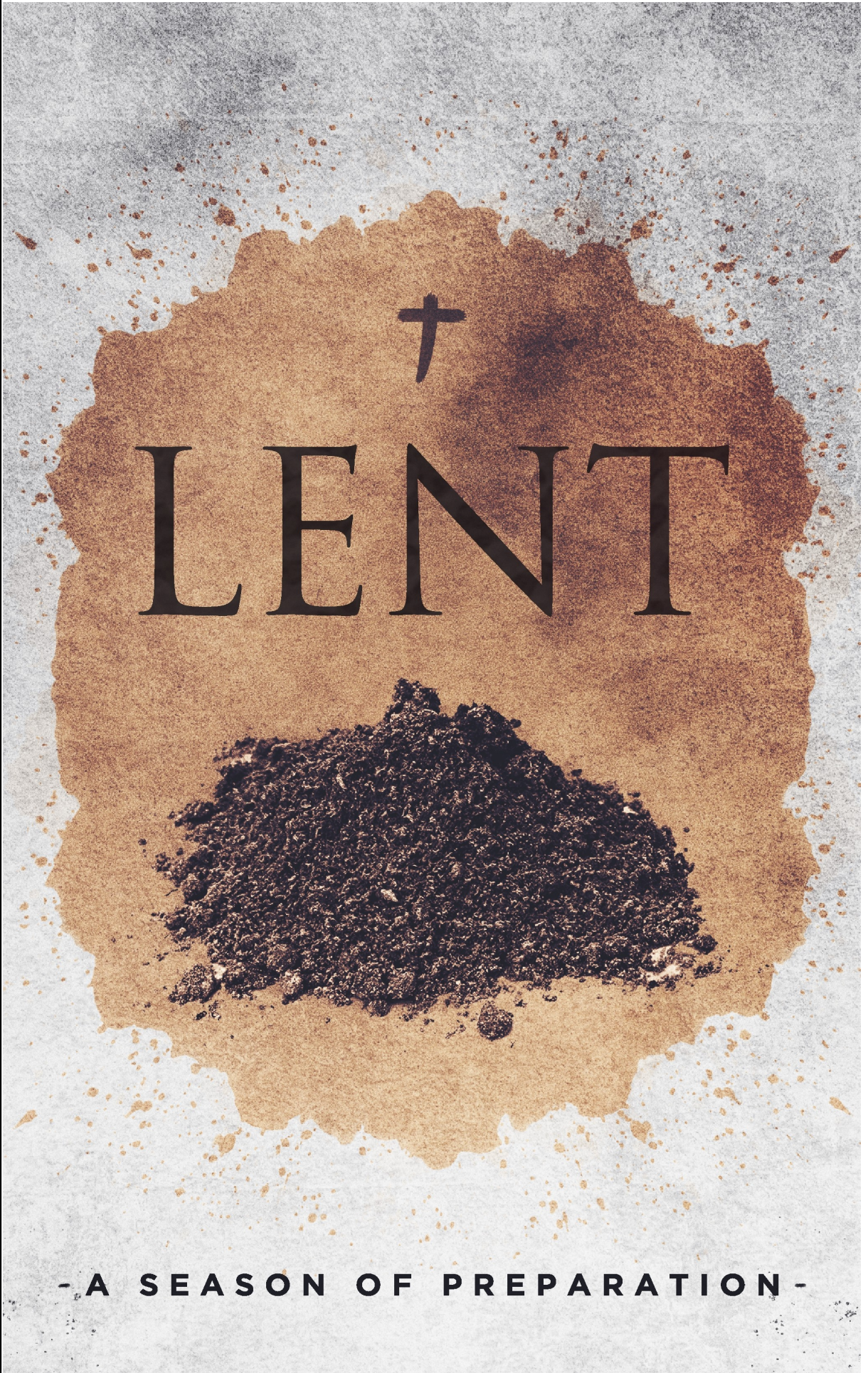


# St. Johns Lutheran Church

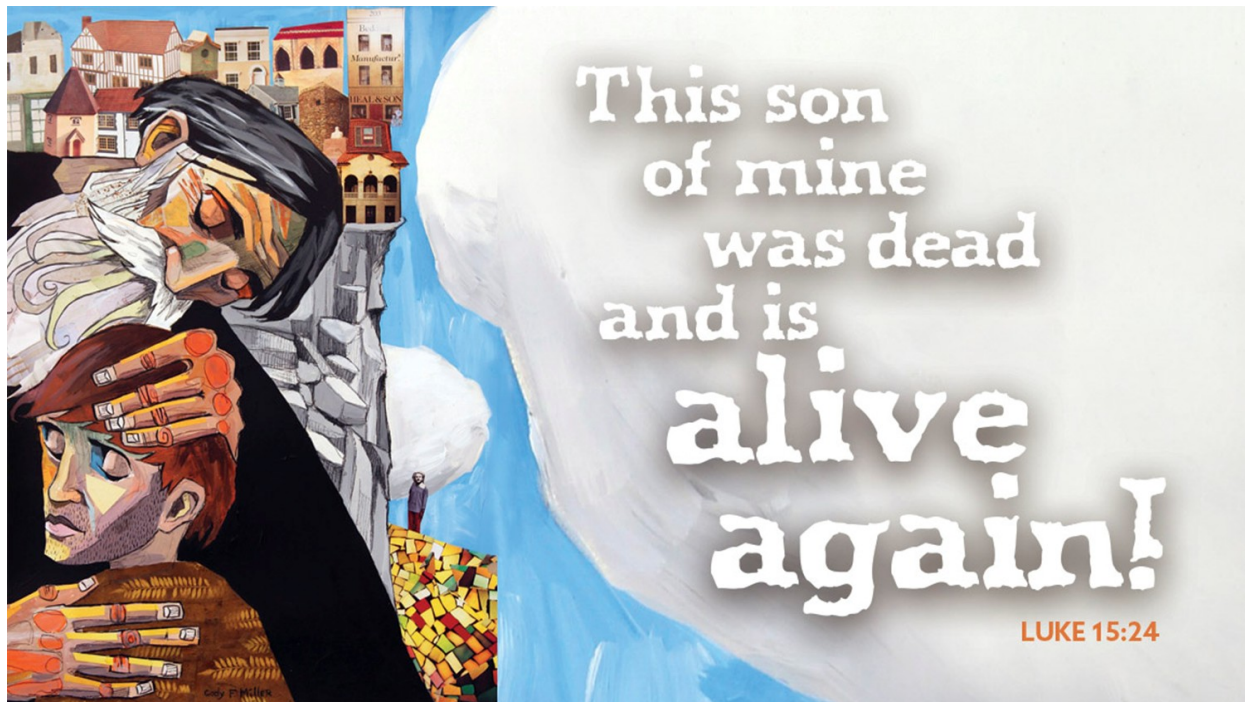
Sunday, March 30, 2025

## Fourth Sunday in Lent



- A SEASON OF PREPARATION -

# Welcome to *St. John's Lutheran Church*



*Prodigal Son IV, older man embracing young man* by Cody F. Miller. Copyright © Cody F. Miller. All rights reserved. Used by permission of the artist.

## Ministry Staff

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### Debby Jones

### Nicki Nye

### Margareth Olsson

### Mary Rimer

### Valerie Taylor

### Chris Wise



We acknowledge our sin  
before God. The  
forgiveness God first gave  
us in our Baptism is  
again proclaimed to us.

The music is by John  
Bell, of the Iona  
Community in Scotland.

(Please kneel in body or spirit.)

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Musical score for 'Kyrie eleison'. The score is written for voice and piano. The vocal line is in G major and 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment is in G major and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Chris - te e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

An ancient prayer of  
the church, "eleison"  
means "have  
mercy." "Kyrie"  
means "Lord."  
"Christe" means  
"Christ." Lord have  
mercy, Christ have  
mercy, Lord have  
mercy.

God of all time,  
**forgive us our false busyness,  
the busyness we manufacture to make us seem important,  
the busyness we invent to keep us from ourselves,  
the busyness in which we hide because we fear to stand still,  
to be alone, or even to meet you. Kyrie...**

God of all hope,  
**forgive us our hopelessness,  
our bondage to an imagined glorious past,  
our cynicism regarding the good in others,  
our weird talent for spotting the problem before the potential. Kyrie...**

God of all love,  
**forgive our grudged compassion,  
our unquestioning affection for what seems safe,  
and all our lusts, especially those we pretend are heartfelt longings. Kyrie...**

God of all time, hope, and love,  
**recreate us until we live looking more to Christ than to the clock,  
walk by the light without being obsessed with the darkness,  
and in all our loving seek to credit and never shame  
the one in whose name we pray.**

**Amen.**

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.

