



Fifth Sunday of Lent
April 6, 2025

PRELUDE

My Song Is Love Unknown (arr. Michael Burkhardt)

WELCOME

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

INVOCATION

The minister leads the congregation in the invocation. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father, † Son and Holy Spirit, one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In honesty before God and one another, we acknowledge our sin and recall the cleansing and renewing power of God's promises in baptism.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Kneel or sit as you are comfortable. Silence is kept for reflection.

P St. John writes, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:8-9). And so we gather to confess our sin, not because we fear God thinks us unworthy, but because we trust God's promise to receive us always in mercy and grace. Let us therefore pray together with confidence...

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Please stand and turn to face the processional cross.

GATHERING HYMN

In the Cross of Christ I Glory (ELW 324)

**1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.**

**2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;**

lo, it glows with peace and joy.

3 **When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.**

4 **Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.**

GREETING

With Saint Paul and generations of Christians, we greet one another in the name of God (2 Corinthians 13:14)

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

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE

Cantor: In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain All

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son,
Chris - te e - lei - son,

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

Cantor: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

Cantor: 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. **R**

Cantor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

Cantor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

R Word of God, Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

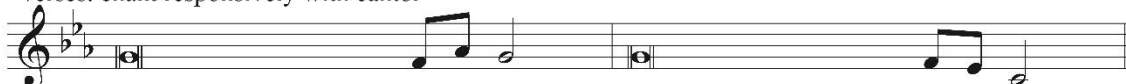
PSALM

Psalm 126

Refrain: sing after cantor introduction and R



Verses: chant responsively with cantor



¹ When the Lord restored the for- | tunes of Zion,
then were we like | those who dream.

² **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done great | things for them.”**

³ The Lord has done great | things for us,
and we are | glad indeed.

⁴ **Restore our for- | tunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses | of the Negeb. R**

⁵ Those who | sowed with tears
will reap with | songs of joy.

⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. R**

SECOND READING

Philippians 3:4b-14

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.

¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since

God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

R Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

KIDS' MESSAGE

Laura Gaulty, FaithTrek Coordinator

Stand (In preparation for the Gospel reading, we stand to honor and receive the story and the words of Jesus Christ.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re-turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful, slow to an-ger,



and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

John 12: 1-8

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Erin Heidelberger

Stand

The Word of God and the theme of the day are repeated in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Faith Begins by Letting Go (ACS 1004)

- 1 **Faith begins by letting go,
giving up what had seemed sure,
taking risks and pressing on,
though the way feels less secure:
pilgrimage both right and odd,
trusting all our life to God.**

- 2 **Faith endures by holding on,
keeping mem'ry's roots alive
so that hope may bear its fruit;
promise-fed, our souls will thrive,
not through merit we possess
but by God's great faithfulness.**

- 3 **Faith matures by reaching out,
stretching minds, enlarging hearts,
sharing struggles, living prayer,
binding up the broken parts;
till we find the commonplace
ripe with witness to God's grace.**

APOSTLES' CREED

P God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

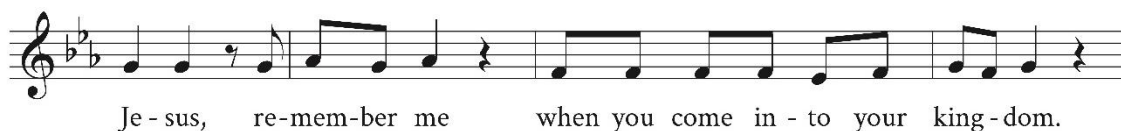
**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**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.**

PRAYERS

sing beginning and closing of the prayer



(In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their news)

In our prayers with recent concerns: Doris Bushard, Fred Ohles, Michael Dalton, Julius Swen, Shari Peters and Jen Wemhoff. *Those with ongoing concerns:* Elaine Kruse, Pastor Bill Peterson, Mary Brass, Vern Westberg, Richard Bouma, Gloria Van Ackeren, and Tracy Troutman. *Those who are part of our homebound community:* Sylvia Kempf, M. Joyce Hansen, Donna Nelson, Cindy Schuster, Betty Miller, Jeanette Metteer, Dennis Schuster, Ralph Hayden, Rod Price, Millie Howe and Margrett Wehland.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST IS SHARED

