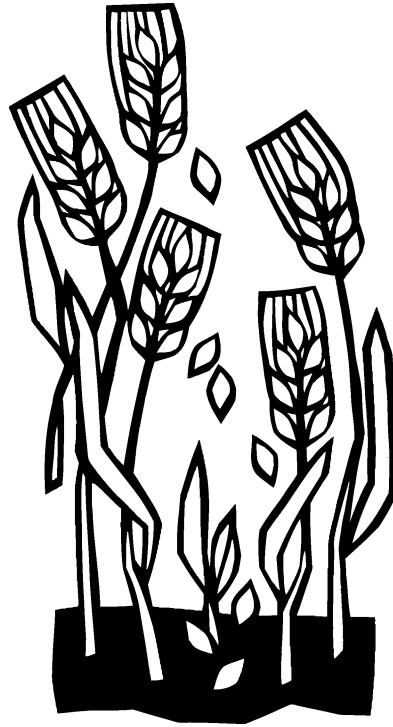


Abiding Presence Lutheran Church and Preschool



The Fifth Sunday of Lent
Sunday 9:30am, March 17, 2024
Monday, 7:30pm, March 18, 2024

The People of God, Ministers
The Reverend Paul Egensteiner, Bishop
The Reverend Robert Schoepflin, Pastor
Ms. Kathy Pucci, Deacon
Mr. Gavin Schwen, Deacon
Dr. Thomas Zatorski, Director of Music
Ms. Lisa Pecchio, Soloist
Dcn. Kathy Pucci, Ms. Kathy Smith, Mr. Jim Meyer, Assisting
Mr. Paul Farber, Mr. William Berg, Ms. Hailey Herfel, Ushers
Mr. Brian Ansink, Usher Monday Evening
Ms. Katelyn Lombardi, Greeter Monday Evening
Mr. Dylan Schroeter, Acolyte
Mr. Jack Thors, Mr. Andrew Lombardi, Acolytes Monday Evening
Mr. Rob Cubbon, Ms. Eileen Kane-Gemmell, Ms. Meredith Mayer, Readers
Ms. Jean Oblak, Altar Guild
Ms. Addison Ingwersen, Video Production
Ms. Diann Lastihenos, Preschool Director



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Welcome to Worship!
The Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 17, 2024, 9:30am
Abiding Presence Church and Preschool

INTRODUCTION

God promises Jeremiah that a “new covenant” will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God’s heart through Christ and draws God’s love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God’s love with all the world.

PRELUDE ***“Durch Adams Fall ist ganz verderbt”*** J.S. Bach BWV 1101

GATHERING – The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

To you, O God,

all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of ✝ Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN 321 "Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church"



1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
so we are dead and live with you in God.
so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–2003

Music: OLD 124TH, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

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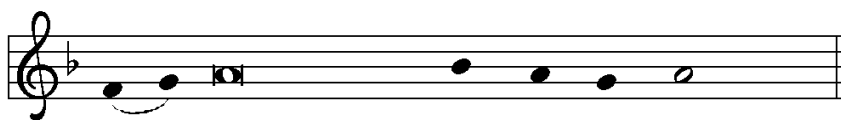
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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.

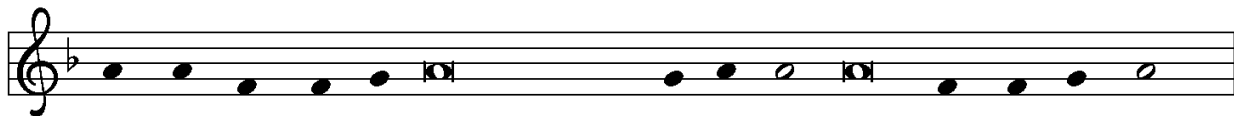
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



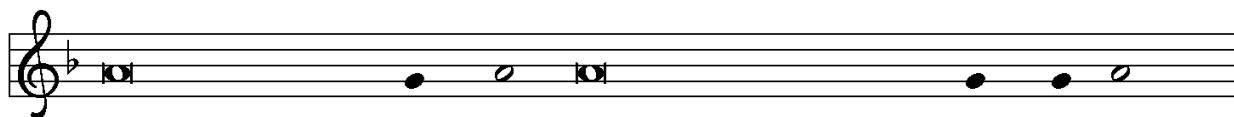
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



