

# Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 6, 2025

The crowds grumble at Jesus' self-invitation to stay with Zacchaeus, and their righteous indignation isn't without cause. As a tax collector, Zacchaeus has extorted money and acted in collusion with the empire, using his position to oppress his own people. It is important to call out oppression, and yet, Jesus offers mercy. That mercy then begets more mercy as Zacchaeus, unprompted, offers to return what he took, and then some.

*Greetings and Welcome*

*Prelude by Sandi Watts*

## GATHERING

*Call to Worship*

P: We come to worship because we long for mercy.

**C: We long for community. We long for God.**

P: We come to worship because we need a good word.

**C: We need connection. We need moral reminders.**

P: We come to worship because we are in between:

**C: hope and grief, faith and doubt, joy and longing, curiosity and conviction.**

P: We come to worship and God meets us here.

**C: Surely, we are not alone. Thanks be to God for meeting us in the middle! Amen.**

*Confession*

P: Friends, our faith calls us to live with both mercy and righteousness. Somewhere along the way, however, we have forgotten that truth. Somewhere along the way, we began arguing about who deserves mercy and whether or not they had acted with enough righteousness to receive it. Fortunately, God does not act that way. No matter what mistakes we have made or wrong turns we've taken, God consistently meets us with mercy and invites us to try again. Let us lean into that good news, and go to God in prayer:

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: Faithful friends, God knows your sin, and in mercy, gave his Son to die for us. 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: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*Gathering Song – “Come, All You People” ELW 819 (piano)*

**1. Come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;  
Come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;  
Come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;  
come now and worship the Lord.**

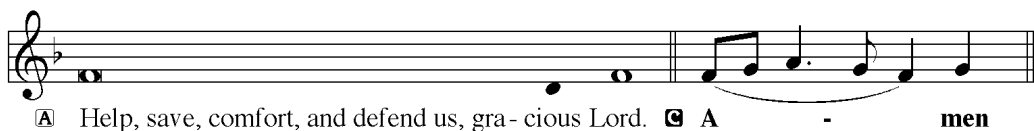
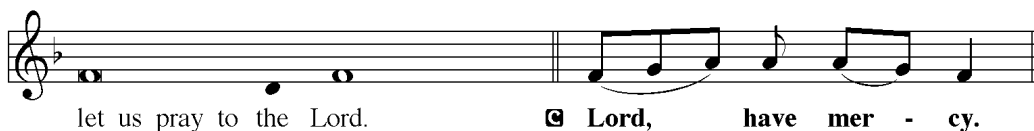
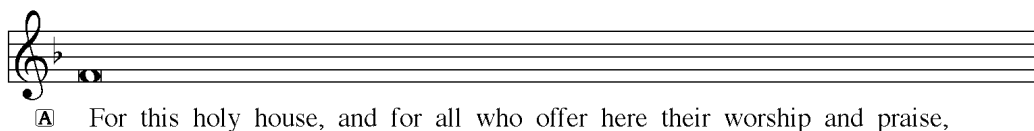
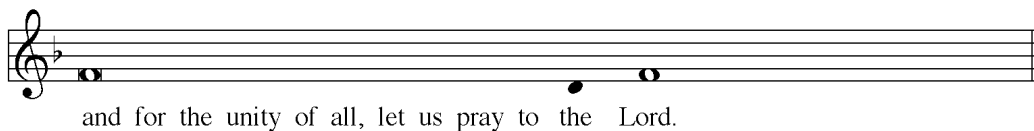
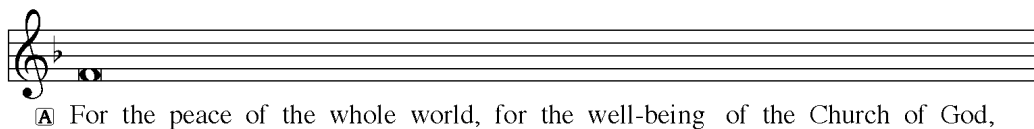
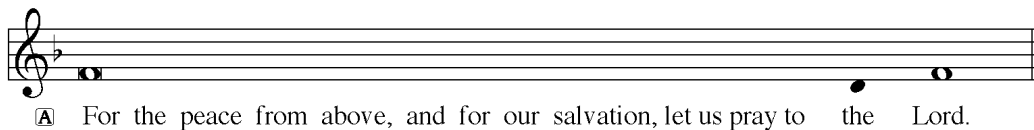
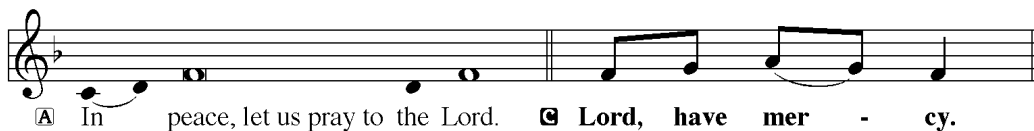
**2. Come, all you people, come and praise the Savior;  
Come, all you people, come and praise the Savior;  
Come, all you people, come and praise the Savior; come now and worship the Lord.**