**Amen.**

# PROCLAIMING THE WORD

(Please stand in body or spirit.)

**HYMN OF PRAISE ACS 1082**

“O God You Search Me”



1 O God, you search me and you know me.  
2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing.  
3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord,  
4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me,  
5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me,



All my thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze.  
You dis - cern my pur - pose from a - far,  
you have known its mean - ing through and through.  
still I search for shel - ter from your light.  
gave me life with - in my moth - er's womb.



When I walk or lie down you are be - fore me:  
and with love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me:  
You are with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing:  
There is no - where on earth I can es - cape you:  
For the won - der of who I am, I praise you:



ev - er the mak - er and keep - er of my days.  
in ev - 'ry mo - ment of life or death, you are.  
God of my pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.  
e - ven the dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.  
safe in your hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME, Bernadette Farrell

Text and music © 1992 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP, 5536 N. Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

## GREETING

**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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

*This prayer concerns the theme of the day and prepares us for hearing the readings from scripture.*

*In the First Lesson:  
By celebrating the  
Passover and eating the  
produce of the promised  
land instead of the  
miraculous manna that  
had sustained them in  
the desert, the Israelites  
symbolically bring their  
forty years of wilderness  
wandering to an end at  
Gilgal.*

*(Please be seated.)*

## FIRST READING

**JOSHUA 5:9-12**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup> While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup> On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup> The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

P: The Word of the Lord.      C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 32

<sup>1</sup> Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
and whose sin is put away!

<sup>2</sup> **Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup> While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
because of my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup> **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup> **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup> You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup> **“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup> Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

<sup>10</sup> **Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup> Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

*In the Second Lesson:  
One way to describe the  
gospel is the promise  
that in Christ everything  
is transformed into  
newness. All mistakes, all  
deliberate sins, all old  
history is reconciled with  
Christ’s resurrection. This  
is Paul’s strong message  
to the congregation in  
the city of Corinth.*

## SECOND READING

**2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21**

<sup>16</sup> From 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. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

P: The Word of the Lord.      C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand in body or spirit.)*

**GOSPEL VERSE**

*"Nothing in All Creation"*



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

*In the Gospel Lesson:  
Jesus tells a parable  
about a son who  
ponders his father's  
love only after he has  
spurned it. The grace  
he receives is beyond  
his hopes. That same  
grace is a crisis for an  
older brother who  
believes it is his  
obedience that has  
earned his place in the  
father's home.*

**HOLY GOSPEL**

**LUKE 15:1-3, 11B-32**

<sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup> "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" <sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup> "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup> He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

*(Please be seated.)*

**MEDITATION**

**PASTOR JOHN TIRRO**

**SILENCE FOR REFLECTION**

(Please stand in body or spirit.)

**HYMN OF THE DAY ACS 1047**

"What is the World Like"

We sing this principal hymn in response to the Word which has been proclaimed to us.



1 What is the world like when God's will is  
 2 What is the world like when God's will is  
 3 What is the world like when God's will is  
 4 What is the world like when God's will is  
 5 These are the sto - ries that Je - sus im -



done? Mus - tard seeds grow more than  
 done? Wit - ness the wan - der - ing  
 done? No more is neigh - bor - just  
 parts, Read - y for feast - ing, we  
 filled with the Spir - it who



we can con - ceive: roots thread the  
 child com - ing home; watch as the  
 al - ly or friend; peace thrives in  
 watch through the night, tend - ing our  
 joins us as one. Born through our



soil; branch - es reach for the sun.  
 par - ent breaks in - to a run.  
 plac - es where once there was none.  
 lamps till the new day's be - gun.  
 voic - es, our hands, and our hearts,



This is how God moves us each to be - lieve.  
 This is how God longs for us when we roam.  
 This is how God works when ri - val - ries end.  
 This is how God read - ies us for the light.  
 this is a new world where God's will is done.

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979  
 Music: NEW WORLD, Sally Ann Morris, b. 1952  
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We respond to God's almighty acts as we confess our faith in the Words of the Creed.

**APOSTLES CREED**

**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.**

This reference to the holy catholic church is to the church universal.



