

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 10, 2024

As We Gather - We hear today of eternal life that is given to us because of God's great love for us, shown to us in perhaps the most famous Bible verse, John 3:16. This verse speaks of God's genuine love for us and the world shown in Jesus' death on the cross for us. The love of God never ends. God's love is present here and now and extends into eternal life as eternal love. May we be so encouraged by God's love to share it with others. Thanks be to God for such love!

Offering and Registry of Worship Cards: Please fill out a Registry of Worship Card found in the pew racks. We ask that you print the names of every person in your family, indicating if they take communion. One side of the card is for members and the other side for guests. As the offering is collected, pass the cards to the center aisle so our ushers can gather them.

Saturday Worship: Offerings and Worship Cards will be received in the offering plates at the rear of the church either upon entering or when leaving. Thank you for your gift to the work of the Lord.

About Protecting the Healthy: To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.

Prelude and Meditation: Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

Prelude:

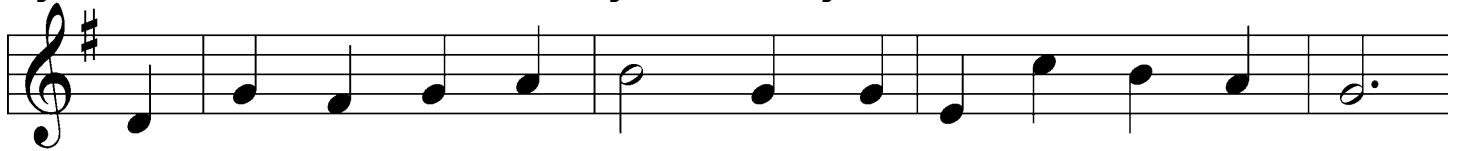
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Greeting and Sharing of Peace *(stand)*

Confession and Absolution

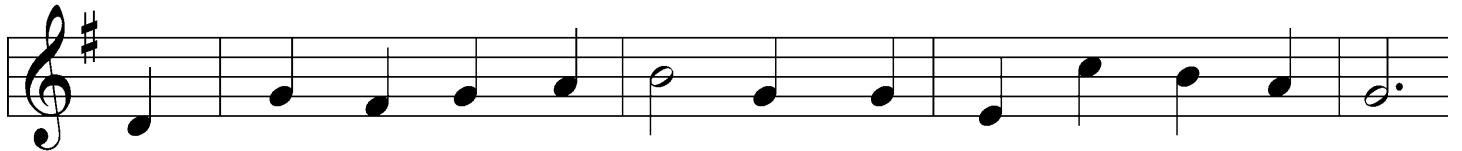
Hymn of Invocation:

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

LSB 915



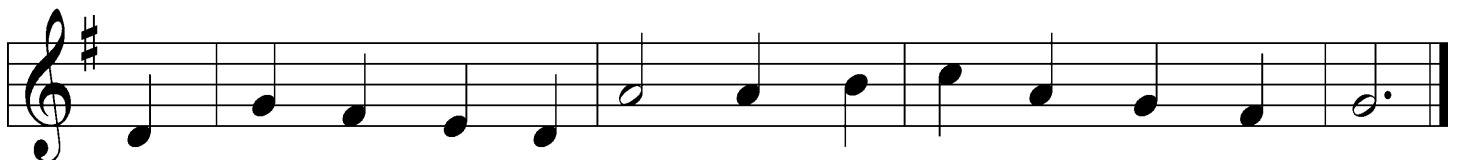
1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt.
Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–after 1857
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand
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.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit

P The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

C **Though an army encamp against me, my heart | shall not fear;***
though war arise against me, yet I will be | confident.

Continued on next page

P One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:*
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the
beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his | temple.