**3. Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit;  
Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit;  
Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit; come now and worship the Lord.**

*\*Greeting and Kyrie*

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.**



*\*Hymn of Praise*

ASSISTING MINISTER



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

ALL



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



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.

*\*Prayer of the Day*

P: Loving God, week after week we return to this space, because we long to see you. Like Zacchaeus who climbed a tree to get a peek at you as you walked by, we come to this sanctuary hoping to get a peek of your goodness, of your joy, of your light. Speak to us through these ancient words. Let us get a peek of the love that lingers here. Gratefully we pray,

**C: Amen.**

*\*Sharing Christ's Peace*

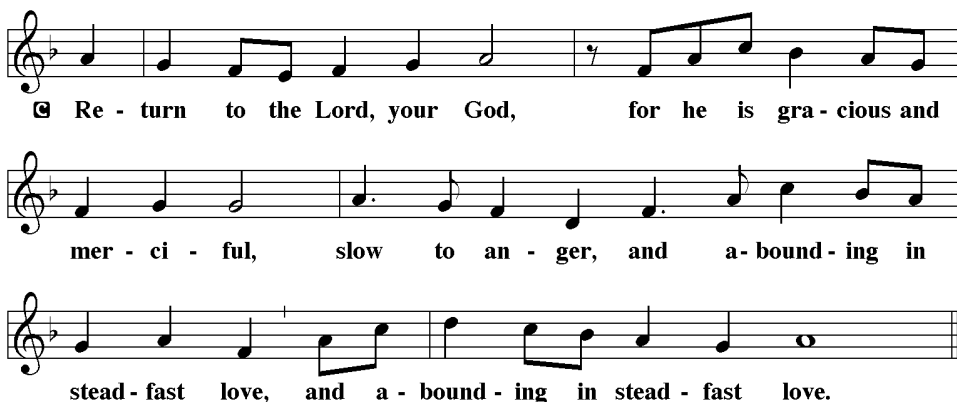
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

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

*Children's Sermon*

*\*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.

## WORD

*\*Gospel Reading:* Luke 19:1-10

Reader: Marilyn Dichsen

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>He entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup>A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. <sup>3</sup>He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.’ <sup>6</sup>So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. <sup>7</sup>All who saw it began to grumble and said, ‘He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.’ <sup>8</sup>Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, ‘Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.’ <sup>9</sup>Then Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.’

