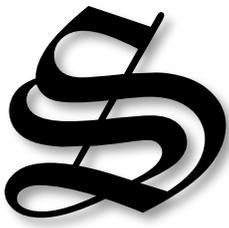


Lententide

MARCH 15, 2026 • SUNDAY • 10:00 A.M.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT (LAETARE)





SO JESUS SAID TO THEM, "TRULY, TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, UNLESS YOU EAT THE FLESH OF THE SON OF MAN AND DRINK HIS BLOOD, YOU HAVE NO LIFE IN YOU. WHOEVER FEEDS ON MY FLESH AND DRINKS MY BLOOD HAS ETERNAL LIFE, AND I WILL RAISE HIM UP ON THE LAST DAY. FOR MY FLESH IS TRUE FOOD, AND MY BLOOD IS TRUE DRINK."

– JOHN 6:53-55

DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE

“Our churches are falsely accused of abolishing the Mass. The Mass is held among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved.” - Augsburg Confession. Article XXIV. The Mass. 1-2a.



PRELUDE

Jesu, Meine Freude (Jesus, Priceless Treasure, LSB 743)

Setting by Kenneth T. Koesche

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 972

“I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone”



1 I trust, O Christ, in You a - lone; No earth - ly hope a -
2 My sin and guilt are plagu - ing me; O grant me true con -
3 Con - firm in us Your Gos - pel, Lord, Your prom - ise of sal -
vails me. You will not see me o - ver - thrown
tri - tion And by Your death up - on the tree
va - tion. And make us long to hear Your Word
When Sa - tan's host as - sails me. No hu - man strength, no
Your par - don and re - mis - sion. Be - fore the Fa - ther's
And fol - low our vo - ca - tion: To spend our lives in
earth - ly pow'r Can see me through the e - vil hour,
throne a - bove Re - call Your match - less deed of love
love for You And show Your love in all we do.
For You a - lone my strength re - new. I cry to You!
That He may lift my dread - ful load, O Son of God!
And then, at last, when death shall loom, O Sav - ior, come
I trust, O Lord, Your prom - ise true.
I plead the grace Your death be - stowed.
And bear Your loved ones safe - ly home.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

Kneeling or sitting forward.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

The First Commandment

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean?

We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the First Commandment:

- *What or whom do I fear most?*
- *In what or whom do I trust most for financial security, physical safety, or emotional support?*
- *Do I fear God's wrath and therefore avoid every sin?*
- *Is my love of God evident in my daily life?*
- *Do I expect only good from God in every situation, or do I worry, doubt, complain, or feel unfairly treated when things go wrong?*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

[John 20:19-23]

C Amen.

Standing

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 122:1-2, 6, 8; antiphon: Isaiah 66:10a, 11a



L Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,*
all you who | love her;
that you may nurse and be | satisfied*
from her con- | soling breast.

L I was glad when they | said to me,*
"Let us go to the house | of the LORD!"

C **Our feet have been | standing***
within your gates, O Je- | rusalem!

L Pray for the peace of Je- | rusalem!*
May they be secure who | love you!

C **For my brothers and com- | panions' sake***
I will say, "Peace be with- | in you!"



G Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

L Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,*
all you who | love her;
that you may nurse and be | satisfied*
from her con- | soling breast.

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

Mark 10:47

C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

During Advent and Lent, the GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is omitted.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sitting

PROPHECY

Exodus 16:2–21

A The Prophecy for the Fourth Sunday in Lent is from Exodus, chapter 16.