C For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble;*
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high up- | on a
rock.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

P The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?*
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

Kyrie

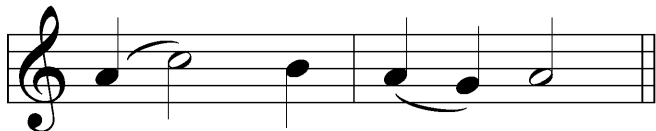
LSB 168

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



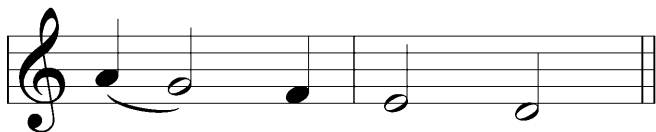
C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for
the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

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 A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 21:4–9

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” ⁹So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

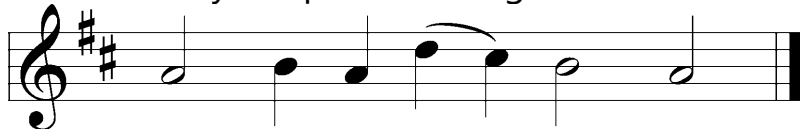
Epistle

Ephesians 2:1–10

¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel*John 3:14–21***P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁴[Jesus said:] "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Sermon (Optional)

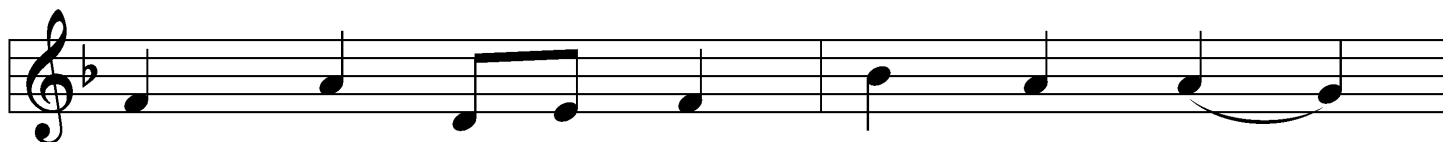
Hymn of the Month:

Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow

LSB 428



1 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,
 2 Here the King of all the a - ges,
 3 O mys - te - rious con - de - scend - ing!
 4 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,



Where the blood of Christ was shed,
 Throned in light ere worlds could be,
 O a - ban - don - ment sub - lime!
 Where the blood of Christ was shed,



Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,
 Robed in mor - tal flesh is dy - ing,
 Ver - y God Him - self is bear - ing
 Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,



Per - fect God on thee has bled!
 Cru - ci - fied by sin for me.
 All the suf - fer - ings of time!
 Per - fect God on thee has bled!

Text: William J. Sparrow Simpson, 1860-1952

Tune: John Stainer, 1840-1901

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon:

“Jesus is the Antidote”

Numbers 21:4-9

Stand

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Choir Anthem: (Sunday Only) "God So Loved The World"

Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings (Sunday Only)

Registry of Worship Cards – (Sunday Only) Please pass your completed cards to the center aisle.

Stand

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 177

P The Lord be with you.



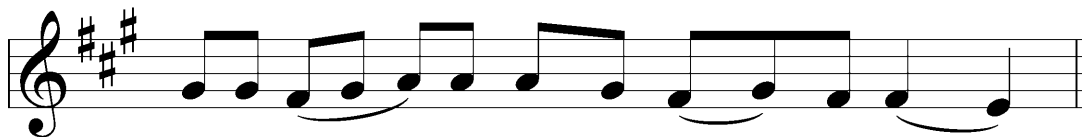
C And al-so with you.

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 and praise.

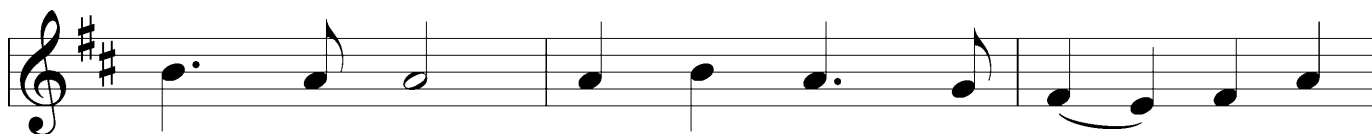
P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared 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 singing:

Sanctus

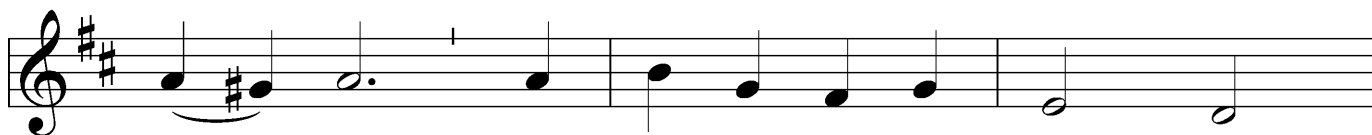
LSB 178



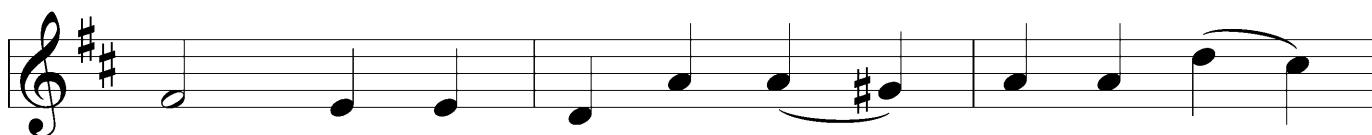
C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is He who comes in the name



of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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.

Pax Domini

LSB 180

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 180



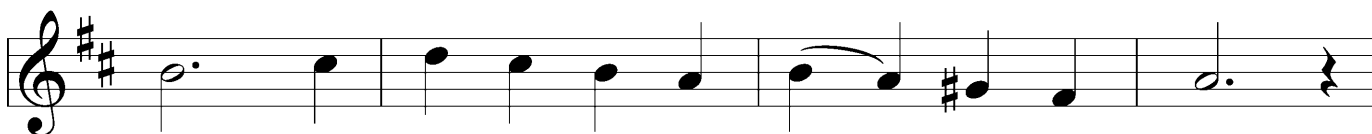
C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



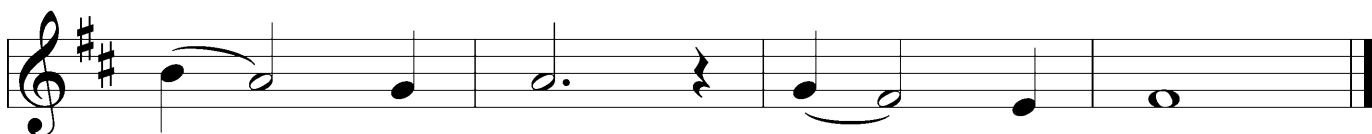
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution:***Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)***LSB 571 **God Loved the World So That He Gave**

sts. 1–5

LSB 566 **By Grace I'm Saved**

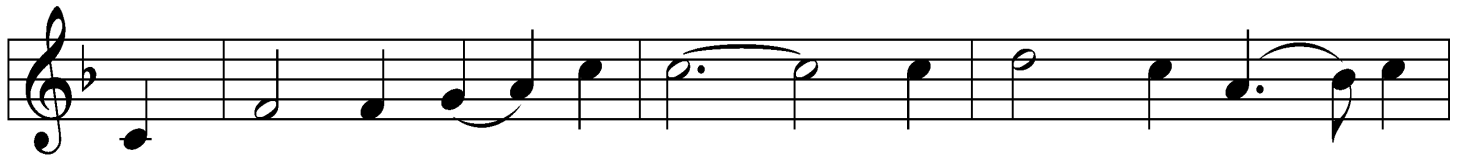
Stand

Hymn:**Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace**

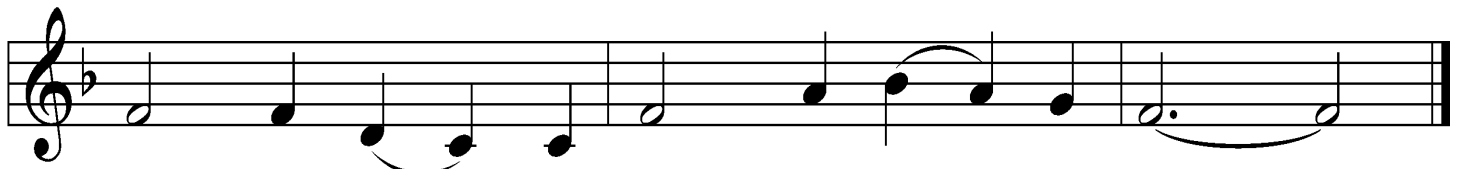
LSB 937



1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,
 2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,
 △ 3 With saints of old, with saints to come,



Your word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -
 The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing
 To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and



va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.
 in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.
 Spir - it blest Be hon - or, love, and praise.