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sermon:* "Righteousness and Mercy"

*Song of the Day* – “Son of God, Eternal Savior” ELW 655

(organ)

- 1 **Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race,  
you our head, who, throned in glory, for your own will ever plead:  
fill us with your love and pity, heal our wrong, and help our need.**
- 2 **As you, Lord, have lived for others, so may we for others live.  
Freely have your gifts been granted; freely may your servants give.  
Yours the gold and yours the silver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
we but stewards of your bounty held in solemn trust will be.**
- 3 **Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of peace;  
hush the storm of strife and passion, bid its cruel discords cease.  
By your patient years of toiling, by your silent hours of pain,  
quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, stem our selfish greed of gain.**
- 4 **Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race:  
by your praying, by your willing that your people should be one,  
grant, oh, grant our hope's fruition: here on earth your will be done.**

# SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

“Words for the Beginning of Your Christian Life”

*(adapted from a poem by Rev. Sarah Speed)*

Benson Kade, if we could give you words for the very beginning –  
for this journey we make together,  
for the celebrations and the sorrows,  
we would say, “Oh, dear child, how you are loved.”  
But the thing about love is that you can’t stop there,  
So, we would go on to say, “You are strong, stronger than you think.  
And you are not alone – look at these parents who adore you,  
Godparents who pray for you, and this congregation that surrounds you.

You haven’t done anything yet.  
You’ve just been here, breathing, sleeping, laughing, playing.  
And then we might say, “This world is a mess, but it is our home,  
and you can make it better, so always try to make it better.”

And maybe most important of all:  
“There is love that is bigger than our understanding,  
that moves through this world, and that love is called God.  
That love is here, here in this room, and that love knows your name by heart.”

Those are the words we would say to you  
as you laugh and cry, stretch and splash in these waters on this day,  
the first day of your Christian life.  
Let God be your foundation.  
Let love be your beginning.

P: God is our foundation. Love is our beginning. And in God’s great love, we are given a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. By water and the Word, God frees us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God’s mission for the life of the world. In the waters of baptism, God proclaims to us who we are. We are beloved children of God.

## Presentation

Parents: We bring Benson Kade Lee to this Christian community and to the waters of Holy Baptism.

P: Benson, you are a beloved child of God, and today you are given the name Christian. To help you grow into your name, your parents are called to make promises.

Kelsey and Nic, as you bring Benson to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,  
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,  
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,  
place in his hands the holy scriptures,  
and nurture him in faith and prayer,  
so that he may learn to trust God,  
proclaim Christ through word and deed,  
care for others and the world God made,  
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help him grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Cory and Mariah, as godparents, you have a responsibility to pray for Benson and help him always remember that he is a beloved child of God. Do you promise to nurture him in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Godparents: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

*The congregation stands.*

P: People of God, you have a responsibility to support and surround Benson with Christian love, praying for him, discipling him, and serving with him. Do you promise to support Benson and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

**C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

## Profession of Faith

P: There is evil in this world that we name devil and brokenness we call sin. We are powerless to overcome them, but the grace of God gives us strength to stand against



them and forgiveness when we fall. Together, we profess our desire to live in this grace and in opposition to this brokenness.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,  
the powers of this world that rebel against God,  
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**C: I renounce them.**

P: As we live together in Christ, we are made one in baptism and profess one faith. It is this faith that centers us on the grace of our Triune God – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, God the Son?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

## **Thanksgiving at the Font**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Water is poured into the font.*

P: We give you thanks, O God. In the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. In the

waters of the flood you called Noah and brought forth new life. By Moses, you called the people of Israel to follow you through the waters and led them from slavery into freedom. You nourished them with water from the rock and brought them to the promised land. At the river your Son was baptized by John and you proclaimed to all that he is your “beloved child.” In the waters of baptism, you create, you bring forth new life in us, you set us free from the power of sin, and you proclaim that we too are your beloved Children.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **Holy Baptism**

### *The congregation sits*

P: Beloved child of God, in this water, God calls you by name. Benson, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### *Laying on of Hands*

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Benson with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

**C: Amen**

### *Anointing with Oil*

P: In the Old Testament, oil is used to anoint and set people apart. In baptism, we are set apart as God’s beloved children to live lives of love, justice, and mercy. Benson, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

**C: Amen.**

### *Giving of a Candle*

Congregational Representative: In John 8:12, Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. The one who follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” In Matthew 5:14, Jesus said, “You are the light of the world... Let your light shine before

others that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven.” Kelsey and Nic, we give you this candle to light again and again as Benson grows up. Remember this day and always know that he is and will always be a beloved child of God.