A In those days: The whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. And the children of Israel said to them, "Oh, that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I will rain bread from

heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not. And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily." Then Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel, "At evening you shall know that the LORD has brought you out of the land of Egypt. And in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD; for

A He hears your complaints against the LORD. But what are we, that you complain against us?" Also Moses said, "This shall be seen when the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening, and in the morning bread to the full; for the LORD hears your complaints which you make against Him. And what are we? Your complaints are not against us but against the LORD." Then Moses spoke to Aaron, "Say to all the congregation of the children of Israel, 'Come near before the LORD, for He has heard your complaints.'" Now it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "I have heard the complaints of the children of Israel. Speak to them, saying, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. And you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" So it was that quail came up at evening and covered the camp, and in the morning the dew lay all around the camp. And when the layer of

dew lifted, there, on the surface of the wilderness, was a small round substance, as fine as frost on the ground. So when the children of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "This is the bread which the LORD has given you to eat. This is the thing which the LORD has commanded: 'Let every man gather it according to each one's need, one omer for each person, according to the number of persons; let every man take for those who are in his tent.'" Then the children of Israel did so and gathered, some more, some less. So when they measured it by omers, he who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack. Every man had gathered according to each one's need. And Moses said, "Let no one leave any of it till morning." Notwithstanding they did not heed Moses. But some of them left part of it until morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them. So they gathered it every morning, every man according to his need. And when the sun became hot, it melted.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

TRACT

Psalm 125:1-2, 5b



- L** Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount | Zion,*
which cannot be moved, but abides for- | ever.
- C** As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his | people,*
from this time forth and forevermore. Peace be upon | Israel!

HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:1–15

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

- P** At that time: Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples. Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little." One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" Then Jesus said, "Make the

people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world." Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God**, *Exodus 20:3; Deuteronomy 6:4; Ephesians 4:6*
the Father Almighty, *Psalms 89:26; Matthew 6:9; Romans 1:20*
maker of heaven and earth *Genesis 1:1; Nehemiah 9:6; John 1:1*
and of all things visible and invisible. *2 Corinthians 4:18; Colossians 1:16*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, *1 Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:5; 1 Timothy 2:5*

the only-begotten Son of God, *John 1:14; 3:16, 18; Acts 13:33; 1 John 4:9*

begotten of His Father before all worlds, *John 1:18; 17:24; Ephesians 1:4; Colossians 1:17; 1 Peter 1:20*

God of God, Light of Light, *John 1:4-9; 8:12; 12:46; Hebrews 1:3; Revelation 21:23*

very God of very God, *Philippians 2:6; Colossians 1:19; 2:9; 1 John 5:20*

begotten, not made, *John 1:2*

being of one substance with the Father, *John 10:30; 17:22*

by Whom all things were made; *John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2*

Who for us men and for our salvation *John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:4*

came down from heaven *John 3:13; 6:41; Luke 15:20; Ephesians 4:10*

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary *Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:34-35*

and was made man; *John 1:14; Galatians 4:4*

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. *Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:25; Luke 23:33; John 19:18*

He suffered and was buried. *Acts 1:13; 3:18; Matthew 14:12; Mark 15:46; Luke 23:53; John 19:42*

And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures *Luke 24:46; Acts 10:40; 1 Corinthians 15:4*

and ascended into heaven *Luke 24:51; John 20:17; Acts 1:2, 9, 11, 22; Ephesians 4:8*

and sits at the right hand of the Father. *Mark 16:19; Acts 2:33; 5:31; 7:55-56; Romans 8:34; Ephesians 1:20; Colossians 3:1*

And He will come again with glory *Matthew 26:64; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Revelation 1:7*

to judge both the living and the dead, *Acts 10:42; 17:31; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 2 Timothy 4:1; 1 Peter 4:5; Revelation 20:12*

Whose kingdom will have no end. *Luke 1:33; 2 Peter 1:11; Hebrews 1:8; Revelation 11:15*

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, *John 14:26; 16:13; Acts 2:4*

the Lord and giver of life, *Genesis 1:2; John 3:5-6; 15:26-27; Romans 8:2*

Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, *John 14:26; 16:7; Acts 1:8; 2:33; Romans 5:5*

Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, *Matt. 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14*

Who spoke by the prophets. *Luke 1:67; Acts 28:25; Ephesians 3:5; 2 Peter 1:21*

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, *Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:5; Revelation 21:14*

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, *Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:5*

and I look for the resurrection of the dead *John 5:29; 6:39, 40, 44, 54; 11:25-26; 1 Corinthians 6:14; 15:20-22*

and the life of the world to come. *Mark 10:29-30; Luke 18:30; John 5:24; 6:33; Galatians 6:8; 1 Timothy 4:8; 1 John 5:11*

Amen. *Psalms 106:48; 2 Corinthians 1:20*

P What is the Sixth Commandment?