Text (sts. 1–2): James Quinn, 1919–2010; (st. 3): Henry V. Gerike, 1948

Tune: American

Text (sts. 1–2): © 1969, 1989 OCP Publications; (st. 3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000852

Tune: Public domain

Post-Communion Collect

(Saturday)

P Let us pray together.

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

(Sunday)

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 A - men.

Benediction

LSB 183

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

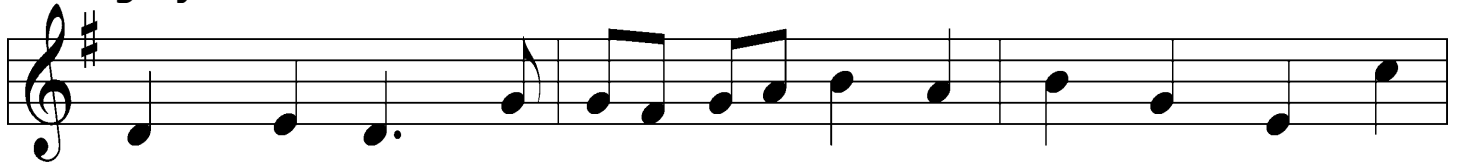
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn:**Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer**

LSB 918



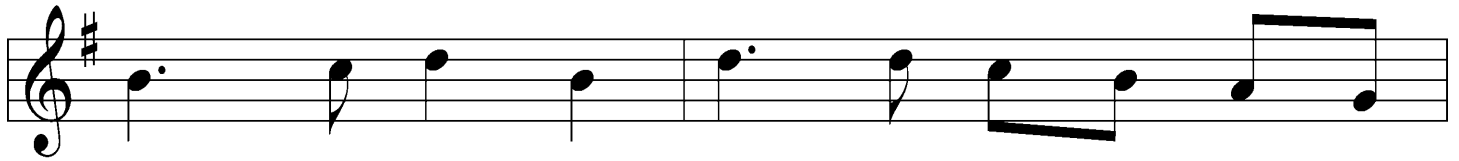
1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
 stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
 Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
 Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,



bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no
 strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more; Feed me till I want no more.
 shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
 Thee; I will ev - er give to Thee.

Text: William Williams, 1717-91, abr.; (st. 1): tr. Peter Williams, 1722-96, alt.; (sts. 2-3): tr. William Williams, 1717-91
 Tune: John Hughes, 1873-1932
 Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude:

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist Elena Miraztchiyska

Saturday

Elder Steve Rosane
Lector Rick Smith/Gerie Slaten/Stacey Orellana
Audio Lee Crapo/Robin Fox/Taniqua Jackson

Sunday

Elder Lee Crapo
Lector George Czanko
Greeter
Audio Maria Hazzard
Video Video TD: Josiah Hazzard
GFX/ Stream: Andrea Hazzard
Altar Guild Alfred and Barbra Miller

LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Pastor Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist Pat Calhoon
Elder Carlos Orellana
Lector
Greeter Pat Hurd
Audio Kyle Welch
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX: / Stream: Robin Fox
Altar Guild Alfred and Barbra Miller

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK

Wednesday Lent Service 2/28	32
Saturday Worship Attendance.....	45
Sunday Worship Attendance.....	110
Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings	\$0
Simply Giving/Vanco.....	\$0
Paypal Offerings	\$0
Website (ShareFaith).....	\$0
Total of Offerings Received	\$0
Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts.....	\$0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH - Lent IV – Surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis come with risks and costs. But as with the ancient Israelite serpent infestation, the real enemy is neither one’s neighbor nor the Maker (Numbers 21:8). Only impaling the snake (not terminating each other) brought deliverance, and the antidote called for faith instead of death. Christians insist God has sent us His Son for extending lives and not ending them (John 3:17).

FLOWER SPONSOR – No Flower Sponsor this week.

BULLETIN SPONSOR – Diane Donaldson is our Bulletin Sponsor this week.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (SUNDAY) – Team 4 is serving today; team 5 will serve next week. Everyone is invited. There is no charge and a freewill offering is voluntary. March free-will offering will go to VISTE.

