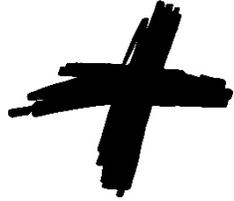


CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Fifth Sunday in Lent — Setting X

March 26, 2023 / 10:00 am

The Rev. David Hulse, presiding



Christ Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation. We extend God's own welcome to all, irrespective of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, or other human distinction.

PRELUDE

Wondrous Love

Samuel Barber

“Be still, and know that I am God.” During the Prelude worshippers are invited to prepare quietly for worship.

*Stand, as able.

The open font is a powerful symbol of the centrality of baptism for Christians.

✠ GATHERING ✠

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection

Holy God,

we confess to you our faults and failings.

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation;

we cause hurt though you call us to heal;

we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

HYMNS
TODAY

ELW 666

ELW 750

ELW 495

ELW 811

God embraces you with divine mercy, ✘ forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

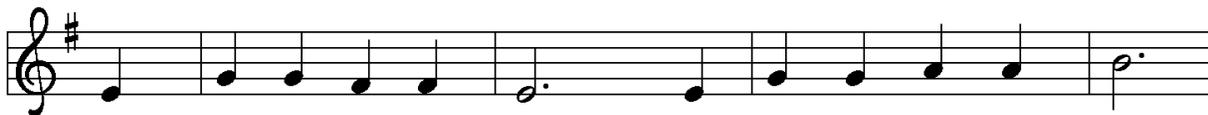
What Wondrous Love Is This?

ELW 666, vv.1,2

***GREETING**

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

***KYRIE**



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

✘ WORD ✘

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very

dry. He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act,” says the LORD.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 130



¹Out | of the depths

I cry to | you, O Lord;

²**O Lord, | hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my | supplication.

³If you were to keep watch | over sins,

O Lord, | who could stand?

⁴**Yet with you | is forgiveness,**

in order that you | may be feared. R

⁵I wait for you, O Lord; | my soul waits;

in your word | is my hope.

⁶**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch | for the morning,
more than those who keep watch | for the morning.**

⁷O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is | steadfast love;

with the Lord there is plen- | teous redemption.

⁸**For the Lord shall | redeem Israel**

from | all their sins. R

SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you.

Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he

who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Lord, Thee I Love With My Whole Heart*

ELW 750, v.1

***GOSPEL:** John 11:1-45

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I

know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

SERMON

The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We believe in one God,...

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence

You have breathed into us the breath of life. Enliven your church. Deepen our partnerships with our companion churches around the globe, and bless the work of missionaries who accompany them. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your spirit brings life to creation. Enliven the natural world and restore ecosystems in need of healing. Uplift prophetic voices that turn us to the needs of the soil beneath our feet and the air all around. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You redeem the world and its peoples. Free us from systems of oppression. Unbind nations and societies from the sins of racism, sexism, and homophobia. Raise up leaders at all levels of government who work to promote the dignity of every human life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You weep when we weep. Be present with those who grieve or who are troubled by illness. You hear us when we call to you. Deliver us from the depths of our despair, and free us from the worries that bind us. We pray for Steven Chartier, Jim Aberth, Martin Carlson, Kwai Lin Chan, Steven Chin, James Clunie, Barbara Fitzpatrick, Andrew Heisen, Joy Honen, Marie Ibbetson, Gayle Jaffe, Susan Kane, Mary and Earl Kunstman, Laura Lavelle, Chui Yuk Lee, Jean Lee, David Lincoln, Phillip Liu, Matt M, Arvind Raja, Shannon Ripp, Alexandru Simovici, Polly Weston, and Mary Jane Young; we pray for all who contend with addictions, all who struggle with mental illness; all who are serving in the armed forces; all who are first responders, fire fighters, and police; and all who fight COVID-19 and its lingering effects. Protect and nurture all children. Sustain those who parent, teach, and care for the young. Give them your living water always. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your Spirit of life dwells in our assembly. Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who lead us in hymns of praise and thanksgiving and in songs of lament and prayer. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Hear, O God, the prayers on our lips.

