

# Lent

fast • give • pray

## St. Luke Lutheran Church Pastor Eric Hanson

8:30AM • March 14, 2021 • Fourth Sunday in Lent

*Thank you to ??? for leading our music this morning!*

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**Prelude:** "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" #751 2X

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise! All my hope comes from God;  
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise, God the well-spring of life.

**Confession and Forgiveness** *(please stand as you are able)*

*(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the leader begins.)*

L: We begin in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit C: **Amen**

L: God of heaven and earth, you come in close & make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, & seek your will for our lives, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. C: **Amen**

L: With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin. *Silence.* Merciful God,

C: **Forgive us. Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet.** *Silence*

C: **We were silent when we should have said something.** *Silence*

C: **We were still when we should have moved.** *Silence*

C: **We moved when we should have been still.** *Silence*

C: **For the wrong we have done, for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

L: Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the sake of + Jesus Christ, leading you from death into life. C: **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn:** *(you may be seated)* "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" #504

**Verse 1:** A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield victorious;  
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod & wins salvation glorious.  
The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe!  
With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.

**Verse 2:** No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected.  
But now a champion comes to fight, Whom God Himself elected.  
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he!  
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.

**Verse 3:** Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us,  
We tremble not, unmoved we stand; They cannot overpower us.  
Let this world's tyrant rage; in battle we'll engage!  
His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.

**Verse 4: God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;  
for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.  
Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child or spouse;  
though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day. The kingdom's ours forever!**

**Greeting:** L: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, & the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
C: **And also with you.**

**Kyrie** L: Kyrie eleison      C: **Lord, have mercy.**  
L: Christe eleison      C: **Christ, have mercy.**  
L: Kyrie eleison      C: **Lord, have mercy.**

**Canticle of Praise: "Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery" #334**

**Verse 1: Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry, in your death we are reborn;  
though you die in all of hist'ry, still you rise with ev'ry morn, still you rise with ev'ry morn.**

**Verse 2: We remember truth once spoken, love passed on through act and word;  
ev'ry person lost and broken wears the body of our Lord, wears the body of our Lord.**

**Verse 3: Christ, you lead and we shall follow, stumbling though our steps may be;  
one with you in joy and sorrow, we the river, you the sea, we the river, you the sea.**

**Lent 4 Verse: Give us eyes to see you clearly; make us children of your light.  
Give us hearts to live more nearly as your gospel shining bright**

**Prayer of the Day: O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world  
and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your  
love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one  
God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22:** *read by Kendra Rehder* <sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, for God's mercy endures forever. <sup>2</sup>Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe, <sup>3</sup>gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. <sup>17</sup>Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted. <sup>18</sup>They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door. <sup>19</sup>Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord and you delivered them from their distress. <sup>20</sup>You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave. <sup>21</sup>Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people. <sup>22</sup>Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

**Gospel Acclamation: "Hosanna in the Highest" 2X (Stand as you are able)**  
**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest**  
**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest**

L: The holy gospel according to....      C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel Reading: John 3:14-21** *(Please stand as you are able)* [Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

L. Word of God. Word of life.      C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Children's Message** *(you may be seated)*

**Sermon**      *Pastor Eric Hanson*

**Hymn of the Day: "Thy Holy Wings" #613**

**Verse 1: Thy Holy Wings, O Savior, spread gently over me, & let me rest securely through good and ill in thee.  
Oh, be my strength & portion, my rock & hiding place, & let my every moment be lived within thy grace.**

Verse 2: Oh, let me nestle near thee, within thy downy breast where I will find sweet comfort & peace within thy nest.  
Oh, close thy wings around me & keep me safely there, for I am but a newborn & need thy tender care.

Verse 3: Oh, wash me in the waters of Noah's cleansing flood. Give me a willing spirit, a heart both clean & good.  
Oh, take into thy keeping thy children great & small, & while we sweetly slumber, enfold us one & all.

**Apostles' 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, & 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, & he will come to judge the living & 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, & the life everlasting. Amen.

**The Prayers:** (call and response)

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.* You sent your Son that the world might be saved through him. Inspire the witness of the church throughout the world. Empower missionaries, Bible translators, and ministries of service in your name. Bless our partners in ministry, our ELCA global partner churches, and Young Adults in Global Mission. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

From east to west your steadfast love is shown. Nourish seas and deserts, wilderness areas and cities. Give water to thirsty lands; nurture spring growth that feeds hungry creatures; bless farmers as they prepare for the growing season. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You sustained your people in the wilderness. Give courage to all who lead in times of crisis and scarce resources. Prosper the work of those who aid victims of famine and drought. Bring peace in places where scarce resources cause violence. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your mercy endures forever. Deliver all who cry to you, especially those who are hungry or without homes. Give life in places where death seems triumphant; give healing to those who are sick and comfort to those who mourn especially, Gabriel Ryan, Jo Buck, Ruth Holm, Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, David Roschen, Jim Howard, Naomi Berland, Dean Kirkland, Don & Ella Hadler, Lloyd Roschen, Finley Budensiek, Brent Hokanson, Karl Thomforde & the families of Dave and Jon Roschen. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

By grace we have been saved. Fill this congregation to overflowing with that grace, that we show mercy to others. Nourish any in our midst who are hungry, especially children, and bless our ministries of feeding and shelter. Give us patience and courage when the way seems long. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your Son was lifted up that whoever believes might have eternal life. We praise you for all who have died in Christ. Bring us with all the saints into the fullness of your promises. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Sharing the Peace:** L: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

**Offering & Doxology:**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, you heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Offertory Prayer:**

P: O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.  
Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. C: **Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

L: The Lord be with you C: **And also with you**

L: Lift up your hearts. C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**Salutation**

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

**Holy Lord, most holy Lord; You alone are worthy of all the praise. Holy Lord, most Holy Lord;  
with all of my heart I sing: Great are You Lord. worthy of praise, holy and true; great are You Lord, most holy Lord.**

## Words of Institution

### Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; & forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; & lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, & the power, and the glory, forever & ever. Amen.

### Lamb of God

Your only Son, we crucified, we laughed and scorned Him as He died,  
The humble King, we named a fraud, and sacrificed the Lamb of God.  
Oh, Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the Holy Lamb of God,  
Oh, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

**Communion Prayer:** We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

### Blessing *(please stand as you are able)*

L: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you + peace. **C: Amen.**

### Sending Hymn: "Come To Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty" #777

**Verse 1:** "Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty; drink the water I will give.  
If you knew what gift I offer, you would come to me and live."

**Refrain:** Jesus, Ever flowing fountain, give us water from your well.  
In the gracious gift you offer there is joy no tongue can tell.

**Verse 2:** "Come to me, all trav'lers weary; come that I may give you rest.  
Drink the cup of life I offer; at this table be my guest." [Refrain.]

**Verse 3:** "Come to me, believers burdened; find refreshment in this place.  
Come, receive the gift I offer, turn to me and seek my face." [Refrain.]

**Verse 4:** "Come to me, repentant sinners; leave behind your guilt and shame.  
Come and know divine compassion, turn to me, I call your name." [Refrain.]

**Dismissal** L: Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude: "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil" #512

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.  
Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.  
When my heart is hard, break the stone away. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.  
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.  
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

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