C You shall not commit adultery.

P What does this mean?

C We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 743

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, Fount of pur - est plea - sure,
 2 In Thine arms I rest me; Foes who would mo - lest me
 3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; Death, I now de - cry thee;
 4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my plea - sure,



Tru - est friend to me, Ah, how long in an - guish
 Can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,
 Fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt not harm me
 Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry!



Shall my spir - it lan - guish, Yearn - ing, Lord, for Thee?
 Ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.
 Nor thy threats a - larm me While I sing of peace.
 Naught to me thy sto - ry Told with tempt - ing voice.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer
 Light - nings flash And thun - ders crash; Yet, though sin and
 God's great pow'r Guards ev - 'ry hour; Earth and all its
 Pain or loss, Or shame or cross, Shall not from my



naught to hide Thee; Naught I ask be - side Thee.
 hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
 depths a - dore Him, Si - lent bow be - fore Him.
 Sav - ior move me Since He deigns to love me.

Continued next page . . .

5 Evil world, I leave thee;
 Thou canst not deceive me,
 Thine appeal is vain.
 Sin that once did blind me,
 Get thee far behind me,
 Come not forth again.
 Past thy hour,
 O pride and pow'r;
 Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,
 Leave thee now forever.

6 Hence, all fear and sadness!
 For the Lord of gladness,
 Jesus, enters in.
 Those who love the Father,
 Though the storms may gather,
 Still have peace within.
 Yea, whate'er
 I here must bear,
 Thou art still my purest pleasure,
 Jesus, priceless treasure!

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Standing

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Sitting

OFFERING

Rathbun (In the Cross of Christ I Glory, LSB 427)

Setting by Edwin T. Childs

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P O God of mercy, although we merit only punishment, You give abundantly for every need. Through our Savior Jesus Christ provide us with every physical gift our bodies need in this earthly life, and every heavenly blessing our souls need in the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, after the holy example of Your Son, Jesus Christ, inspire all pastors to a devout care for their people and a continual desire to feed them with the bread of life. Awaken in the hearts of our congregations a mutual love for this faithful service in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful Lord, You blessed barren Sarah with Isaac, the child of promise, and brought salvation to the world through Christ, born of the Virgin Mary. Watch over the families of Your Church and comfort those families yet without children, that all together may find joy in their heavenly inheritance. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Grant Your mercy, O Lord, to all our leaders: to Donald, our president; Brian, our governor; all legislators and civil servants; those who work for the common good; those who must render judgment and impose punishment upon lawbreakers; and all who work for peace among the nations. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, our Shepherd, protect, comfort and guide all who call upon You in need [especially _____]. Grant healing and peace, that they may continue to serve You with joy in this life and finally come to that good land in Your eternal kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, You provided food from heaven for the Israelites during their days of wandering in the wilderness. So give us also the true food of heaven, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, that we may be sustained in our faith and in hope during our days of pilgrimage through the wilderness of this world until finally we behold Your glory with our own eyes. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, You give daily bread to everyone without our prayer, even to all evil people. Bless the merciful works of Your Church for the poor and needy, that rooted in Christ's love for us, we may reflect and share that love with others. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3

Following the prayers, please greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of forgiveness and reconciliation in preparation for worthy reception of the Holy Supper.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

