ASH WEDNESDAY………………………………..February 26, 2020

Opening Hymn: # 93

M: In the name of our God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden. Amen.

All: O Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy, and in your faithfulness, come to my relief. Do not bring your servant into judgment, for no one living is righteous before you. Answer me quickly, O Lord; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. Teach me to do your will, for you are my God.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me and am deeply sorry for them.

Silence for private confession.

M: Jesus says to his people: “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven.” His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe.

M: Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

Prayer
M: Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly, that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Psalm 51a (spoken responsively)
M: Have mercy on me, O God,
C: According to your unfailing love.
M: Wash away all my iniquity,
C: And cleanse me from my sin.
M: For I know my transgressions,
C: And my sin is always before me.
M: Against you, you only, have I sinned
C: And done what is evil in your sight.
M: Surely I was sinful at birth,
C: Sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
M: Hide your face from my sins,
C: And blot out all my iniquity.
M: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
C: And grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

ALL: 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.

Psalm Prayer
M: Almighty and merciful Father, you freely forgive those who, as David of old, acknowledge and confess their sins. Create in us pure hearts, and wash away all our sins in the blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Choir: The Lamb (St. Clair)
A Lenten Prayer (Alma City)

The Passion Reading

Response
All: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed.

Sunday School (St. Clair): Glory Be To Jesus

Sermon Hymn: # 391
Tonight we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion in which we joyfully receive Christ's body and blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. As we celebrate this Sacrament, we also give public confession of our unity in the Christian faith. We invite communicant members of our congregation or other WELS or ELS members to commune with us. Guests wishing to receive the Sacrament should speak with the Pastor before the service.

We are glad that you joined us this evening. Next week retired Pastor Larry Wiederich will be here to preach on the theme: Hidden Warrior.

Thank-you to Mary Bade and Sarah Berg for playing the organ. We also thank the choirs and the Sunday School children for singing.

We also thank both of the Ladies’ Aids and everyone who provided for and served our soup and sandwich suppers tonight.

St. Johns-St. Clair has extended a Divine Call to Pastor Stephen Apt of Divine Savior-Santa Rita Ranch Campus, Liberty Hill, TX. Please keep him, his family, and congregation in your prayers as he deliberates this Call.

Prayer List: Marvin Kollos, home from the hospital