*With this prayer, we express our concern for the whole Church, for the nations of the world, for people in their various needs, and for our own congregation.*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**A:** Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*(Please kneel in body or spirit. Following each petition, respond with "receive our prayer.")*

**A:** God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**A:** God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life. God, in your mercy,

**A:** God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. God, in your mercy,

**A:** God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. God, in your mercy,

**A:** God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all. God, in your mercy,

**A:** God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died. We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found. God, in your mercy,

**A:** 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.

**C: Amen.**

### ***Those Remembered in Prayer:***

*Michael Adams, David & Linda Cash, Pat & Charlsie Counts,  
Hugh Denton, Al Gill, Lynda Hinkle, John Jessel, Dick Krogmann,  
Don McWilliams, Nancy O'Callaghan, Chris Oehler, Norma Peterson,  
Don Ray, Frances Ratliff, Clarence Scott, Pam Shealy,  
Keith Solt, Barbara Teague, Maxine Whistler, Ann Williams, Bill Wing,  
our seminarians: Jordan Baker, Caitlynne Fox, and Joe Ley,  
the students, staff, & mentors at Christenberry Elementary school,  
synod partners in Guatemala,  
and all those affected by the devastation of Hurricane Helene*

# SHARING THE EUCHARIST

(Please stand in body or spirit.)

## SHARING OF THE LORD'S PEACE

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

**C:** And also with you.

## OFFERING AND SIGNING OF THE PEW REGISTER

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“When You Prayed Beneath the Trees”

(Please stand in body or spirit.)

### OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“Tree of Life”



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your  
2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed  
3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of  
on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and  
though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you  
bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the  
sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn.  
bod - y of our Lord.  
riv - er, you the sea.

### Canon Refrain



1. A - do - ra - mus te Chri - ste, a - do - ra - mus te Chri - ste,



3. a - do - ra - mus te Chri - ste, a - do - ra - mus Chri - ste.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

**P:** Gracious Provider,

**C:** 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.

We respond to God's Word by giving our offerings for God's work in the world. Offerings may be made online at [www.sjcknox.org](http://www.sjcknox.org) or by mail at 544 N. Broadway, Knoxville, TN 37917.

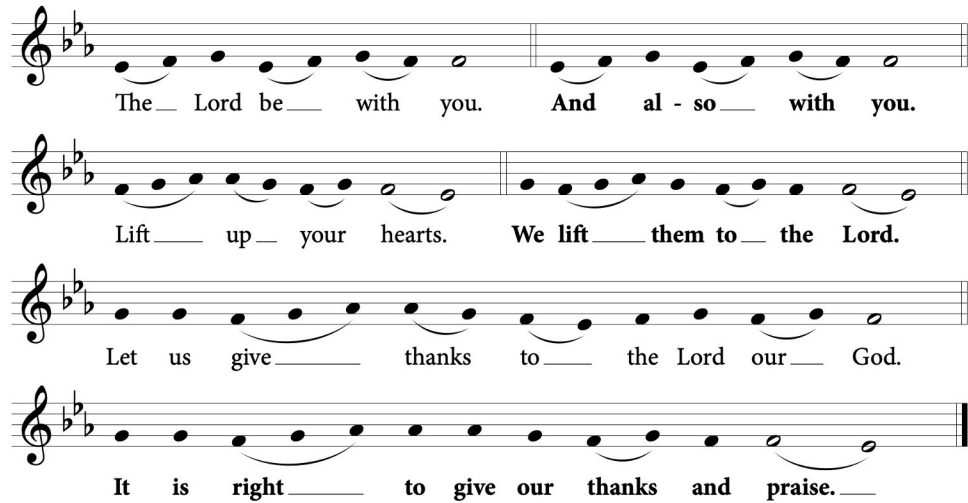
Text: Marty Haugen  
b. 1950  
Music: Marty Haugen  
Text and music  
© 1984 GIA

Text: Antiphon from  
Good Friday Liturgy  
Tune: Marty Haugen,  
b. 1950  
© 1984,  
GIA Publications, Inc.

The offertory prayer reminds us that God is the source of all gifts.

The Presiding minister  
greet the assembly  
and invites all present  
to give thanks.

## 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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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

The words Jesus used in  
instituting the Lord's  
Supper remind us of  
God's wonderful works,  
invite us to receive the  
sacrament, and ask for  
the Holy Spirit to  
bless us.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

This prayer is based on  
Matthew 6:9-13 and  
Luke 11:24.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## COMMUNION

Regarding the gift of Holy Communion, all are welcome! This is God's table, and there is a place for each of God's beloved. Gluten-free wafers are in the small silver box on the baptismal font.

