day:

571 - O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

861 - Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head

Closing Hymn:

517 - Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

532 - As the Deer Runs to the River

571 - O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

Notes for the conservative service:

571 - needs introductory work as the Hymn of the Day for years to come

Notes for the ambitious service:

532 - melody should be cantored for introduction, cong can start with refrain but that also should be introduced