



# A Journey Through Lent

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**St. Luke Lutheran Church • Third Sunday in Lent**

**Pastor Eric Hanson • 9:30AM • March 20, 2022**

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**Prelude:** *Debbi St. John, Pianist/Organist*

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Lenten Greeting** *(please stand as you are able)*

**P:** Friends in Christ, we gather during this season of Lent to remember Jesus' Passover from death to life. We journey through this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's grace. We are created to live in joyful communion with God and one another, but we oftentimes wound our relationship with God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended. As disciples of Jesus, we long for repentance leading to change.

**C:** God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek your will for our lives.

### **Confession and Forgiveness:**

**P:** With honesty of heart, we confess our sin together. Merciful God,

**C:** Lord, Forgive us. Our will is handcuffed to sin, & we cannot break free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet. We were silent when we should have said something. We were still when we should have moved. We moved when we should have been still. For the wrong we have done, and for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us & bring us new life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

**P:** Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces us in tender care. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet us again this day. In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. We are created anew, freed from sin & death for new life in Christ. Amen.

### **Gathering Hymn:** *"Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer"* #681

**Vs. 1:** Guide me ever great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your pow'rful hand: bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.

**Vs. 2:** Open now the crystal fountain, where the healing waters flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through: strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
shield me with your mighty arm, shield me with your mighty arm

**Vs. 3:** When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death, & hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side: songs and praises, songs and praises,  
I will raise forever more, I will raise forever more.

### **Prayer of the Day:** **P:** Let us pray together,

**C:** Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**New Testament Reading - 1 Corinthians 10:1-13** <sup>1</sup>For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. <sup>2</sup>They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. <sup>3</sup>They all ate the same spiritual food <sup>4</sup>and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. <sup>6</sup>Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry." <sup>8</sup>We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. <sup>9</sup>We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. <sup>10</sup>And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the

destroying angel. <sup>11</sup>These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup>So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! <sup>13</sup>No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *"Lamb of God"* #336 (stand as you are able)

**Verse 1:** Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side  
to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.

**Refrain:** O 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.

**Verse 2:** Your gift of love we crucified. We laughed and scorned him as he died.  
The humble king we named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God. [Refrain]

**Verse 3:** I was so lost. I should have died, but you have brought me to your side  
to be led by your staff and rod and to be called a lamb of God. [Refrain]

**Gospel Reading - Luke 13:1-9** <sup>1</sup>Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? <sup>3</sup>I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish." <sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. <sup>7</sup>So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?' <sup>8</sup>"Sir," the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'"

P: This is the Word of our Lord, C: Thanks be to God.

**Children's Message:** Pastor Eric Hanson

**Sermon:** Pastor Eric Hanson

**Hymn of the Day:** *"Amazing Grace"* #779

**Vs 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.

**Vs 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!

**Vs 3:** Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.

**Vs 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.

**Vs 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.

**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)

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.* We pray for the church around the world in all its forms: for pastors, deacons, bishops, chaplains, and mission developers; for church councils, committee chairs, and all lay ministry leaders; for congregations that contemplate difficult decisions about the future of their ministry. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the health of this planet and the well-being of its creatures: for lands impacted by droughts and at risk of wildfires; for fig trees and vineyards that produce fruit for our nourishment and delight; for animal habitats threatened by climate change. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For those called into positions of civic responsibility: for judges, attorneys, and court administrators tasked with uncovering truth and delivering justice; for activists and community leaders who cast a vision of a more compassionate and equitable society. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For those who call upon you for mercy: for all who live in poverty and experience hunger; for any who feel tested beyond their strength; for those who are hospitalized or near death, for those recently deployed, and for all in need of healing especially: Jessica Huemann, Keith Brown, Kathy Nardinger, Dolly Mensink, Finley Budensiek, Sara Nolte, Deb Huneke, Roger Kurtti, Judy Carpenter, Donald & Nancy Nord, Ben Haenel, Rita Klug, Larry Reese, Barb Maher, Dan Hedeem, Ken Bremer, Matt Ludwig and Jan Benidt. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Lord, we come, rejoicing in your grace, grateful that we grow in our faith as we worship and as we study Your word. Help us to do Your work with our hands, serving people in need here and everywhere. Confident in Your plans for us, grant our hearts and minds the confidence to commit to always giving generously of our time, talents and treasure, but especially in our present capital campaign ~~ for we know that everything we have is a gift from you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the advocacy efforts of this congregation: for those whose faith leads them to speak difficult truths and engage in difficult conversations with policymakers; for those who promote mercy over vengeance or retaliation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For those whose earthly journeys have ended, we give thanks. With all the saints, we praise you for the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **Sharing the Peace:**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

### **Offertory Prayer:**

P: Let us pray together,

C: **God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive first from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving:**

P: The Lord be with you    C: **And also with you**    P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**    P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.    C: **It is right to give Him thanks & praise.**

### **The 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; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

### **The Meal & Hymns: "Tree Of Life" vs 1,2,3 & Lent 3 verse #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 3:** Living Water of salvation, be the fountain of each soul;  
springing up in new creation, flow in us and make us whole, flow in us and make us whole.

### **"May This Church Be Like A Tree" 3X**

Tree ever growing by living water, running eternal, flowing from God.

Tree ever growing by living water, running eternal, flowing from God.

### **"Come To The Table Of Blessing" 2X #481**

Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread. All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed. Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail scarred hand.

Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

*"I am the Bread of Life"* #485

**Vs. 1: I am the bread of life, You who come to me shall not hunger, & who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the father beckons.**

**Refrain: And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up, and I will raise you up on the last day.**

**Vs. 2: The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, and if you eat of this bread, you shall live forever, you shall live forever. [Refrain]**

**Vs. 3: Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man and drink of his blood, and drink of his blood, you shall not have life within you. [Refrain]**

**Vs. 4: I am the resurrection, I am the life. If you believe in me, even though you die, you shall live forever. [Refrain]**

**Vs. 5: Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who have come into the world. [Refrain]**

*"I Received The Living God"* #477

**Refrain: I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.  
I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.**

**Vs 1: Jesus said: I am the bread kneaded long to give you life; you who will partake of me need not ever fear to die. [Refrain]**

**Vs 2: Jesus said: I am the way, and my Father longs for you; so I come to bring you home to be one with us anew. [Refrain]**

**Vs 3: Jesus said: I am the truth; come and follow close to me. You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free. [Refrain]**

**Vs. 4: Jesus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow, but receive this living bread, and my Spirit you shall know. [Refrain]**

**Communion Prayer: P: Let us pray together,**

**C: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of life. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Blessing: (stand as you are able)**

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

**Sending Hymn: "Take Up Your Cross, The Savior Said" #667**

**Vs 1: "Take up your cross," the Savior said, "if you would my disciple be; forsake the past, and come this day, and humbly follow after me."**

**Vs 2: Take up your cross; let not its weight pervade your soul with vain alarm; his strength shall bear your spirit up, sustain your heart, and nerve your arm.**

**Vs 3: Take up your cross, nor heed the shame, nor let your foolish heart rebel; for you the Lord endured the cross to save your soul from death and hell.**

**Vs. 4: Take up your cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down; for those who humbly bear the cross one day will wear the glorious crown.**

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

**Postlude**

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