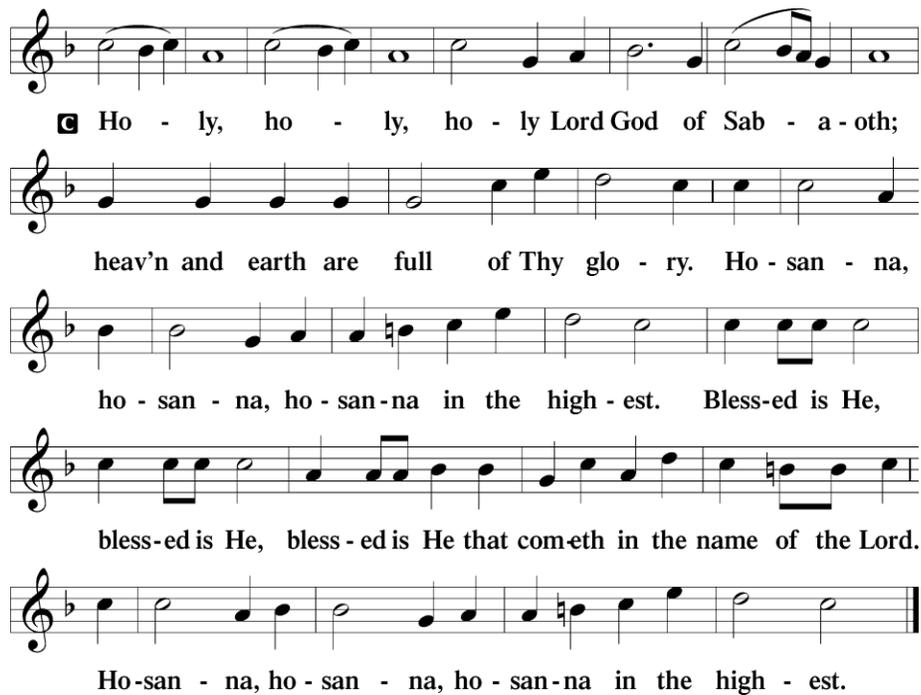


C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Kneeling or sitting forward.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
C **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 WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My [†] bod - y, which is giv-en for you.
This do in re - mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so
He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it
to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in
My [†] blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

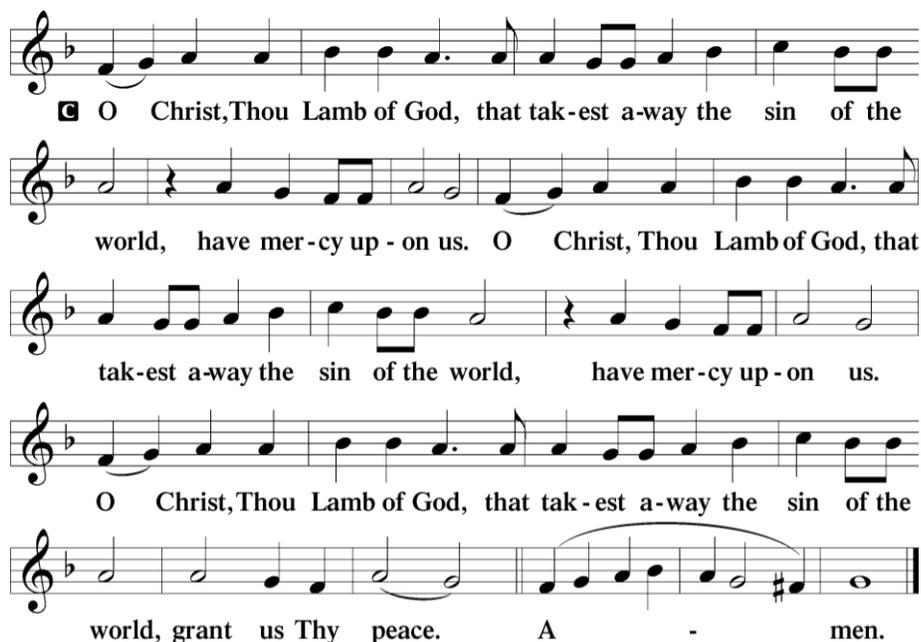
PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.
C A - men.

