

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH @ SOUTH PARK

A PLACE OF GRACE WITH A CALL FOR ALL TO CONTINUE THE WORK OF JESUS

Jeffery Alvestad, Pastor

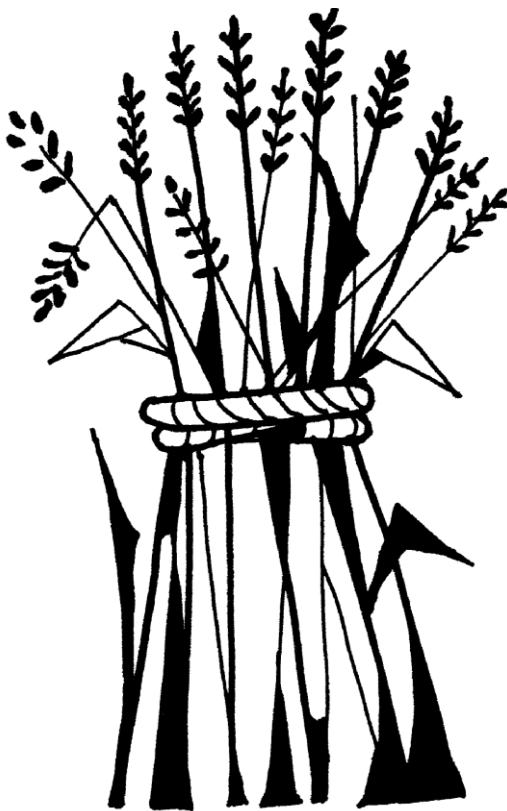
Kate Stephenson, Director of Congregational Life

Megan Duke, Office & Communications Manager

Kevin Cooper, Property & Maintenance Manager

Susan Hash-Hires, Director of Music

Edward Poston, Organist



Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 17, 2024

PRELUDE

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

arr. Carolyn Hamlin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church ELW 321

- 1 Eternal Lord of love, behold your church
walking once more the pilgrim way of
Lent,
led by your cloud by day, by night your
fire,
moved by your love and toward your
presence bent:
far off yet here—the goal of all desire.
- 2 So daily dying to the way of self,
so daily living to your way of love,
we walk the road, Lord Jesus, that you
trod,
- 3 knowing ourselves baptized into your
death:
so we are dead and live with you in God.
- 3 If dead in you, so in you we arise,
you the firstborn of all the faithful dead;
and as through stony ground the green
shoots break,
glorious in springtime dress of leaf and
flow'r,
so into life and glory shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain, b. 1931-2003
Text © Thomas H. Cain.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE ELW p. 139

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,

we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers.

Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31: 31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 51: 1-12

(First time through, organ; second time through, cantor; third time through, congregation)

Refrain:



SECOND READING: Hebrews 5: 5-10

A reading from Hebrews.

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW p. 142

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.

GOSPEL: John 12: 20-33

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

God loves me, Jesus is my friend, and church is a great place to be. Amen.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Now the Green Blade Rises ELW 379

- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols* © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: ... Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: ... through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also, with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

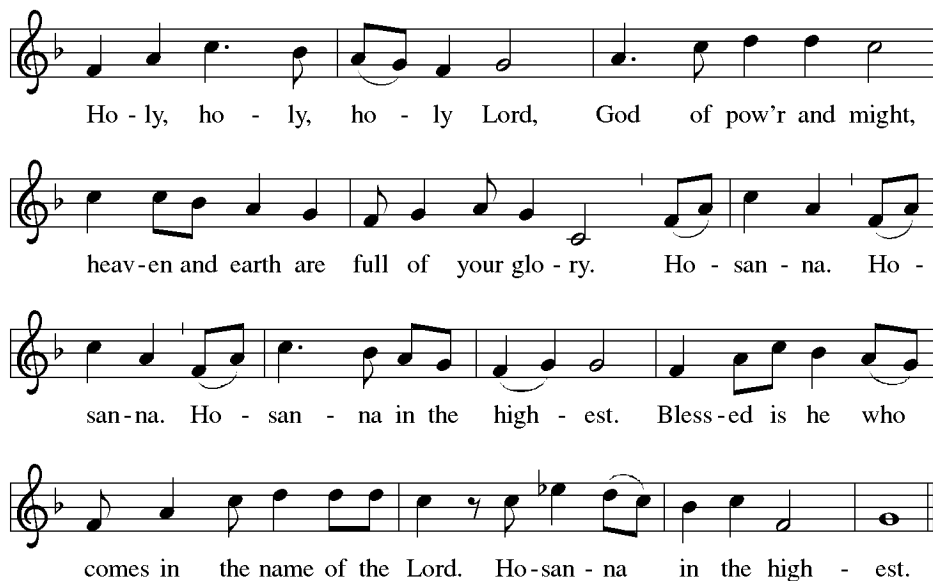
C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ELW p.144



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

COMMUNION

You may commune where you are seated with the elements you brought with you, or you may come forward from the center aisle and Pastor will place, in your open hand, a wafer which you may then dip into the chalice of wine held by the assisting minister. After you have dipped the bread into the chalice of wine, you may return to your seat by the side aisle, or walk up to the altar and kneel for more prayer and reflection.

LAMB OF GOD ELW p. 146

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.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

SENDING

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing ELW 545

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing,
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us,
trav'ling through this wilderness. | in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
to your truth may we be found. |
| 2 Thanks we give and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of your salvation | 3 Savior, when your love shall call us
from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us,
glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
reign with you in endless day. |

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740-1817, sts. 1-2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 3, alt.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

arr. Michael Larkin

Thanks to Janet Hart for playing piano for today's service.

Readings and Psalm: Sunday, March 24, 2024

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Psalm 31: 9-16

Philippians 2: 5-11

Mark 15: 1-39



Assisting Minister: Cathy Box

Lector: Kelly Rice

Acolyte/Crucifer:

Nursery: Morgan Sponholtz

Usher: Matt McNemee, Tami McNemee, Barb Kurtz

Children's Message: Cathy Box

Altar Care: Jan D., Tary S., Dawn S., Mandy S., HS SS Class

Livestreaming: Darrah and Adele Buren