## Welcome

P: Together we say:

**C: Benson Kade Lee, you are beloved and blessed. By the grace of God that flows in the waters of baptism, we are drenched in our love for you, washed in our delight for you, and born anew by the grace that flows from the heart of our God who bore you to us. We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share. Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and in bearing God’s creative and redeeming love to all the world.**


*\*Prayers of Intercession*

*Stewardship Time*

“Still Waters,” arr. Richards  
*Sung by Melissa Street*

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

*\*Great Thanksgiving*



The musical notation consists of two staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff has a melody starting on a whole note G4, followed by a half note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a half note C4, and a whole note B3. The second staff continues the melody with a half note A3, a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, a half note E3, a quarter note D3, and a whole note C3. The lyrics are written below the notes, with a repeat sign at the beginning of each line.

Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. ☩ 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 indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... and join their unending hymn:

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav- en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

*\*Words of Institution*

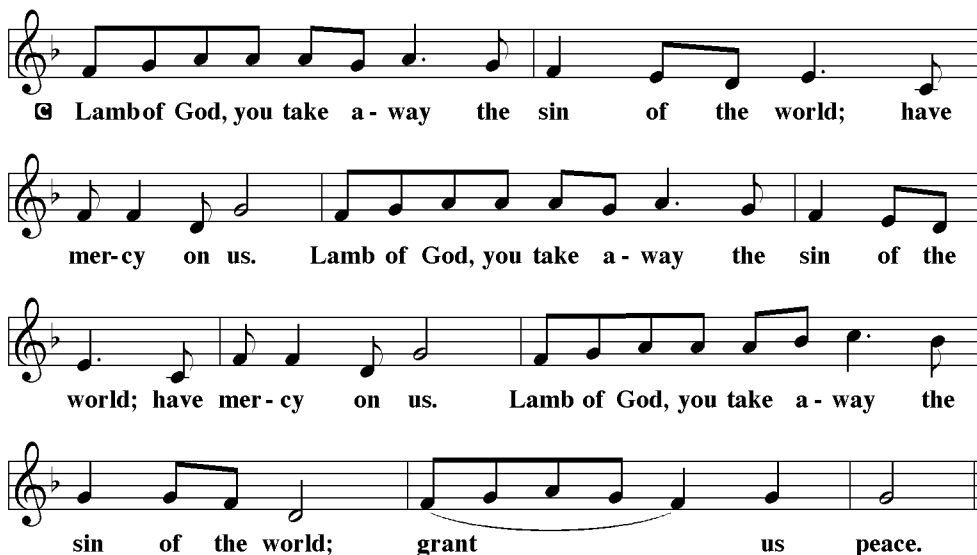
P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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**

*\*Lamb of God*



☞ 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.

*Communion Songs*

“Now We Join in Celebration” ELW 462 (organ)

- 1 Now we join in celebration at our Savior's invitation,  
dressed no more in spirit somber, clothed instead in joy and wonder;  
for the Lord of all existence, putting off divine transcendence,  
stoops again in love to meet us, with his very life to feed us.
- 2 Lord, as round this feast we gather, fill our hearts with holy rapture!  
For this bread and cup of blessing are for us the sure possessing  
of your loving deed on Calv'ry, of your living self, our vict'ry,  
pledge of your unfailing presence, foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.

- 3 Lord, we share in this communion as one fam'ly of God's children,  
reconciled through you, our brother, one in you with God our Father.  
Give us grace to live for others, serving all, both friends and strangers,  
seeking justice, love, and mercy till you come in final glory.

“Come to the Table” ELW 481 *(piano)*

**Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread.  
All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed.  
Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail-scarred hand.  
Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.**

“Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song” ELW 808 *(organ)*

- 1 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;  
I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go:  
you alone are our life and our peace and our love.  
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.
- 2 Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.  
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.  
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
- 3 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,  
to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.  
For you saved me by giving your body and blood.  
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.
- 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;  
but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.  
And with all of the family you saved by your love,  
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.