MARY MARTHA ACCESSORIES SALE TODAY - Mary Martha is holding their annual Purse/ Accessories/ Jewelry store today, Saturday, March 9th and Sunday, March 10th, in the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds from this mission shall go to “Peace the comfort dog”.

MARY MARTHA SPRING LUNCHEON – Mary Martha will host their annual spring luncheon this Wednesday, March 13th. Our regular monthly meeting will begin at 10:00 am followed by our luncheon at approximately 11:30 am, at the 1916 Irish Pub; 2900 Buckingham Avenue, Lakeland, inside the Cleveland Heights golf club. The clubhouse faces Edgewood Drive. We will order off the menu: Cost about \$15-20. All ladies of the congregation are invited to join us!

LENT SERVICES - Service times are at 6:30 pm each Wednesday. The Lenten theme this year is "Guided to the Cross". The pastors of the Winter Haven Circuit will once again join in a round robin during the season.

NO THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY – The Thursday Bible Study at 10 AM is cancelled this week and next week, March 14th and March 21st.

LWML ZONE RALLY – The Winter Haven Zone Rally will be held here at Christ Lutheran church on Saturday, April 13th. The Gift from the Heart is boys and girls socks and underwear for the Honduras Orphanage. Cost is \$10 with an optional \$3 offering to Young Women Rep. A lite breakfast and lunch will be served.

MARY MARTHA QUILTERS – The Mary Martha Quilters meet each Tuesday morning from 10 AM – Noon. Anyone who would like to join them is welcomed.

SATURDAY LECTORS NEEDED – If you would be willing to volunteer to serve as a lector during the Saturday Service, please contact the church office at 682-7802.

USED HEARING AIDS: Used hearing aids can be donated. Place them in the Munz mailbox in the church mailroom. Pastor Jerry Munz collects them and takes them to the Lakeland Hearing Center. If you want a tax receipt be sure to ask Pastor Jerry to get one for you.

DREAM CENTER VOLUNTEERS – Volunteers are needed to help check- in and sort items here at Christ Lutheran for the Dream Center. Please see or contact Robin Fox at 863-513-4774 to schedule a day and time to volunteer.

RECIPES WANTED - Mary Martha is collecting favorite recipes for the Church Cookbook. If you have a favorite recipe and would be willing to share it, please write it legibly, sign your name on it and put it in the box located in the Narthex. There is no limit to number of recipes you can submit.

CHECK YOUR MAILBOX – Please check your mailbox in the narthex.

CHURCH DIRECTORY – For those that are not aware, our church member directory is now available online. Please see the flyer sheets in the narthex for more information or email Kim Kaniecki at stewardship@clclakeland.org.

TRUSTEE VOLUNTEER DAY – Every Tuesday from 9 am – 1 pm. If you would like to help with the various needs of the church, come join us. A job, whether large or small can be found to help with. If you notice something you think needs attention, come let us know. Thanks for helping.

GREETERS NEEDED – Volunteers are needed to be Greeters in the Narthex to welcome guest and members as they enter for service. If you are interested, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board.

NAMETAGS – We would like to encourage all our members to please wear their nametags to church. If you can't find your nametag or don't have one, please sign-up for one on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Ephesians 2:10 – “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Even the good we do in this world is a gift from God, prepared beforehand for us to do. And this too is a gift! For isn't doing good also a good thing for the one who does it? So from first to last, from the Lord's free salvation given to us to the good works He's prepared for us, everything is a gift of God's grace.

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Monday Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm
Tuesday Baseball Parking
Trustee Workday @ 9 am
Quilters @ 10 am
Wednesday Mary Martha Meeting @ 10 AM
Mary Martha Luncheon @ 11:30 pm
Dream Center @ Christ Lutheran
Private Communion @ 1:30 – 2:30 pm
Lent Service @ 6:30 pm
No Jr. Confirmation
Choir @ 7:30 pm
Thursday Baseball Parking
No Bible Study
Friday Baseball Parking
Church Office closed, Pastor's Day Off
Saturday Bible Study @ 4 pm
Worship @ 5:30 pm
Sunday Bible Study @ 8:30 am
Worship Service @ 10 am
Baseball Parking
Communications Meeting