An usher will direct you down the center aisle to the chancel stairs where you may:

- Receive Holy Communion by intinction, taking the bread, dipping it in the wine, and consuming them together
- Receive Holy Communion by the common cup, first eating the bread and then drinking from the silver chalice
- Receive a blessing by placing your hands across your chest and embracing God's love for you

You will return to your seat by the side aisle.

Again, all are welcome at God's table; come and see that the Lord is good.

## 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, grant us peace.

VERSES



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my  
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my  
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



1. peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin  
 2. peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.  
 3. poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.



1. my hand will save. I who made the stars of night,  
 2. They turn a - way. I will break their hearts of stone,  
 3. My hand will save. Fin-est bread I will pro-vide



1. I will make their dark-ness bright. Who will bear my  
 2. give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my  
 3. till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my



1. light to them? Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. word to them. Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. life to them. Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_

REFRAIN



Here I am, Lord.\_\_\_\_ Is it I, Lord?\_\_\_\_ I have heard you



call-ing in the night.\_\_\_\_ I will go, Lord,\_\_\_\_ if you



lead me.\_\_\_\_ I will hold your peo- ple in my heart.\_\_\_\_

Is 6; Jer 5:23; Ez 11:19

Daniel L. Schutte  
 Text and music © 1981, Daniel L. Schutte and OCP

*The blessing prepares us to continue our mission as Christian people in the world. The Sign of the Cross may be made by all as a reminder of Christ in whose name we are baptized and live.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P:** Generous Host,  
**C:** **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.**

*(Please stand in body or spirit.)*

**BLESSING**

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

**C: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

*The benediction imparts God's blessing upon God's people at the close of a service.*

# SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

CLOSING HYMN ELW 763

"My Life Flows on in Endless Song"



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en-ta-tion,  
2 Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.  
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv-eth.  
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion.  
It finds an ech-o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899  
Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

## DISMISSAL

**P:** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE



2025 Lenten Focus  
**40-40-40**  
miles | days | donate  
TO BENEFIT:  
**Casa MILAGRO**  
TRANSFORMING FUTURE LEADERS,  
EMPOWERING WOMEN TODAY  
March 5 - April 19, 2025

**If you are considering a Lenten discipline, we invite you to join the 40-40-40 campaign.**

This is a synod-wide focus on 40 days of: Daily Devotion, Daily Discipline and Daily Donation during Lent. Our donations will support MILAGRO, the Women's Center in Guatemala. Many of us have met Pastor Karen, Diego and Pastor Beatriz and are aware of the amazing and faithful work they are doing in Guatemala.

To join the 40-40-40 campaign and to access the daily Lenten devotions go to: <https://www.elca-ses.org/fortyforlent2025> Questions? Thoughts? Excitement?! Contact Nancy Friedrich.



**Midweek Lenten Worship**  
**Wednesdays at 6:30 PM**  
Enjoy quiet moments of Compline, a meditative thought to engage senses, and Holy Communion.

# THE SJLC MINUTE

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



## April 2025

### SJLC CALENDAR

- March 30** 4th Sunday in Lent  
Worship  
Faith Formation  
\*Nursery  
\*Children ... Music, Lesson, Snack, and Craft  
\*Youth ... Games and Spiritual Gains  
\*Parents ... Coffee and Conversation  
\*Adults ... Bible Study of The Gospel of Luke  
Worship
- March 31** Staff Meeting  
APATT Feeding Ministry
- April 1** Executive Team Meeting
- April 2** SAM's Meeting  
Holy Communion  
Instruction  
Lenten Midweek Dinner  
Lenten Midweek Worship
- April 3** Highways and Byways  
Feeding Ministry  
Via de Cristo Retreat\*
- April 4** Via de Cristo Retreat\*
- April 5** Via de Cristo Retreat\*  
Kiwaniis Pancake Fundraiser  
Youth Group Spring Retreat\*



#### ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Today at 10:10 in the Fellowship we'll begin a series of meditations on the theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Lutheran pastor, teacher, and author from Germany, known both for his theological writings like *The Cost of Discipleship* and *Ethics* and his opposition to Hitler's treatment of Jews in the 1930s. Our meditations will be drawn from *A 40-Day Journey with Dietrich Bonhoeffer*, which is designed both for individual and small-group explorations. There's no need to get the book; we'll select some of the meditations for our Sunday gatherings. Those interested in learning more about his life and faith journey can also watch the 2003 documentary film, *Bonhoeffer*, available on YouTube. (Just type "Bonhoeffer 2003 Martin Doblmeier" in a browser search box, and it should turn up.) There's also a 2024 movie, but I think it's best to start with this 2003 documentary.