*\*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: As you leave this place, know that God is with you in every messy middle, and go with God's blessing. 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: Amen.**

*\*Sending Song – “My Redeemer Lives”*

*(piano)*

**I know He rescued my soul, His blood has covered my sin. I believe, I believe!**

**My shame is taken away, my pain is healed in His name. I believe, I believe!**

**I'll raise the banner 'cause my Lord has conquered the grave!**

**My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives!**

*Repeat verse*

**My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives!**

**You lift my burdens, I'll rise with You. I'm dancing on this mountaintop to see  
Your kingdom come!**

**My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives!**

*Repeat*

*\*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Song Credits

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“My Redeemer Lives,” by Reuben Morgan, © 1998 Reuben Morgan/Hillsong Pub. CCLI#973583

## **Worship Assistants**

Communion Assistant: Kay Schnitker  
Greeter: Mindy Carlson  
Reader: Marilyn Dichsen  
Usher: Pat Glyshaw  
Pastor: Adam Dichsen  
Music Director: Jean Welch  
Organist: Sandi Watts  
Pianist: Jean Welch  
Guitarist: Marilyn Dichsen  
Drummers: John Demien & Louis Dichsen  
Financial Assistants: Mindy Carlson & Ken Devlin  
Chancel Committee: Kim Heise  
Coffee Host: Karen Sibert



### **Singers:**

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

### **Church Council Members:**

Malinda Carlson	Marilyn Dichsen	Greg Kimler	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Kay Schnitker
			Kelly Street

## **What's Coming Up at Faith?**

Sunday, April 6, 9:30am: Worship + Baptism of Benson Kade Lee

11:00am: Bible Study in the Justice Room

4:30pm: Bible Boot Camp

5:30pm: Faith Inkubators

Wednesday, April 9, 6:00pm: Lenten Meal

7:00pm: Lenten Worship

7:45pm: Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 10, 6:00pm: Worship Core Team Meeting

Saturday, April 12, 2:00pm: Choir Rehearsal



Sunday, April 13, 9:30am: Worship – Palm Sunday  
4:30pm: Bible Boot Camp  
5:30pm: Faith Inkubators

Wednesday, April 16, 10:00am: Discipleship Group in the Faith Library

Thursday, April 17, 7:00pm: Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 18, 7:00pm: Good Friday Tenebrae Service

The altar plants are given today by the Dichsen family  
in honor of Rigby's 13<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 10  
*and*  
by Vicki Robson and Judy Dillard in honor of Kelly Robson

## News Updates

### Music and Choir Opportunities at Faith

We have heard your desire for our choir to get back together. Our Music Director, Jean Welch, will be organizing a choir to sing on Easter morning. We need you to join us with your voices as we praise God for all he has done for us. **Rehearsals for Easter will be April 9<sup>th</sup> (after the 7pm Lenten Service) and on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm.**

Please contact Jean if you are interested in sharing your musical gifts at our worship services – all are welcome! [jrwelch53@msn.com](mailto:jrwelch53@msn.com) or 217-652-7009 (phone/text)

### Faith's Little Flock

This month, we will follow the Lenten worship themes. Faith's Little Flock is for children ages 2-7. We also welcome Big Kid Helpers (ages 8 and up) to help the little ones with the more difficult parts of the crafts, and our older adults to read the scripture story to the children. Contact Melissa Street if you would like to take a turn reading the story to the children. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered so far! The children all return to the sanctuary for the communion blessing. Word-finds, crossword puzzles, and other activity sheets are available in the gathering area for the older children (and adults) to help reinforce the message of the day. We look forward to seeing all of the children in April!

### Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke

Following worship, join Pastor Adam for a Bible study on Luke in the Justice Room. We will discuss the reading of the day, connect it to the gospel context, and reflect on its significance for us today. There will be no class on April 13 or 20.