AGNUS DEI ~ Lamb of God

John 1:29



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sitting

About participation in Holy Communion:

All guests and visitors are asked to please speak to Pastor Miller before receiving Holy Communion for the first time.

Those who are not receiving the Sacrament but still request a pastoral blessing are invited to approach the altar with arms crossed in an "X" over their chests to indicate this desire.

We are grateful for your cooperation in honoring our practice. For further explanation, please see below:

Drawn from God's Word, the Lutheran Confessions are a true and binding exposition of Holy Scripture and serve as authoritative texts for all pastors, congregations and other rostered church workers of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. That being the case, we are bound to follow its prescribed practice of Closed Communion:

"The custom has been retained among us of not administering the sacrament to those who have not previously been examined and absolved [1 Corinthians 11:27-28]" (Augsburg Confession XXV:1).

Closed Communion was always the common practice among Christians from the first century and remains the practice of Confessional Lutherans. It originates from the clear biblical teaching that the Sacrament of the Altar "is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink" (Small Catechism VI:1). The "words [according to our Lord's institution], "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life and salvation are given us through these words" (SC VI:3).

Because "whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord," it is important that each person "examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body" (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). To ensure worthy reception, pastors are required to be faithful in their stewardship of the sacraments (1 Cor 4:1-2). This assumes pastoral care between Pastor Miller and those intending to receive Holy Communion.

Prayer Before Receiving Holy Communion

O Lord, our God, in Holy Baptism You have called me to be a Christian and granted me the remission of sins. Make me ready to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins, and grant me a grateful heart that I may give thanks to You, O Father, to Your Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 625

“Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread”



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, life - giv - ing bread, May I in grace
2 To pas - tures green, Lord, safe - ly guide, To rest - ful wa -
3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's de - light, For full and free
4 I do not mer - it fa - vor, Lord, My weight of sin



pos - sess You. Let me with ho - ly food be fed,
ters lead me; Your ta - ble well for me pro - vide,
re - mis - sion I come with prayer be - fore Your sight
would break me; In all my guilt - y heart's dis - cord,



In hun - ger I ad - dress You. Pre - pare me well
Your wound - ed hand now feed me. Though wea - ry, sin -
In sor - row and con - tri - tion. Your righ - teous - ness,
O Lord, do not for - sake me. In my dis - tress



for You, O Lord, And, hum - bly by my prayer im - plored,
ful, sick, and weak, Ref - uge in You a - lone I seek,
Lord, cov - er me That I re - ceive You wor - thi - ly,
this com - forts me That You re - ceive me gra - cious - ly,



Give me Your grace and mer - cy.
To share Your cup of heal - ing.
As - sured of Your full par - don.
O Christ, my Lord of mer - cy!

Text and tune: Public domain



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;
2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,
3 I am trust-ing Thee for cleans - ing In the crim - son flood;
4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.
For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.
Trust - ing Thee to make me ho - ly By Thy blood.
Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.

**5 I am trusting Thee for power;
Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me
Must prevail.**

**6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;
Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever
And for all.**

Text and tune: Public domain



Feed Thy chil - dren, God most ho - ly; Com - fort sin - ners



poor and low - ly. O Thou Bread of Life from heav-en, Bless the



food Thou here hast giv - en! As these gifts the bod-y nour - ish,



May our souls in grac - es flour - ish Till with saints in



heav'n - ly splen - dor At Thy feast due thanks we ren - der.

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Tune: Public domain

Prayer After Receiving Holy Communion

Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to me in this holy Sacrament. Keep me in Your faith and favor that I may live in You even as You live in me. May Your body and blood preserve me in the true faith to life everlasting. Hear me for the sake of Your name. Amen.