We'll introduce the series and share our first meditation (*which includes passages by Bonhoeffer and related scripture passages*) on Sunday. As usual, we'll have coffee, sweets, and conversation. Join us!

#### SAM---Senior Adult Ministry Wednesday, April 2 at 11:30am

- Lunch:** Salsarita's Catering  
Your cost: \$5
- RSVP:** Mary Cole  
865-370-3132 or [memecole@comcast.net](mailto:memecole@comcast.net)



**Blessing Basket:** cleaning supplies and bars of soap

#### Program. Birthday Party for Everyone! Debbie Sousa---Music from the 1960s

Join us to hear Debbie play wonderful music from the 1960s.  
Hope to see you there!



**April 25**  
**Songwriter Concert**  
**Sparks Fellowship**  
**Hall**



**FIRST FRIDAYS**  
with st. john's lutheran church

**FIRST FRIDAY**  
**@ ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**When:** Friday, April 4  
**Where:** Sparks Fellowship Hall  
**Time:** 6:15 PM

**Who:** All are welcome!

**What:** This is an invitation for a relaxing evening full of easy conversations, catching up with friends, meeting new friends, connecting with members from different services than the one you might normally attend. Those who wish, may venture downtown or to our neighbors on Emory Place to see what they are up to. First Fridays are always fun and a great way to relax after a long week. Please enter through the courtyard gate.

**What to bring:** Everyone is invited to bring a dish and beverage to share. You may bring an adult beverage, and we will have tea and lemonade available, as well.

# HOLY COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

If your elementary school-aged child is ready to receive Holy Communion instruction, please consider our Lenten instruction classes. The program concludes with a special Family Communion celebration, where each child receives a framed picture and a personalized communion set they create.

3/26

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM  
Instruction in the Conference Room

4/2

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM  
Instruction in the Conference Room

4/5

3:30 PM - Pottery Party at Liza Moz  
Dinner following at Tomato Head

4/27

Family Communion Celebration  
at both Worship Services

## CHILD, YOUTH, &

## FAMILY FAITH

## FORMATION HAPPENINGS!

**April 4-6**

Youth Group Spring Retreat in Sevierville!

**April 18**

Good Friday Kids Camp

**Sunday, April 20**

Easter Brunch & Flowering of the Cross

**Sunday, April 27**

Family Communion (both services)

**Sunday, April 27**

Knox Area Youth Gathering

(3-12 graders) @St. John's Lutheran 1-2:30 PM

# FAITH Formation



## Annual Spring Cleanup Saturday, April 12

8:30 AM Breakfast | 9:00 - 11:00 AM Cleanup

Come early for fellowship over coffee and light breakfast!

**Inside:** Condition the beautiful woodwork of the Welcome Center and Sanctuary, clean the windows inside and out, clean blinds, clean wax from sanctuary floors and pews, and arrange archive room upstairs

**Outside:** Trim tree limbs, prepare Courtyard Fountain for springtime operation, waterproof cement wall caps, and other outside projects

Please bring gloves; all other tools will be provided!

Questions? Please contact Ron Wollard at (865) 209-7798 or Avery Green (865) 314-6783.

# GOOD FRIDAY KIDS CAMP

APRIL 18, 10 AM - 2 PM

st. john's lutheran church  
544 n. broadway  
spark's fellowship hall  
[www.sjlcknox.org/calendar](http://www.sjlcknox.org/calendar)

- adult and youth led day camp for kinder-elementary school ages.
- lunch included.
- parents return for 2:00 closing worship.



## SCHEDULE

### Holy Week

**Palm Sunday... April 13**

Procession with Palms at 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

**Maundy Thursday...April 17**

Holy Communion & Stripping of the Altar at 7:30 PM

**Good Friday...April 18**

Tenebrae (Office of Shadows) at 7:30 PM

**Easter Sunday... April 20**

Sunrise Worship at 7:00 AM  
(begins in Old Gray Cemetary)

Festival Worship at 9:00 AM

Brunch, Flowering of the Cross & Easter Egg Hunt at 10:10 AM

Festival Worship at 11:00 AM

