

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

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David Cason, Organist



4th
Sunday
in
Lent

March 19, 2023

Assisting Minister: Cathy Box

Lector: Mandy Sponholtz

Crucifer:

Acolyte:

Usher: Matt McNemee, Tami McNemee, Barb Kurtz

Children's Message: Cathy Box

Altar Care: Carol Ann Salber

Audio/Video: Ted Smith

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

A brief moment of silence is kept for reflection.

C: we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing ELW 807

- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
 tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 streams of mercy, never ceasing,
 call for songs of loudest praise.
 While the hope of endless glory
 fills my heart with joy and love,
 teach me ever to adore thee;
 may I still thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer:
 "Hither by thy help I've come";
 and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
 safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

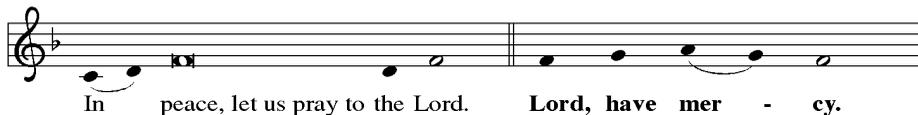
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
 daily I'm constrained to be;
 let that grace now like a fetter
 bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
 Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
 prone to leave the God I love.
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;
 seal it for thy courts above.

GREETING ELW p. 138

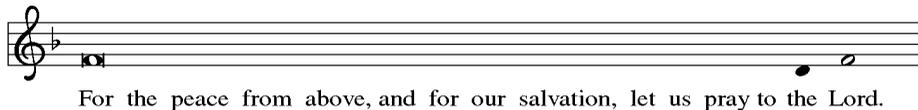
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

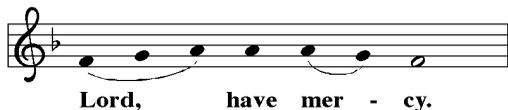
KYRIE ELW p. 138



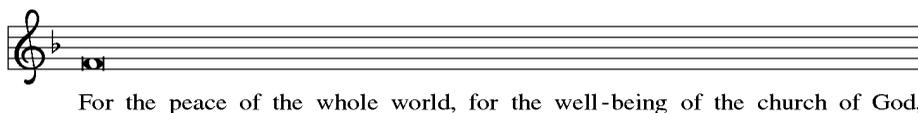
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



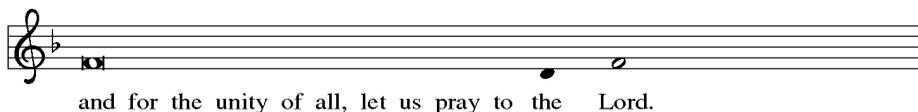
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



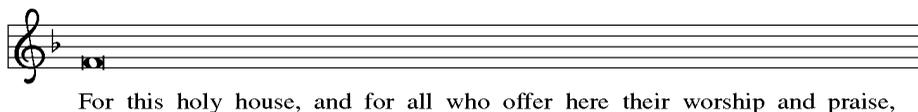
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



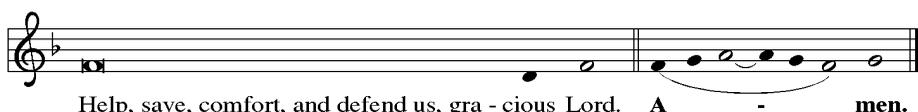
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16: 1-13

A reading from 1 Samuel.

¹The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” ²Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’” ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” ⁵He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is now before the LORD.” ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.” ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

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

Refrain:



Psalm 23:5

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Tone:



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- ¹The LORD¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not¹ be in want.
- ²**The LORD makes me lie down¹ in green pastures
and leads me be-¹ side still waters.**
- ³You restore my¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways¹ for your name's sake.
- ⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they¹ comfort me. R**
- ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is¹ running over.
- ⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the¹ LORD forever. R**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5: 8-14

A reading from Ephesians.

