



# Fourth Sunday in Lent



March 19, 2023 + 10:00 am

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all... an adventure for life!

### **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

#### In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify
  our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Assistive hearing devices are available from the ushers.
- Please silence your cell phone.

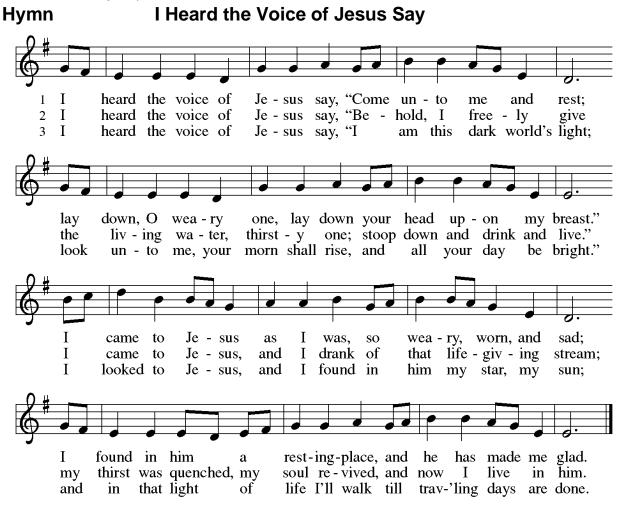
### WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

#### **Prelude**

Prelude on "Slane", arr. Gordon Young

#### Welcome

Please stand in body or spirit



Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

### Greeting

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

And also with you.

# **Kyrie**



Please be seated

let us

let us

pray to the Lord,

pray to the Lord.

### **WE PROCLAIM THE WORD**

**Reading** Ephesians 5:8-14 (New Revised Standard Version)

A reading from the letter to the early church at Ephesus

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

"Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

May we listen for what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Amen.

#### Psalm 23



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

The LORD | is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want.

The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures and leads me be- | side still waters.

You restore my | soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways I for your name's sake.

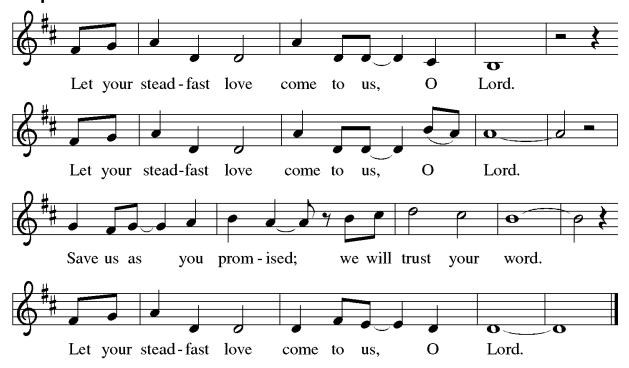
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.

#### **Gospel Acclamation**



**Gospel John 9:1-11, 24-41** (New Revised Standard Version, inclusivized) The Holy Gospel according to St. John Glory to you, O Lord.

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of the One who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The 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?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He 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

So 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." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He 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?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but does listen to one who worships God and obeys God's will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Human One?" He answered, "And who is that, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe." Jesus said to him, "You have seen, for the one speaking with you is the Human One." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus 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." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

# Light as defined by Frederick Buechner in Wishful Thinking: A Seeker's ABC

We can't see light itself. We can see only what light lights up, like the little circle of night where the candle flickers – a sheen of mahogany, a wineglass, a face leaning toward us out of the shadows.

When Jesus says that he is the Light of the World (John 8:12 & 9:5), maybe something like that is part of what he is saying. He himself is beyond our seeing, but in the darkness where we stand, we see, thanks to him, something of the path that stretches out from the door, something of whatever it is that keeps us trying more or less to follow the path even when we can hardly believe that it goes anywhere worth going or that we have what it takes to go there, something of whoever it is that every once in a while seems to lean toward us out of the shadows.

# **Ministry of Music**

The Old Rugged Cross

arr. Douglas E. Wagner Chime Choir

## **Apostles Creed**

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

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.

