

SAN MARCOS LUTHERAN CHURCH

3419 Grand Avenue . San Marcos, CA 92078 . (760) 727-1509

www.sanmarcoslutheran.org Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Fifth Sunday in Lent April 6, 2025

Welcome to worship!

Throughout the service, you will be invited to sit, stand, or kneel as you are able and as you feel comfortable. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, for it is Christ who does the inviting. An usher will let you know when it is your row's turn to come forward. Bread, gluten-free wafers, red wine, and white juice are all available. Please tell the pastor you need a gluten-free wafer when it is your turn.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY TIME OF PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS- The congregation is invited to stand, sit, or kneel, as able.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you

and your love for the world.

We do not show others the tender compassion

you have shown to us.

We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality

you grant to all people.

We oppress others,

even though you have set us free again and again.

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

Transform our lives

and guide us again in the way of the cross.

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home.

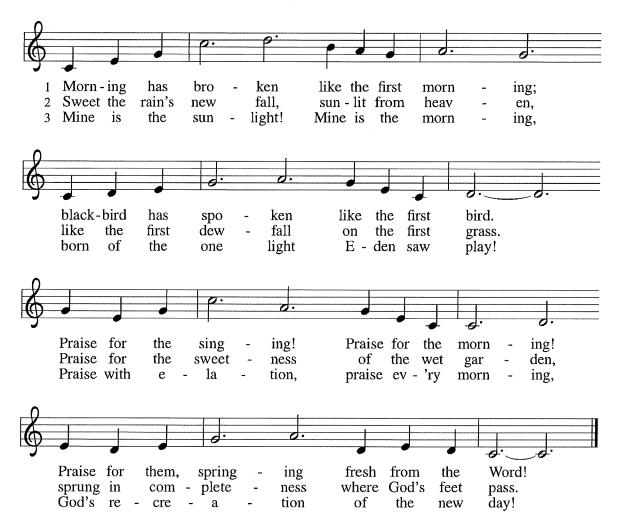
In + Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Morning Has Broken



Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, admin. David Higham Associates

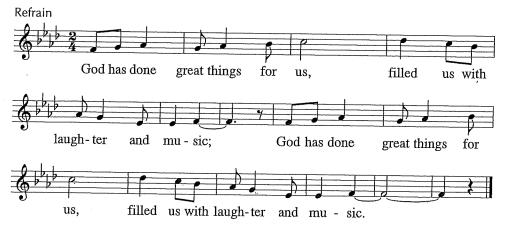
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WORD -The congregation may be seated.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 15:7-11

"If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the LORD your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Be careful that you do not entertain a mean thought, thinking, 'The seventh year, the year of remission, is near,' and therefore view your needy neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor might cry to the LORD against you, and you would incur guilt. Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.'



Verses

- 1. When our God led us back to freedom, like dreamers we beheld the promised land again; our mouths were filled with laughter and rejoicing.
- 2. We proclaimed to the nations what you had done for us; your mighty deeds of love, restoring us to life, you lead your people home to you rejoicing.
- 3. Come restore our fortune, renew us in your love, as rivers through the sand, as springs within the desert; those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.

Text: Psalm 126:1-6; Marty Haugen Music: Marty Haugen © 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.

SECOND READING

Philippians 3:4b-14

even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

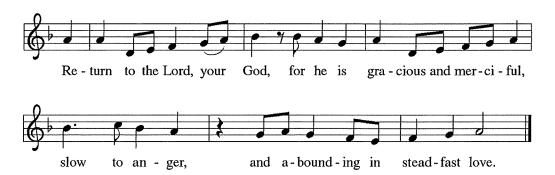
Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - The congregation is invited to stand, as able.



The holy gospel according to John, the 12th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

John 12:1-8

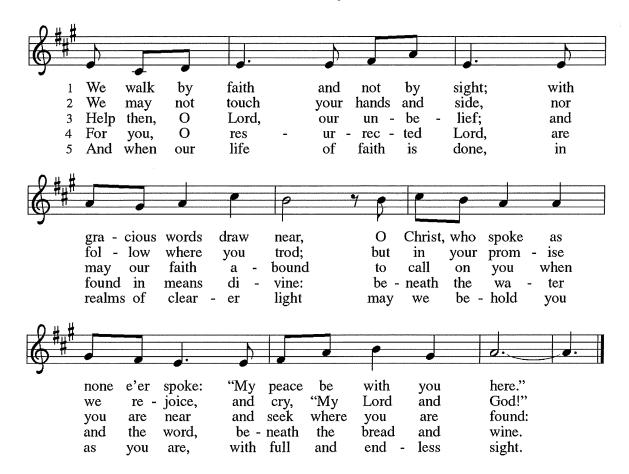
Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus's feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (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.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

We Walk by Faith



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assembly is invited into prayer:

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need. (A brief silence)

After each petition, "God, in your mercy, receive our prayer."