Worshippers are invited to voice their petitions

Hear, O God, the silent prayers of our hearts.

Silence is kept for unspoken prayers

You are the resurrection and the life. Even though we die, we will live. With thanksgiving, we remember all your saints who now live in your eternal love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

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

✕ MEAL ✕

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Be Still and Know That I Am God

Karen Marrolli

***OFFERTORY HYMN**

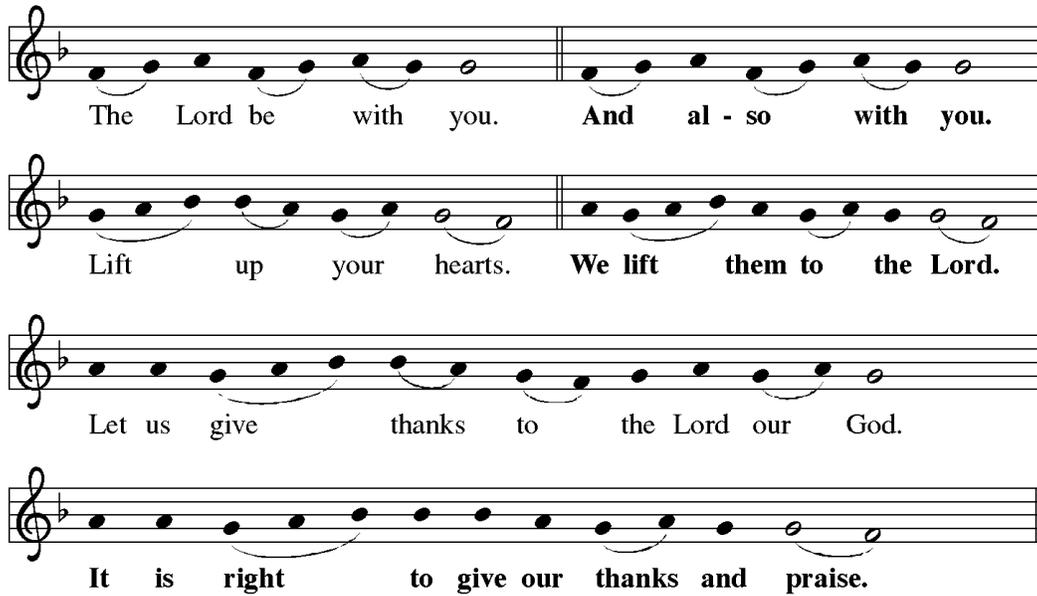
Now Is the Time of Grace

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the offertory hymn. The first staff is marked with a '1' and the second with a '2'. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 'Now is the time of grace, now is the day of sal - va - tion. Turn now, and seek God's face, now be - hold God's in - vi - ta - tion.'