In an act of unity; blessing, and reconciliation, we greet one another with the Peace of Christ (Matthew 5:23-24)

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Sit

NOISY OFFERING

Carol Joy Holling Camp Scholarships


MUSICAL OFFERING

Jesus Is a Rock in the Weary Land (arr. Bacon)
Bob Schoettger-saxophone, Jay Sears-trumpet
Bryce Anderson & Matt Reckmeyer- trombone

P To God be the glory.
C **Amen.**

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



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 your pres - ence and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray.
C **Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

In our table prayer we offer thanks and praise for God's act of salvation and for the meal we are about to share.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

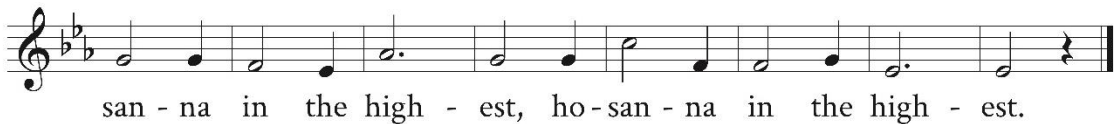
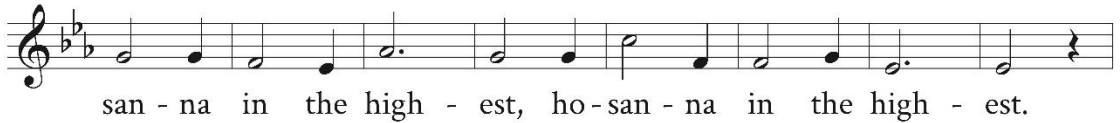
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed... *(here the minister continues with the proper preface, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**C 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.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Adapted from Dietrich Bonhoeffer in Life Together.

P As the grains of wheat have been gathered together in this bread, so the members of the community of faith are united in body and blood at the table of the Lord, and so we will be together in eternity. Here joy in Christ and Christ's community is complete. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

C Thanks be to God.

Sit

LAMB OF GOD

1. Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.____
2. Have mer - cy on us.____
3. Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.____
Grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (arr. Phillip Keveren)

COMMUNION HYMNS

Take My Life, That I May Be (ELW 685)

**1 Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

- 2 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee.
- 4 Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.
- 5 Take my will and make it thine,
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own,
it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

In the Singing (ELW 466)

- 1 In the singing, in the silence,
in the hands expectant, open,
in the blessing, in the breaking,
in your presence at this table,

Refrain

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the wine of grace;
Jesus, Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the bread of peace.

- 2 In the question, in the answer,
in the moment of acceptance,
in the heart's cry, in the healing,
in the circle of your people, *Refrain*

Stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

C **Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. 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.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (ELW 802)

1 **Let us ever walk with Jesus,
follow his example pure,
through a world that would deceive us
and to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in his footsteps treading,
trav'lers here, our home above,
full of faith and hope and love,
let us do our Savior's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where you guide.**

**2 Let us suffer here with Jesus,
and with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
where he is there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
we shall reap celestial joy:
all discomforts that annoy
shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share your woe;
help me there your joy to know.**

**3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death he conquered death,
he will free us from destruction,
give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
that would lead us into sin;
and the grave that shuts us in
shall but prove the gate of heaven.
Jesus, here with you I die,
there to live with you on high.**

**4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
that to life we may awaken.**

**Jesus, you are now our head,
we are your own living members;
where you live, there we shall be
in your presence constantly,
living there with you forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be;
life eternal grant to me.**

DISMISSAL

P Marked with the cross of Christ, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

My Hope Is Built (arr. Greg Bottomley)
Jazz Team

Lead Pastor: Erin Heidelberger
Associate Pastor: Andrew Kitzing
Cantors: Kristi Fisher
Livestream: Jim Overcash

Jazz Team
Saxophone - Kristi Fisher, Bob Schoettger
Trumpet - Jay Sears
Trombone - Bryce Anderson, Matt Reckmeyer
Drum- Jenna Troutman

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