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

The congregation greets one another with the words "peace be with you" or "God's peace" and a sign of peace—a wave, a handshake, a peace sign, etc.

Choir

SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING- The congregation is invited to stand, as able.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

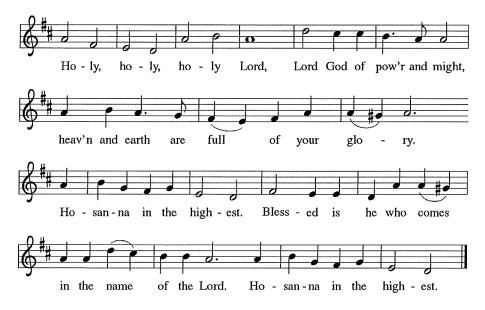
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presiding minister continues:

We thank you, desert Mother, for in the valley of dry bones you create hearts of flesh quickened by the Spirit's breath. We thank you, wise Sister, that you walk in cloud and fire with your lost and faithless people. We thank you, Son of Heaven, that you empty yourself of might and glory and set your face toward the fickle crowd, the cruel empire, and faithful despisers. We welcome you as God's own fool, whose cross brings to nothing the violence of the world and reveals another wisdom outside the city walls. Therefore, with all who follow your way, and all who caught a glimpse of your glory in the humanity you shared, we worship God's own holiness revealed in sweat and tears:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon these gifts,

that these fragile, earthly things

may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed,

gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said:

"This is my body, which is given for you.

Do this to remember me."

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying:

"This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me."

As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.

Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, in our eating and drinking we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ; we proclaim him as creation's host, transforming poverty into plenty in the reckless generosity of love.

Inspire us with the hope
that one day death and greed will be no more
and people without number
will come from east and west, north and south to share the kingdom meal.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom and with whom and in whom
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
all honor and glory be yours, Mother of blessings, forever and ever. Amen.

Steven Shakespeare, Prayers for an Inclusive Church, Church Publishing (New York, NY: 2009).

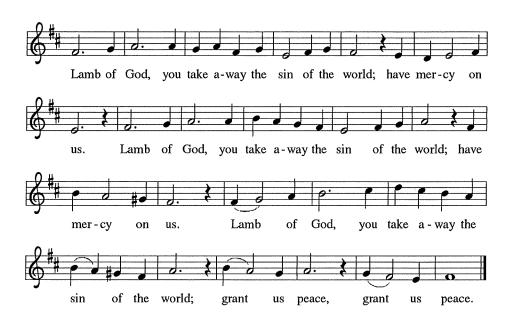
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

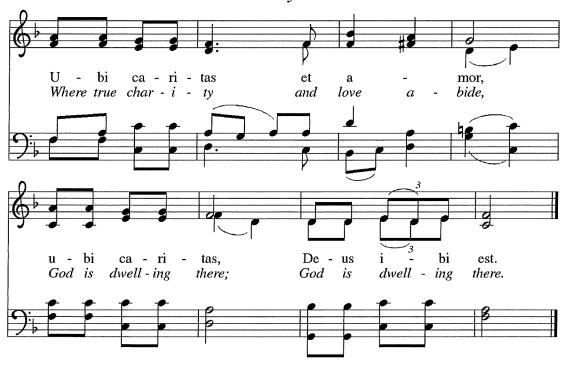


DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS

Hymnal #642

Ubi caritas et amor Where True Charity and Love Abide



Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. With One Voice
Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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Wait for the Lord



Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, + bless you now and forever. Amen.





Text: Psalm 89:1

Music: FILLMORE, J. H. Fillmore

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God!

We invite you to remain seated quietly for the postlude. If you exit during the postlude, please refrain from conversation until you are outside of the sanctuary. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in Luther Hall immediately following the service.