***OFFERING PRAYER**

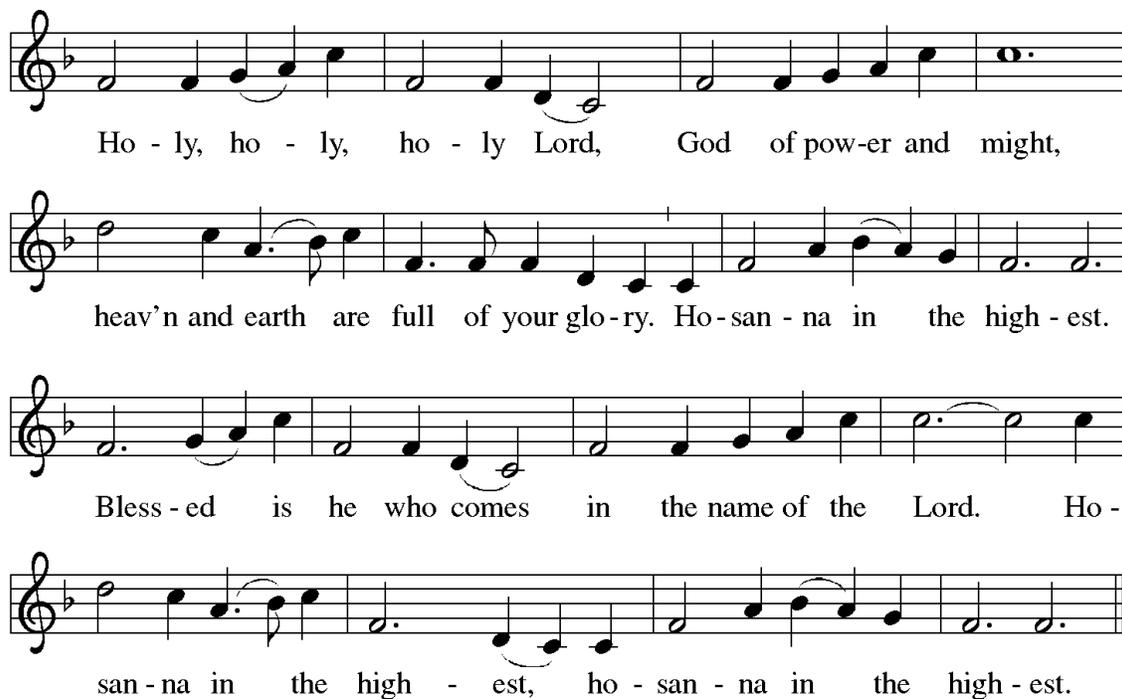
**God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel.
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.**

*GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 with the preface; the congregation responds:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection... Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit**
Reveal yourself to us...burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

..now and forever. **Amen.**

THE 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



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION

Christ Lutheran Church practices Eucharistic hospitality; all baptized Christians who trust in Christ's presence in the sacrament of Holy Communion are welcome at the table where he is both host and food. Communicants normally receive pita or a gluten-free wafer in open, cupped palms (sometimes laid one over the other in the shape of the cross). Wine (light colored) or grape juice (red/purple) is offered in an individual glass.

COMMUNION HYMN

We, Who Were Once Dead

ELW 495

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

✘ SENDING ✘

***BLESSING**

God, the giver of love, ✘ Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

***SENDING HYMN**

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

ELW 811

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Allegro from Concerto in a minor

J.S. Bach

Today's Worship Leaders:

Greeters	Lisa Eck and Debra Bianco
Assisting Minister	Carol Virshbo
Reader	Alan Avalos
Tellers	Audrey Colson and George Hall
Altar Guild	Ellen Zagajeski and Sophia Chan
Fellowship Hosts	Beth Gillece-Castro
Audio Visual Team	Comlanvi Agbodjinou, Alan Avalos, Elinor Holm. Rolf Larson, Peter Miller, Phil Roberts, Ryan Schnepfer, Juliet Seaberg
Cantor	Bob Weaver
Musicians	CLC Choir

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev David Hulse, Interim Pastor

Tom Berryman, Music Director

Gail Weston-Roberts, Youth & Family Ministries Coordinator

Kim Petot, Bell Choir Director

Leaders of the Congregation

Frank Miller, Financial Secretary
Celeste Larson, Social Justice
Phil Roberts, Worship, Music, and the Visual Arts
Carol Virshbo, Mutual Ministry
Mary Avalos and Robin Hurst, Family Promise
Cathy Gallagher, Altar Guild
Lisa Chan, Card Ministry
Carol Virshbo, Fellowship Hour
John Whitlock, Finance and Property
Kathleen Kirleis, Endowment
George Hall, Stewardship
Diane Stevens, Visitation

Congregation Council

Mary Avalos (2024), President
Edie Lohr (2025), Treasurer
David Ripp (2025), Vice President
Ellen Zagajeski (2025), Secretary
John Whitlock (2025)
Patricia Bianco (2023)
Martha Cronin (2023)
Hannele Saramo-Raja (2023)
Audrey Colson (2023)
Anna Carlson (2024)
Sandy Smith (2024)
Elinor Holm (2024)

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