

**Gospel Acclamation: “Tree Of Life” vs 1, 2, 3 & Lent 5 #334** (stand as you are able) led by Eve Stone

**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 5: God of all our fear and sorrow, God who lives beyond our death,**  
hold us close through each tomorrow, love as near as ev’ry breath, love as near as ev’ry breath.

**Gospel Reading: John 11:1-45**

<sup>1</sup>Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>(This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent word to Jesus, “Lord, the one you love is sick.” <sup>4</sup>When he heard this, Jesus said, “This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.” <sup>5</sup>Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup>So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, <sup>7</sup>and then he said to his disciples, “Let us go back to Judea.” <sup>8</sup>“But Rabbi,” they said, “a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?” <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world’s light. <sup>10</sup>It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light.” <sup>11</sup>After he had said this, he went on to tell them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.” <sup>12</sup>His disciples replied, “Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.” <sup>13</sup>Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. <sup>14</sup>So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead, <sup>15</sup>and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” <sup>16</sup>Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.” <sup>17</sup>On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. <sup>18</sup>Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, <sup>19</sup>and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. <sup>20</sup>When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup>“Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup>Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; <sup>26</sup>and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” <sup>27</sup>“Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.” <sup>28</sup>After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. “The Teacher is here,” she said, “and is asking for you.” <sup>29</sup>When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. <sup>32</sup>When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. <sup>34</sup>“Where have you laid him?” he asked. “Come and see, Lord,” they replied. <sup>35</sup>Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup>Then the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?” <sup>38</sup>Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. <sup>39</sup>“Take away the stone,” he said. “But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.” <sup>40</sup>Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.” <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.” <sup>45</sup>Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

**Children’s Message: Pastor Eric Hanson** (you may be seated)

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**Hymn of the Day & Offering:**

*Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.*

*“Precious Lord” #773 led by Kelly Rehder*

**Vs 1: Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.**  
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

**Vs 2: When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near, when my life is almost gone,**  
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

**Vs 3: When the darkness appears and the night draws near, and the day is past and gone,**  
at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

**Offertory Response: “Give Thanks” led by Sara Strusz**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.**  
**Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.**

**And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.**

**Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.**

**Offertory Prayer:** P: Let us pray.

**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.**

**Apostles’ Creed:** (please stand as you are able)

**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 into hell. 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.**

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

Sustained by God’s abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, & all of creation. *A brief silence.*

You have breathed into us the breath of life. Enliven your church. Deepen our partnerships with our companion churches around the globe and bless the work of missionaries who accompany them. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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You redeem the world and its peoples. Free us from systems of oppression. Unbind nations and societies from the sins of racism, sexism, and homophobia. Raise up leaders at all levels of government who work to promote the dignity of every human life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You weep when we weep. Be present with those who grieve or who are troubled by illness. You hear us when we call to you. Deliver us from the depths of our despair, and free us from the worries that bind us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your Spirit of life dwells in our assembly. Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who lead us in hymns of praise and thanksgiving and in songs of lament and prayer. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are the resurrection and the life. Even though we die, we will live. With thanksgiving, we remember all your saints who now live in your eternal love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

**Named Prayer Requests:**

P: On this day we especially pray for Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, Judy Carpenter, Larry Reese, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Jen Berg, Marilyn O’Brien, Kellie Peterson, Kay Kurtti, Shawn Frederixon, Harriet Warren, Donald & Marcy Jonas, & the family of Harold Lensch.  
For whom or what else shall the people of God pray...

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

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

**Meal and Hymns:** (congregation may be seated)

*All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.*

*Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.*

**Solo:** "The Old Rugged Cross" by Calvin Ryan

*"Kumbaya my Lord" led by Calvin Ryan*

**Vs 1:** Kumbaya my Lord, kumbaya Kumbaya my Lord, kumbaya  
Kumbaya my Lord, kumbaya Oh Lord, kumbaya

**Vs 2:** Someone's singing Lord, kumbaya Someone's singing Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's singing Lord, kumbaya Oh Lord, kumbaya

**Vs 3:** Someone's laughing, Lord, kumbaya Someone's laughing, Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's laughing, Lord, kumbaya Oh Lord, kumbaya

**Vs 4:** Someone's crying, Lord, kumbaya Someone's crying, Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's crying, Lord, kumbaya Oh Lord, kumbaya

**Vs 5:** Someone's praying, Lord, kumbaya Someone's praying, Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's praying, Lord, kumbaya Oh Lord, kumbaya

**Vs 6:** Someone's sleeping, Lord, kumbaya Someone's sleeping, Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's sleeping, Lord, kumbaya Oh Lord, kumbaya Oh Lord, kumbaya

*"Seek Ye First" led by Calvin Ryan*

**Vs. 1:** Seek ye first the kingdom of God, And His righteousness;  
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

**Vs. 2:** Man shall not live by bread alone, But by every word,  
That proceeds out from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.

**Vs. 3:** Ask, and it shall be given unto you; Seek, and ye shall find. Knock,  
and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

**Communion Prayer:** P: Let us pray.

**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.

**The Blessing:** P: 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 and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you + peace. Amen.

**Sending:** "Amazing Grace" #779 led by Katie Schafer

**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.

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

# A Journey Through Lent

**St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent • 9:30AM • March 26, 2023**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Uganda Mission Temple Talk:** by Mia Skoglund

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

**L:** 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 and death for new life in Christ.

**C:** Amen.

**Gathering Hymn:** "God We Gather As Your People" led by Kris Pearson

**Vs 1:** God, we gather as your people to raise our song above, and we dare to claim the promise of your love.  
Though the day may not yet be here, we trust it soon will be, when your children will be free.

**Refrain:** Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened, fling the church doors open wide.  
May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside. For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.  
May that welcome be our song.

**Vs 2:** Oh, we sing for all the children, that one day they be free; and we sing for generations yet to be,  
that they never have a reason to doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest. [Refrain]

**Vs 3:** Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear & shame, so afraid of who they are & whom they love.  
May the message now be banished that your love is for the few; may their faith in you renew. [Refrain]

**Vs 4:** God, we're working for the future when children far & wide can live their lives with dignity and pride.  
As they grow in strength & stature, may they join us hand in hand, as against all hate we stand. [Refrain]

**Prayer of the Day:** (you may be seated)

**P:** Let us pray together

**C:** Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.