

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

We welcome our Uganda Team home!

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Jean Welch – “What Wondrous Love,” arr. Thompson

GATHERING

**Confession and Forgiveness*

P: Jesus came both to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable. Our readings throughout Lent confront us with challenging teachings, reminding us of our sin and need for God's forgiveness. Together, let us come before God, confessing our sin and resting in the gift that is God's grace.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

**Sharing of the Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Gathering Song – “Christ, Be Our Light” ELW 715, vv. 1, 2, & 5 (organ)

1. **Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.**

*Refrain: Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

2. **Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has pow’r to save us. Make us your living voice. Refrain**
5. **Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. Refrain**

**Kyrie*

ELW Setting 8, page 184 (piano)

Refrain



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**


**Hymn of Praise*

ELW Setting 8, page 185 (piano)

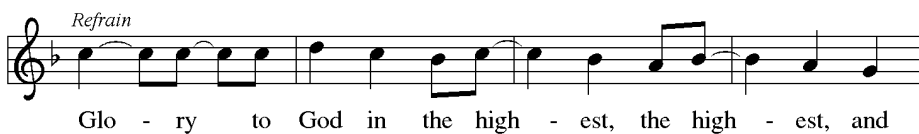
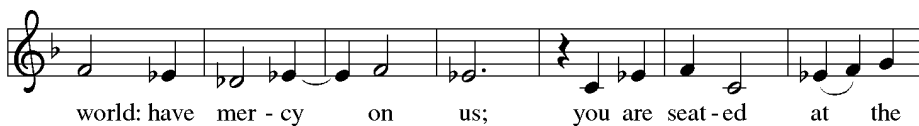
Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -

lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the

Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

A - men. A - men. A - men.

Final refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's

peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Children's Sermon

WORD

**Gospel Reading:* Matthew 25:31-46 Readers: Sharon Woodworth & Pastor Adam

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Taizé Song— “Come and Fill Our Hearts” ELW 528

(piano)

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Amen!

Sermon — “Lessons Learned: the Least of These”

Song of the Day — “We Come to the Hungry Feast” ELW 479

(piano)

- 1 **We come to the hungry feast hungry for a word of peace.**
- To hungry hearts unsatisfied the love of God is not denied.**
- We come, we come to the hungry feast.**

- 2 **We come to the hungry feast hungry for a world released
from hungry folk of ev'ry kind, the poor in body, poor in mind.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.**
- 3 **We come to the hungry feast hungry that the hunger cease,
and knowing, though we eat our fill, the hunger will stay with us; still
we come, we come to the hungry feast.**

**The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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*

Stewardship Time

"Lamb of God," arr. Fettke
Jean Welch, pianist

—Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew—

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are gifts of God's grace to claim and sustain us in our lives as disciples of Jesus. Baptism proclaims our identity, that we are beloved children of God, called to love God and our neighbors. Holy Communion reconnects us to the Body of Christ and nurtures our lives of faith with forgiveness and life.

C: We give thanks to God as we receive this gift of grace anew today.

**Great Thanksgiving*

ELW Setting 8, page 190 (piano)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

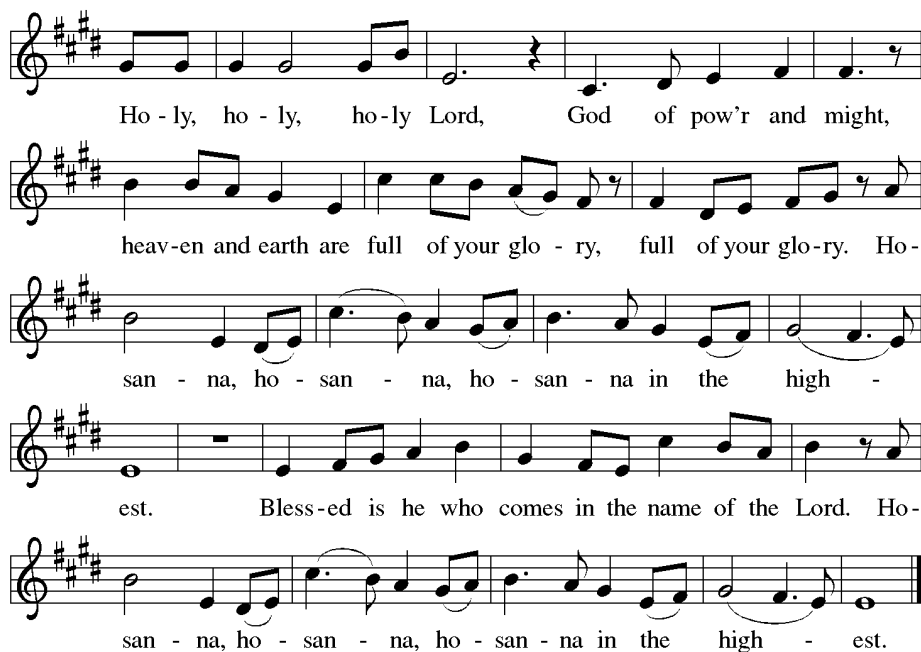
P: Lift up your hearts.

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 right, our duty and our joy, ... and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Words of Institution*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Lord's Prayer*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive 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.

Communion Songs

"Great is Thy Faithfulness" ELW 733 (organ)

- 1 **Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

Refrain

***Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!***

- 2 **Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Refrain**
- 3 **Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain**

"Make Me a Servant" (piano)

**Make me a servant, humble and meek, Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be: Make me a servant, make me a servant,
make me a servant today.**

**Post-Communion Blessing*

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

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

**Sending Song – “Go, Make Disciples”*

(piano)

Go, make disciples, baptizing them, teaching them.

Go, make disciples, for I am with you till the end of time.