Standing

NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

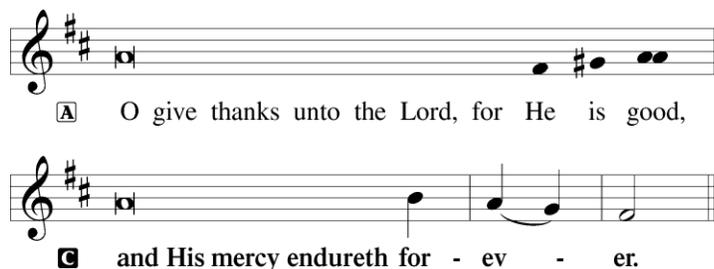
Luke 2:29-32



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1



O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

2 Timothy 4:22, Psalm 103:1



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



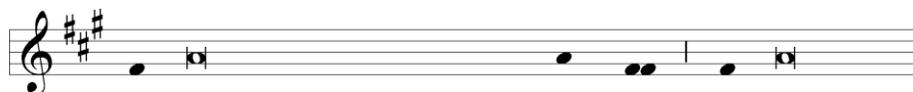
A Bless we the Lord.



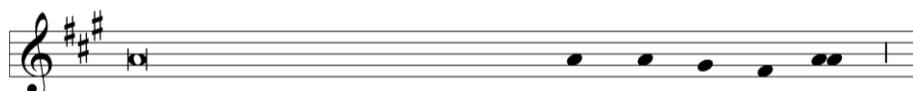
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

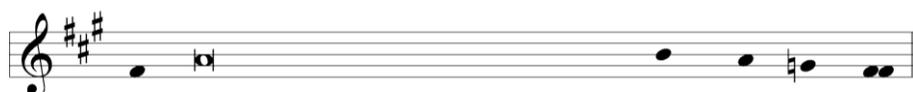
Numbers 6:24-26



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 632

“O Jesus, Blessed Lord to Thee”



1 O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to Thee My heart - felt
2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is



thanks for - ev - er be, Who hast so lov - ing -
come to me this day! My Sav - ior dwells with -



ly be - stowed On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.
in my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

Text and tune: Public domain

POSTLUDE



SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT (LAETARE)

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Jason Schoellen, *Elder*

Katie Schoellen, *Acolyte*

Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist

Abby Warnke, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Musician(s)

Will Davis, trumpet

Patty Harmon, trumpet/French horn

Altar Guild

Whitney Worthington/Kati Durden

Usher(s)

Grayson Beckman/The Rev. Steve Harmon
(Trevor Dunkel)

Fellowship Host(s)

The Durden family

SERVING NEXT WEEK

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT (JUDICA)

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Jason Schoellen, *Elder*

Katie Schoellen, *Acolyte*

Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist

Abby Warnke, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Musician(s)

Will Davis, trumpet

Patty Harmon, trumpet/French horn

Altar Guild

Ryan Licht

Usher(s)

Grayson Beckman/The Rev. Steve Harmon
(Trevor Dunkel)

Fellowship Host(s)

TBD

L

OVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL,
AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. THIS IS THE GREATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT
COMMANDMENT. THE SECOND IS LIKE IT: LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS
YOURSELF.”

- MATTHEW 22:37-39

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday 3/15	Fourth Sunday in Lent (Laetare) Nursery available Adult Choir Practice Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>"Follow Me:" Discipleship in Matthew</i> Holy Mass Fellowship Hour Church Board Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM 8:30 – 9:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass Following Fellowship
Monday 3/16	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Tuesday 3/17	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 3/18	Wednesday of the Fourth Sunday in Lent (Laetare) Open Arms LCDC Church Office Open Arms LCDC Chapel Midweek Prayer Lenten Midweek Mass IV: <i>The Fourth Day of Creation</i>	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 10:15 AM 12:15 PM 7:00 PM
Thursday 3/19	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 3/20	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 3/21	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Sunday 3/22	Fifth Sunday in Lent (Judica) Nursery available Adult Choir Practice Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>"Follow Me:" Discipleship in Matthew</i> Holy Mass Fellowship Hour	8:30 – 11:30 AM 8:30 – 9:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass

LOVING THE LORD

✝ **Adult Bible Study: "Follow Me": Discipleship in Matthew**

Sundays at 9:00 A.M. during the season of Lent.