## **Community Prayers**

Let us pray.... Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their sister Betty Weaver, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, Skye Andree, Kathleen Zwanziger, Laura Warren's brother Walt Hudson, Julie Larson and husband Eli receiving cancer treatment in Houston, Karen Kent, Phillip Hall and Kirstin Roberts, Nancy Magargal, Gordon Shull The people of Christ Lutheran Church, Heath; Redeemer community member Carol Heacock

## **Commissioning of BREAD Members**

Lynn Belhorn, Diane Brobeck, Michelle Clemence, Michele Disbro, Tiffany Hedges, Carol Heacock, Kristi Hildebrand, Margery Iehle, Julianne Johnson, Emily Ott, Nathan Ott, Dave Shull, Sue Watson, Kathleen Zwanziger

#### Children's Time

### Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

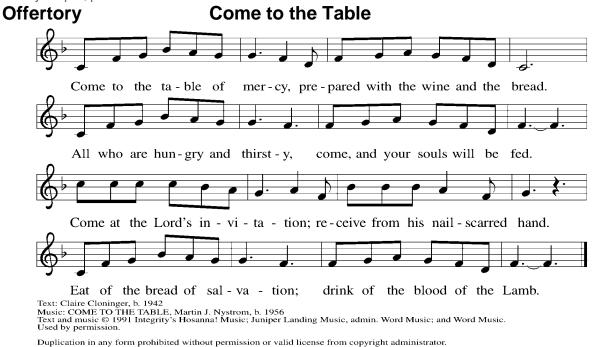
We take time to greet one another with words like Peace be with you.

#### **WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION**

Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.

In body or spirit, please stand



## **Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

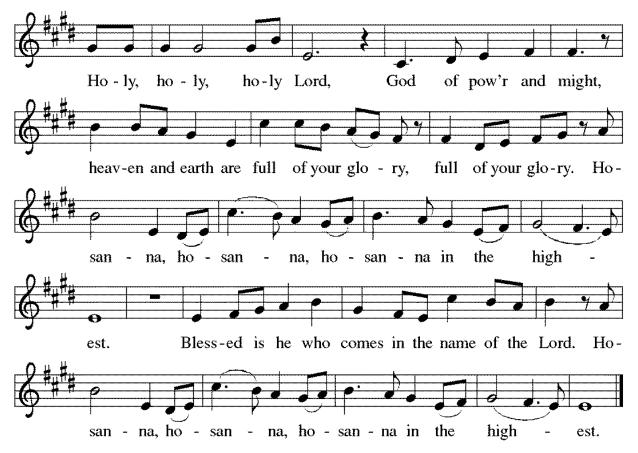
And also with you. We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We are right to praise you, faithful God! You answer sin with grace; you guide our wayward steps toward home. You are mending for the broken, safety for the poor, belonging for the outcast, strength for the weak, and pardon for the sinner.

You reveal your kindness in every sorrow, your mercy even in death. All your creatures see your works; they sing your steadfast love.

We too declare your wonder and grace as with angels and saints we sing:



Now, O God, we remember Jesus. He fasted and prayed; he was tempted and tried. He relied on you for everything. He was obedient to you and scorned by the powers of this world. He confounded the haughty and gave hope to the humble. He was betrayed and deserted. He died between thieves and was buried in a borrowed grave. You gave him new life. He lives even now, our healer and friend. He loved us well, loved us to the end, and loves us still.

Even on the night of betrayal, he ate supper with his friends. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them saying, "Take this and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this to remember me."

After supper, he took the cup and gave it to them, saying, "This is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."

Holy Spirit, come! Make all things new. Bless this bread which you have given and human hands have made. Let it become for us the bread of life. Bless also this cup, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. Let it become for us the cup of salvation.

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to say:

#### **Lord's Prayer**

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.

# **Sharing the Meal**

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal. So do we.

Please be seated

You may come forward to receive the elements, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray, grape-apple juice in the inner ring Gluten-free wafers are available on request, ask Pastor.

Hymn Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery



General Light of life beyond conceiving, mighty Spirit of our Lord; give new strength to our believing, give us faith to live your word Lent 4
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.

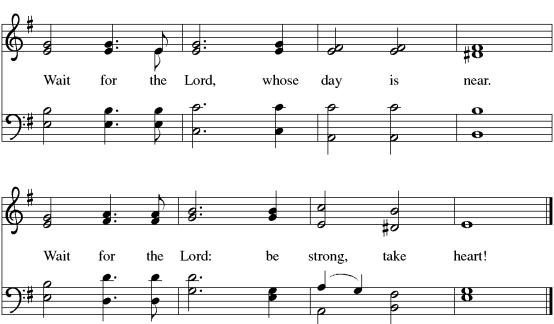
Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: Marty Haugen

Music: Marty Haugen
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## **Hymn**

#### Wait for the Lord



Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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Please stand in body or spirit

# **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Thank you, merciful God, for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the splendors of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Give us the gifts of this holy communion oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and life that never ends. Amen.

#### **WE ARE SENT**

## **Hymn**

# **Be Thou My Vision**



Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

Blessing Amen.