## **Bible Boot Camp**

Last Fall, we introduced Bible Boot Camp, a new program for elementary-school-aged children. Pastor Adam warms them up with singing, dancing, and some retelling of Bible stories from recent worship services. Patty Nelson and Shelley McDaniel lead them in some creative play and crafts, and then we all join with parents and older youth for a meal.

**Our next events will be held on Sundays, April 6 and 13, from 4:30-6:00.** Spread the word and bring a friend!

## **Faith Inkubators**

Our Faith Inkubators youth nights incorporate all the learning of confirmation, but also some games and activities so that it is open for some upper-elementary-aged kids that are up for the challenge and our high school youth to still be involved. **Future events are scheduled for Sundays, April 6 and 13, from 5:30-7:30.**

## **Get to Know Our Youth**

For Sunday mornings during Lent, we are looking for volunteers to meet with our youth after worship. You can choose from a variety of options, from following a list of questions to share your faith and get to know each other better, use a discussion guide to reflect on the scripture of the day, work together in the kitchen for a meal, do a service project together at church or someone's home, or more. Sign up by the Total Ministry Center and enjoy getting to know our youth.

## **Lenten Midweek Worship Schedule**

**April 9**

Outreach Meal at 6:00 pm

Midweek Worship in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm

## **Midweek Supper and Worship with new “Outreach Meals”**

Our Lenten tradition continues with Wednesday night meals and worship, but with a significant change. The meals are no longer pot-luck style but are provided with a free-will offering benefitting several charities. **Thanks to all the groups who have signed up to host the meals!** Join us for these wonderful outreach meals at 6:00pm on Wednesdays, and all are invited to chip in and help with clean up in the kitchen. Worship will start at 7:00 to make time for all to be ready after the meal.

## **Midweek Worship: “Pray without Ceasing”**

Our midweek worship services focus on prayer and provide opportunities to pray without ceasing. We worship in the sanctuary with a variety of music that invites us into prayer. There is time for your own prayer and some reflections on the power of prayer in our lives.

*<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

## **Lenten Devotional Books**

Pick up your own devotional book to dig deeper into the weekly binaries that Jesus addresses in Luke’s gospel. In addition to scripture, each week includes commentary, poetry, visual art, hymns, and journaling prompts. Pair this book with your Bible as they accompany you through the Lenten season to the empty tomb.

**Contribution Envelopes for 2025** are available in the church office.

## **Women of Faith**

Women of Faith is on hiatus during the season of Lent. Make plans to join us again in May for a special Mother’s Day event. More details coming soon!

## **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; **\$3.00** tea; **\$2.50** chocolate bars; **\$6.50** cashews). Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.

## **Sign-Up Sheets**

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

## **Movie Night – Sunday, April 27, 6:00pm at the Illinois Theater**

Area junior high and high school students are invited to a special showing of Disney’s **Mufasa – The Lion King** at the Illinois Theater. Admission is FREE and includes popcorn and a drink. Contact Pat Glyshaw at [pat.glyshaw@gmail.com](mailto:pat.glyshaw@gmail.com) with any questions and to secure you or your group’s reservation. Chaperones will be available from local youth groups. Presented by the Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches and Faith Lutheran Church.

## **Summer Youth Camps**

**Performing Arts Camp** (PAC) at Green Pastures Christian Retreat Center is for youth entering grades 5-12 and will take place on June 13-14, 20-21, and 27-28. Cost is \$50/camper.

**Fire in Our Hearts** (FIOH) at Green Pastures is for youth entering grades 5-12 and will take place on July 7-11 and 21-25. Cost is \$135/camper.

If needed, scholarships are available.

Registration link: <http://www.greenpasturesretreatcenter.org/registration>.

For more information call: 217-584-1374

Email: [contact@greenpasturesretreatcenter.org](mailto:contact@greenpasturesretreatcenter.org)