Church fellowship hall

The phrase "follower of Jesus" like the term "Christian" has become so generic that it means nearly anything and sometimes almost nothing. In "Follow Me," we will dig deeply into the Holy Scriptures to show what it means to be a follower of Jesus. This seven-session Bible study couldn't be more appropriate for Lent as we heed our Lord's command to "take up your cross and follow Me." All are welcome—whether you are new to Bible study or have been reading Scripture for many years. Come deepen your faith, engage in thoughtful discussion, and enjoy fellowship with others.

✝ **Midweek Prayer**

Wednesdays at 12:15 P.M.

Church sanctuary

Whether on your lunchbreak or just need a break in your day, we invite you to join us for prayer and meditation on God's Holy Word. Every Wednesday at noon, parents and teachers of Open Arms, as well as anyone from the congregation, are encouraged to come into God's presence. We will hear Him speak through His Word, and we will pray for the world, our nation, and the deeper needs of the church and school communities. This service is simple and brief. But it will allow you to walk away refreshed and ready to finish out the week strong!

✝ **Lenten Midweek Mass: *The Seven Days of New Creation***

Wednesdays, March 18 and 25 at 7:00 P.M.

Church sanctuary

Throughout the season of Lent, you are invited to join us for Midweek Masses over five weeks, offering a sacred rhythm of worship, reflection, and renewal as we journey toward Easter. Lenten midweek services provide an important opportunity to slow down, repent, and refocus our hearts on Christ's saving work. Gathered around Word and Sacrament, we are strengthened in faith and drawn more deeply into the meaning of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection. These services help prepare us spiritually to receive the joy of Easter by walking intentionally through the season of repentance and hope.

Continued next page . . .

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This year's sermon series will explore how Christ fulfills the seven days of creation through His ministry—and especially through the events of Holy Week—working faithfully to inaugurate God's new creation. As the first creation was formed through God's purposeful work, so Christ labors in obedience, suffering, and love to bring about restoration, redemption, and new life for all creation. All are encouraged to attend these midweek Masses and enter more fully into the Lenten journey as we prepare our hearts for the victory of Easter.

✝ Easter Lily Orders

Deadline: Sunday, March 29

Dropoff: Church offering plate

Members of the congregation are invited to help beautify the church altar for Easter by placing orders for Easter lilies. The cost is \$18 per lily, and an order form is available by the bulletins in the narthex. Lilies will decorate the altar on Easter Sunday, and those who purchase a lily are encouraged to take theirs home after Mass on the Second Sunday of Easter (April 12). You may also dedicate an Easter lily in honor of or in memory of a loved one; please indicate "in honor of" if the person is living or "in memory of" if they are deceased so the church office knows how to list the dedication in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Payment may be made with cash in an envelope or a personal check, and may be placed in the offering plate on any Sunday through March 29 (Palm Sunday).

LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR

✝ Ascension Family Game Day

Saturday, TBD from 3:00 – 6:00 P.M.

Church fellowship hall

Everyone is invited—families with children, teens, and adults of all ages—to join us for a fun-filled afternoon of games and fellowship! We'll have a wide variety of games available, with options suited for young children, youth, and adults alike, so everyone can jump in and enjoy time together. Whether you love board games, group games, or just good conversation and laughter, there will be something for you. Our time together will conclude with a fellowship dinner of pizza and salad, giving us the chance to relax, share a meal, and continue building friendships across generations. We hope you'll come and be part of this joyful time together!

✚ Men's Group: Fellowship at the Biergarten!

Saturday, May 9 at noon
Gasthaus Tirol
310 Atlanta Road
Cumming, GA 30040

Men of the congregation are warmly invited to join us for a special afternoon of fellowship and good cheer at our upcoming Men's Gathering at a local German restaurant! We'll meet in the biergarten to enjoy hearty German fare, refreshing beverages, and great conversation in a relaxed outdoor setting. This will be a wonderful opportunity to strengthen friendships, welcome new faces, and encourage one another in faith while savoring classic German food and drink. Come hungry, bring a friend, and plan to spend a memorable afternoon together—we look forward to seeing you there!