#### Announcements

#### **Postlude**

# In Christ There is No East or West, arr. Dale Wood

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Communion liturgy adapted from one written by the Rev. Bill Loader of the Uniting Church in Australia.

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Redeemer's mission: To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all Redeemer's vision: To foster understanding and healing in community

Our guest preacher Margie Farnham has been a member of Redeemer since 2002. She has a Master of Theological Studies (MTS) and a Master of Sacred Theology (STM) from Trinity Lutheran Seminary, where she also worked as the director of communications for 16 years. She currently works as a copywriter in the marketing department at Equitas Health, a non-profit community healthcare system serving people with HIV/AIDS, the LGBTQ+ community, and others who have been left out or kept out of traditional healthcare. She is married to Maureen Callahan.



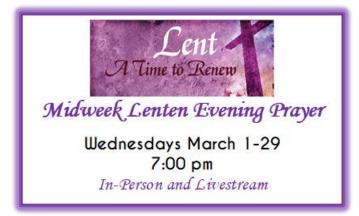
# Adult Ed Class led by our LIC student Marit Johnson

Discussions on articles from the *Journal of Lutheran Ethics* February/March issue, titled "Il/legal Abortion: Lutheran Ethical Responses Post-Dobbs." Together participants will read articles from the journal, look at the ELCA's 1991 Social Statement on Abortion, and share insights on ways to talk about this divisive topic from a Lutheran ethics perspective.

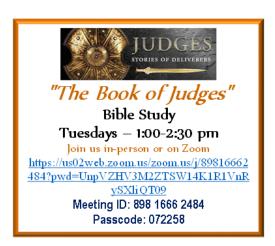
To preview articles that may be included, visit <a href="https://learn.elca.org/jle/">https://learn.elca.org/jle/</a>.

IN-PERSON and ZOOM
<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86928691370?pwd=Vk">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86928691370?pwd=Vk</a>
RHYXRiTll0aG9tejFDRGJFQTJIdz09

Meeting ID: 869 2869 1370 +++ Passcode: 603299 Phone Only: 312-626-6799









# Sister Act

## IMAGINE—

The Joy of Decluttering
Tuesday, March 21
6:30 pm – In Person and ZOOM

Join ZOOM Meeting
<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84623474351?pwd=ZldSdm">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84623474351?pwd=ZldSdm</a>
Z6UFk0L05iT0VJeGFoMUZzdz09

Meeting ID: 846 2347 4351 - Passcode: 939394

Please join us for fellowship and service



#### The Personal Librarian

by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray
Copies are available in public libraries.

Donna Voelkel, who recommended the book, says this about it: "Personal Librarian is written as a historical novel. Belle da Casta Greene, a young black librarian who identified herself as white, was hired by financier J.P. Morgan to manage and create a library for his large collections. After Morgan's death, Belle was successful in encouraging J.P. Morgan's son, Jack, to turn the library into a public institution to honor his father. There is much more to say, but that's for the reader to find out and discuss!"

#### IN-PERSON and ZOOM

https://us02zoom.us/i/86581504887?pwd=ZkFSV2tKM2xEd3dyK1RvSURJYIFuZz09
Meeting ID: 865 8150 4887 \*\*\* Passcode 274918 \*\*\* Phone Only: 312-626-6799



#### **OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY**

**Presiding Minister** David Shull, Pastor Margie Farnham **Preacher** Marit Johnson **Assisting Minister ASL Interpreter** Bryan Neal / Kiarra Santiago Reader Marit Johnson Mary Benis Cantor **Organist & Senior Choir Director** Kathy Rapp **Pianist & Chimes Choir Director** Karen Kent Usher Judith Bird Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica Verger Scott Steiner, Michele Disbro **Producers Communion Prep** Becky Fisher and Kay Ernsthausen

Noisy Offering will go to CHOICES for Victims of Domestic Violence.

## **THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER MARCH 19 - 26**

Today	8:45 am 10:00 am	Chime Choir Rehearsal IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am 11:15 am 12:30 pm	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education Senior Choir Rehearsal Confirmation Class
Monday	7:00 pm	Congregation Council
Tuesday	1:00 pm 6:30 pm	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Bible Study Sister Act – Imagine the Joy of Decluttering
Wednesday	noon 7:00 pm	Lenten Soup and Conversation IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Lenten Evening Prayer
Next Sunday	8:45 am 10:00 am	Chime Choir Rehearsal IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am 11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education Senior Choir Rehearsal

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Office hours -9am-1pm, Mon-Wed; 9am-noon Thur
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America