Go, be the salt of the earth. Go, be the light for the world.

Go, be a city on a hill so all can see that you’re serving me. Repeat

Go, make disciples!

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Kay Schnitker

Greeters: Judy Dillard & Vicki Robson

Reader: Sharon Woodworth

Ushers: Barb Davenport & Char Hubbard

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Pianist: Jean Welch

Organist: Sandi Watts

Drummer: John Demien

Financial Assistants: Kelly Hartz & Kelly Street

Chancel Committee: Karen Sibert

Coffee Host: Martha Krohe



Singers:

Benen Dichsen	Kelly Hartz	Kris Roth
Marilyn Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Melissa Street
Rigby Dichsen	Adam Krohe	Carol VanderKloot

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Mike Oldenettel	Kelly Street

The plants at the altar today are donated by the Dichsen family
in celebration of Louis' 8th birthday on March 29
and by
Carol Rauen in celebration of Connie Braner's birthday today

Song Credits

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"Go, Make Disciples," from **Spirit Touching Spirit**, Prince of Peace Publishing, Inc, used by permission.

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, March 26, 10:45am: Bell Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 29, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

6:00pm: Lenten Soup Potluck

6:45pm: Lenten Service

Thursday, March 30, 6pm: Church Council Meeting

Saturday, April 1, 8:00am: Cooking for

9:00am: Men's Breakfast

Sunday, April 2, 10:45am: Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 5, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

6:00pm: Holy Week Soup Potluck

6:30pm: What is Holy Week? Intergenerational trivia, discussion,
and games to learn more about Holy Week

Thursday, April 6, 5pm: Parish Worship Committee

7pm: Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 7, 7pm: Good Friday Service

News Updates

Lenten Midweek Supper and Worship Services: “Open My Life, Lord”

Please join us on March 29 for our final mid-week Lenten service. Suppers are potluck style. Come at 6:00 in the Great Room, and bring a dish to share. If your day is busy, come and eat, knowing that the gift you bring is yourself! Worship begins at 6:45 and will follow the Holden Evening Prayer format.

Week 5: “Open My Life, Lord” - It is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us!

What is Holy Week? Wednesday, April 5: 6pm Potluck; 6:30pm Events

Have you ever wondered what all took place on Holy Week? Did you realize that the gospels don't share the same timeline from Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to his death and resurrection? What significance does this have for us today? Join our confirmation class on **Wednesday, April 5** for a night of intergenerational fun as we walk through the events of Holy Week with discussion, trivia, and games. Bring a dish to share for a potluck at 6:00 p.m. and stay for the events beginning at 6:30 p.m.

First Communion Instruction

Do you have a child interested in receiving communion? If they are in first grade or older and you feel they are ready for this step in their faith, come talk to Pastor Adam. He will be leading a three-session course that will include teaching, discussion, making chalices, and baking communion bread. The classes will be held in April and May with plans to celebrate First Communion with the congregation on Mother's Day, May 14.

Youth Easter Breakfast 10:30a.m.

Our youth invite you to be their guest at a delicious breakfast of pancakes, eggs, and sausage after worship. A free-will donation will be collected to support a youth retreat this summer. **If you would like to donate food** (eggs, milk, juice, fruit salad, or coffee cake), **there is a sign-up sheet on the counter by the Fair-Trade Coffee sales.**

Music Rehearsal Time Changes

Our Exaltation Ringers and Chancel Choir are trying out a new rehearsal schedule to encourage more to be a part of the music program here at Faith.

Chancel Choir will meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays;

Exaltation Ringers on the 2nd and 4th Sundays; all from 10:45-11:15am

I hope to see you on Sunday mornings for rehearsal at 10:45am in the sanctuary!

Jean Welch, *Director of Music*

Easter Altar Plants

We will adorn our altar with live plants on Easter again this year. To make a donation, mark your check or envelope as “Easter Altar Flowers” and place it in the offering box or mail it to the church office.

Conference of Churches Good Friday Service – Friday, April 7, 11:30am

Central Christian Church (359 W. College) will host this year’s community service; the theme is “What Does it Mean to Live in a Community After the Cross.” Area Pastors Jared Reno, Becky Williams, Mel Nielsen, and Pastor Adam will participate. The service will also be broadcast live online on the Central Christian Church Facebook page. A free-will offering will benefit the “Camp Courage” of Jacksonville, IL located at the Western Illinois Youth Camp, Lake Jacksonville.

Ken Bradbury Show – The Bystanders

All are welcome to attend Ken Bradbury’s one-act play on **Sunday, April 16:** 10am at First Presbyterian Church, **1:00pm here at Faith**, or 5pm at Wesley Chapel. This 1-hour play is a collection of 8 monologues shared by those who were around Christ before, during, or after the Crucifixion. Admission is free. For information call 217-473-4735.

Financial Statements

2022 Financial Statements are available at the tall table outside of the office. If there is no envelope with your name on it, please let Pam Devlin know or contact the church office.

Faith Telephone Directory

A new Faith Directory is available in the gathering area on the Coffee Sales counter by the Mission & Ministry Center for all to take home (1 per household, please).

Contribution Envelopes for 2023

will be available soon in the gathering area — the printing has been delayed, but the company will get them to us as soon as they can. **Please be assured all offerings and donations are being correctly recorded in your name.** After the envelopes come in, if you don’t see a box with your name on it, please mention this to Barb Davenport, Pam Devlin, or Kris Roth. We will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to register for our easy, **automatic online giving service**, contact the church office.

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange. Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display (**\$6.50** regular; **\$7.50** decaf & flavored; **\$3.00** tea; **\$2.50** chocolate bars; **\$5.50** hot chocolate—milk & dark; **\$5.50** coffee pods; **\$6.25** cashews). Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.