✚ Book Club: *The Deerslayer* by James Fenimore Cooper

Sunday, June 7 at 3:00 P.M.
Pastor Miller's home

Everyone is invited to join our Book Club for fellowship and discussion! We'll gather to talk about our new book, share insights, and encourage one another. No need to be an expert—just come ready to listen and participate. All are welcome!

From the inside dust jacket flap:

The deadly crack of a long rifle and the piercing cries of Indians on the warpath shatter the serenity of beautiful Lake Glimmerglass. Danger has invaded the vast forests of upper New York State as Deerslayer and his loyal Mohican friend Chingachgook attempt the daring rescue of an Indian maiden imprisoned in a Huron camp. Soon they are caught in the cross fire between a cunning enemy and two white bounty hunters who mercilessly kill for profit.

*The last of the Leatherstocking Tales to be written, though first in the chronology of the hero's life, *The Deerslayer* is James Fenimore Cooper's masterpiece. A fine combination of romance, adventure, and morality, this classic novel of the frontier is an eloquent beginning for Cooper's great wilderness saga—and an unforgettable introduction to the famous character who has been said to embody the conscience of America: the noble woodsman Deerslayer.*

✠ **Lunch and Learn Group: Tour of Historic Silverlake Park in Brookhaven**

TBD

Silverlake Park

4062 Peachtree Road

Suite #A259

Brookhaven, GA 30319

All are welcome to lunch and learn with the new Ascension weekday group. Please watch the church announcements for all upcoming planned events. The first is an easy walking tour of historic Silverlake Park in Brookhaven, with lunch to follow at Hobnob. For more details, contact Eileen Buehl (contact information in church directory).

LIFTING HOLY HANDS

Celebrations

Birthdays:

- + Jonathan (Jon) Licht, 3/16

Wedding Anniversaries:

- + None this week

Recent Requests

For comfort, health, and recovery:

- + Val Aguilar (friend of Emily Horst, who is currently deployed with the United States Air Force)
- + Rev. Dr. James Clark (friend of the congregation)
- + Molly Hankins (friend of the Miller family)
- + Doug Hawkins (friend of Lauren Morr)
- + Jeremiah Hollins (son of Shannon, a former Open Arms teacher)
- + Bob Husby (father of Whitney Worthington)
- + Joshua Schoellen (brother of Jason Schoellen)
- + Mike Warnke (father of Abby Warnke)

Other Recent Requests

- + Family and friends of Jean Meyers (former member of Ascension), for comfort in the Gospel.

Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

- + David Abee (brother of Nancy Grossberg)
- + Ruth Henry
- + James Houchin (friend of Jordan Tomesch)
- + John Kateen
- + Dee Keiger (sister of Eileen Buehl)
- + John Lamb (father of Pastor Miller's friend)
- + Betty Licht
- + Charles Schnell (former member), for his formation as a pastor.
- + Rev. Aaron Sterling (Senior Pastor of Christ the Shepherd, Alpharetta)

For the leaders of Church and state:

- + Director Barbara Collins-Hopkins & Open Arms Board
- + English District Bishop Jeffrey G. Miskus & all district officials
- + LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials
- + Pastor David Miller & Church Board of Lutheran Church of the Ascension
- + Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dcs. Cheryl Naumann, missionaries to Dominican Republic
- + President Donald Trump & all U.S. government officials

THE CUP OF BLESSING THAT WE BLESS, IS IT NOT A PARTICIPATION IN THE BLOOD OF CHRIST? THE BREAD THAT WE BREAK, IS IT NOT A PARTICIPATION IN THE BODY OF CHRIST? BECAUSE THERE IS ONE BREAD, WE WHO ARE MANY ARE ONE BODY, FOR WE ALL PARTAKE OF THE ONE BREAD.

– 1 CORINTHIANS 10:16



THE LUTHERAN
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ASCENSION

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