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

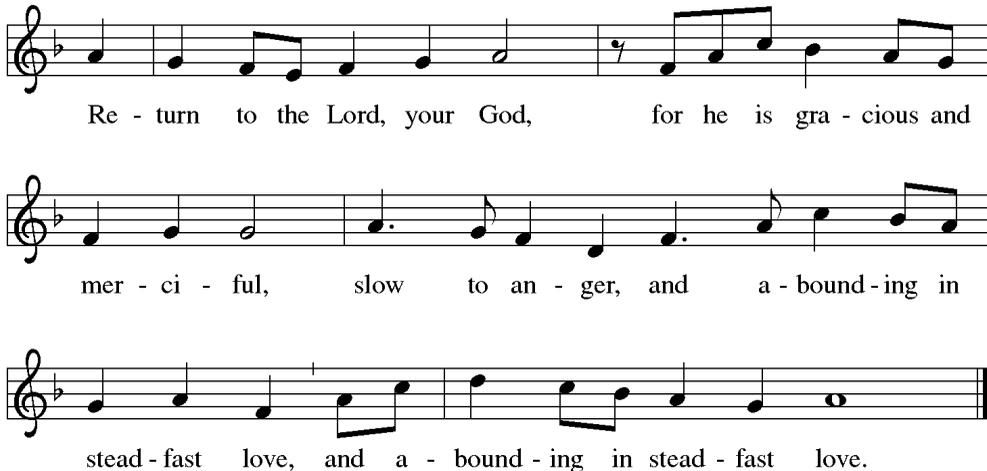
“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

P: Word of God, word of life.

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 9: 1-41

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.”

¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound ELW 779

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see. | 4 | The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures. |
| 2 | 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed! | 5 | When we've been there ten thousand
years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun. |
| 3 | Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home. | | |

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

APOSTLE'S CREED ELW p. 105

**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: ... Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: ... through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Solo – Maggie Shermoen

Via Dolorosa

by Billy Sprague and Niles Borop

Down the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem that day,
the soldiers tried to clear the narrow streets,
but the crowd pressed in to see the man condemned to die on Calvary.

He was bleeding from a beating, there were strips upon his back,
and he wore a crown of thorns upon his head.
And He bore with every step the scorn of those who cried out for his death.

Down the Via Dolorosa, called the way of suffering,
like a lamb came the Messiah, Christ the King.
But He chose to walk that road out of His love for you and me,
Down the Via Dolorosa all the way to Calvary.

The blood that would cleanse the souls of all men
made its way to the heart of Jerusalem.
Down the Via Dolorosa, called the way of suffering,
like a lamb came the Messiah, Christ the King.
But He chose to walk that road out of His love for you and me,
Down the Via Dolorosa all the way to Calvary.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING ELW p. 144

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.

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 musical notation consists of four staves of music in a single system, written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music concludes with a double bar line.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

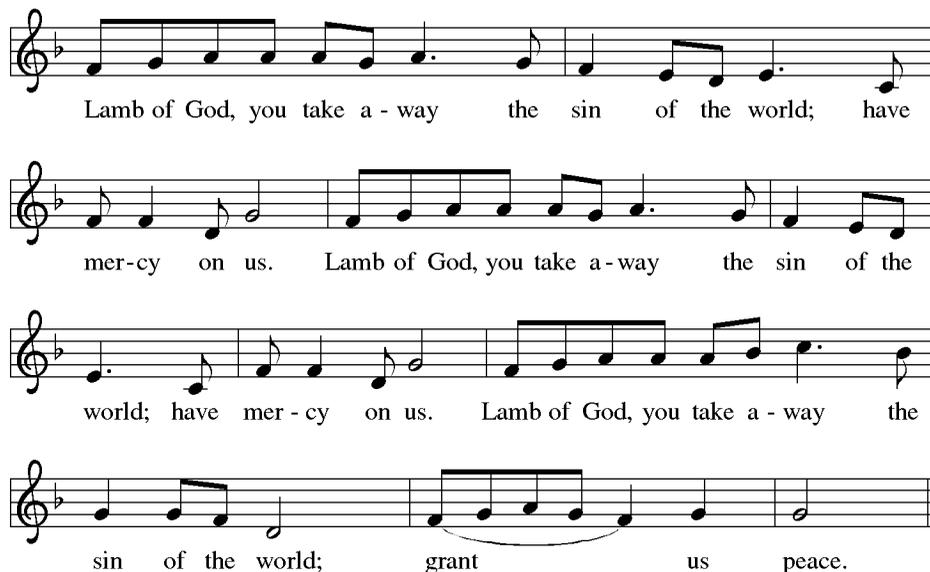
THE LORD'S PRAYER ELW p. 145

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.

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 gluten-free 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: God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

What Wondrous Love is This ELW 666

- 1 What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?
- 2 When I was sinking down,
sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.
- 3 To God and to the Lamb
I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb,
who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.
- 4 And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free,
I'll sing God's love for me,
and through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

DISMISSAL ELW p. 145

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Readings and Psalm: Sunday, March 26, 2023

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8: 6-11

John 11: 1-45



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