POSTLUDE

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NOTICE OF RECORDING: Please be aware that by attending this service, you may be recorded by video and/or audio equipment. By attending this service, you consent to being recorded for live streaming purposes.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher/Presider: Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Assisting Minister: Anne Voth

Musicians: Justin Hershey, Max Chodos and Beth Sullivan

Lector: Karen Johns

Ushers: Hector Gonzalez and Sharon Scott-Gonzalez

All are welcome! As a community of the people of God, the members of San Marcos Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28)

Are you new to San Marcos Lutheran Church? Pastor Casey would love the opportunity to get to know you, and has put together a short, confidential, online form. Your smartphone's QR reader can take you to it using this code.

If technology isn't your cup of tea (or if it just isn't working for you today) there are cream-colored cards in the pew in front of you, which you can fill out and put in the silver offering plates, hand to an usher, or hand to Pastor Casey after the service. We're glad you're here!



Let Us Keep These People in Our Prayers: Susan Agonia, Christine Buma, Jim Cavolt, Sue Check, Eunice Choi, Steve Choi, Bill Hanson, Jolene Hanson, Jeff Hey, Pete Johnson, Jim Kent, Linda Kent, Susan Kent, Gary Kloehn, Laura, Deborah McGregor, Melinda Nelson, Leanne Pohrman, Alvar Roy, Jake & Sarah Simpson, Vern Soderstrom, Marilynne Smith, Dawn Steele, Nick Torres, Kelly Van Jen. Let us pray for our homebound members: Beverly Gift, Janice Phillips, and Carol Schwartz. We also continue to pray for: Pacifica Synod Bishop David Nagler and ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

Thank you for supporting the ministry of San Marcos Lutheran Church! Your generosity enables us to do God's work in our community. Your contributions to our general fund support our budgeted expenses—we cannot do it without your support! You can contribute in any of the following ways:

- ➤ Place a check or cash in the silver offering plates at the back of the sanctuary on Sundays;
- Mail a check to the church office (3419 Grand Ave. San Marcos, CA 92078);
- > Set up a recurring donation through your bank;
- Make a one-time or recurring donation with your credit or debit card or bank account through Tithe.ly, our online giving portal. Visit sanmarcoslutheran.org/give to get started.



Your smartphone's QR reader can take you there by scanning this code. San Marcos Lutheran Church is a 501(c)(3) organization, and your gift may be tax-deductible.

Audio & Visual Volunteers Needed

Help enhance our Sunday Worship experience! Our Communications Coordinator, Adriana Alfaro, is seeking volunteers to assist with Audio and Visual equipment. No experience necessary - training provided! Contact us to learn more and sign up! email: comms@sanmarcoslutheran.org

ALL SAINTS FOOD PANTRY For April, how about picking up multiples of anything appropriate that's on sale at your favorite grocery store? Or, we never get things like ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, or salad dressings from the Food Bank. Those items would be great any time. Thank you for continuing to be a part of this mutual ministry with All Saints Episcopal Church in Vista. Wish you could hear all the thank-you's from our clients. New people come in very hesitant but leave with multiple bags and very big smiles. Repeat clients are always thankful and also eager to see what we have for them on these two Saturdays of the month.

Easter Egg Donations

Donations are being sought now through Palm Sunday, April 13th, of individually wrapped candy to put in plastic Easter eggs. Donations can be placed in the bin in the narthex.

Team Holy Week

Pastor Casey needs your help to prepare Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday services and fellowship! If you can help out with things like coordinating your fellow volunteers, setting tables, arranging carpools, stuffing easter eggs, or assembling potlucks, you'd be a great fit for Team Holy Week. Call the office 760-727-1509 or email Pastor Casey pastor@sanmarcoslutheran.org to sign up or learn more about the specifics.

Easter Lily Dedications for Easter Service

In keeping with our celebration of Easter, donations towards Easter plants may be made. Simply fill out the yellow Easter Lily Donation form along with your donation of \$15 per plant. All dedications will be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Please submit forms and payments by Wednesday April 16th.

PROJECT HOMEBOUND

We are renewing our visitations and offering communion to the homebound. Please consider joining our team. Questions call Brother Jack at 760-842-2033 or Diana Arney at 760-703-05124.

Pastor Casey's Book Club is back! For Lent, we're moving away from scarcity with Robin Wall Kimmerer's 2024 book *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World.* We'll discuss the book on TODAY, at Community Time after worship. Questions? Contact Pastor Casey.

Important Dates:

Palm Sunday, April 13th
Maundy Thursday, April 17th- 6pm in Luther Hall
Good Friday, April 18th, 7pm Worship
Easter Sunday, April 20th- Potluck & Egg Hunt after worship