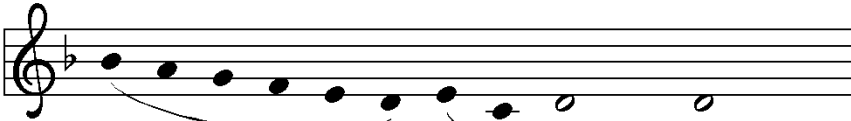
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together:

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please sit

WORD – God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

A Reading from Jeremiah

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 119:9-16

Read responsively

⁹How shall the young keep their way clean?

By keeping to your word.

¹⁰**With my whole heart I seek you;**

let me not stray from your commandments.

¹¹I treasure your promise in my heart,

that I may not sin against you.

- ¹²**Blessed are you, O LORD;
instruct me in your statutes.**
- ¹³With my lips I recite
all the judgments of your mouth.
- ¹⁴**I take greater delight in the way of your decrees
than in all manner of riches.**
- ¹⁵I will meditate on your commandments
and give attention to your ways.
- ¹⁶**My delight is in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

A Reading from Hebrews

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL 769 (st. 1)

“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

***If you but trust in God to guide you
with gentle hand through all your ways,
you'll find that God is there beside you
when crosses come, in trying days.
Trust then in God's unchanging love;
build on the rock that will not move.***

Gospel: John 12:20-33

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

The Holy Gospel according to John
Glory to You, O Lord

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. ²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine.

³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL 769 (st. 4)

“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

***Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving,
offer your service faithfully.***

***Trust heaven's word; though undeserving,
you'll find this promise true to be.***

***This is our confidence indeed:
God never fails in time of need.***

Please sit

REFLECTION

Please stand as you are able

HYMN 778 WOV

"O Christ the Same"



1 O Christ the same, through all our sto - ry's pag - es—
 2 O Christ the same, the friend of sin - ners, shar - ing
 3 O Christ the same, se - cure with - in whose keep - ing

our loves and hopes, our fail - ures and our fears;
 our in - most thoughts, the se - crets none can hide;
 our lives and loves, our days and years re - main;

e - ter - nal Lord, the king of all the a - ges,
 still as of old up - on your bod - y bear - ing
 our work and rest, our wak - ing and our sleep - ing,

un - chang - ing still a - mid the pass - ing years:
 the marks of love in tri - umph glo - ri - fied:
 our calm and storm, our plea - sure and our pain:

O liv - ing Word, the source of all cre - a - tion,
 O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heav - en—
 O Lord of love, for all our joys and sor - rows,

who spread the skies and set the stars a - blaze;
 O Prince of life, in all your sav - ing power;
 for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;

O Christ the same, who wrought our whole sal - va - tion,
 O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are giv - en:
 O Christ the same, be - yond our brief to - mor - rows,

we bring our thanks for all our yes - ter - days.
 we bring our thanks for this the pres - ent hour.
 we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926
 Music: LONDONDERRY AIR, Irish tune

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NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the + life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Response: “Your mercy is great.”)

Trusting in God’s promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need, responding “your mercy is great.”

A brief silence.

God of the covenant, through the church you draw us into community. We give thanks for the means of grace around which we gather. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all that exists, you lavish the earth with extravagant beauty. Preserve the rich and complex diversity of living things. Support local, national, and international efforts to protect the environment for future generations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for any experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse. Protect and comfort all who are suffering or ill, especially Evelyn, Bob, Claudette, Jim, James, Barbara, Patrick, Tony, Doris, Betty, Jeff, Ron, Aubrey, Fran, Roger, George, Alice, Anthony, Melinda, Mildred, Kathy, Jessica, [], those on our prayer list, and those we name before you, aloud or in our hearts *pause for names*. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of promise, we give thanks for the saints whose faith inspires us. Grant us faith to trust in your everlasting love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

Please sit

ANTHEM ***“Open My Eyes/Amazing Grace”*** Jesse Manibusan
Arranged by Kathy McGrath and Michele MacAller
Choir of the Abiding Presence

OFFERING

Please stand as you are able

OFFERING HYMN 339 (st.1)

“Christ the Life of All the Living”

***Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, yourself for me once giving
to the darkest depths of woe:
through your suff'ring, death, and merit
life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
dearest Jesus, unto you.***

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: Jesus, you are the bread of life
and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.

Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.

We pray this in your name.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

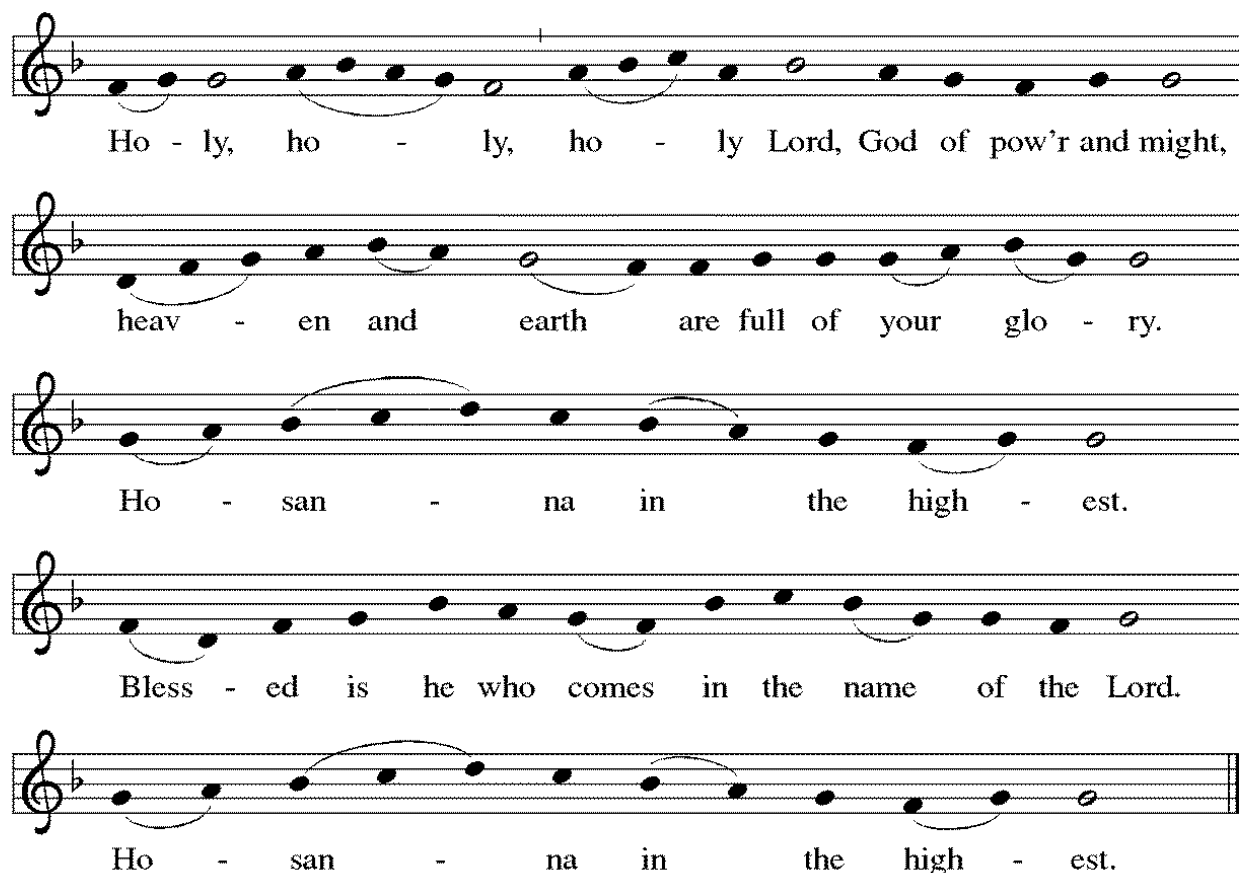
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.' The second staff also has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has one measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has one measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The melody is simple, using quarter and half notes with slurs connecting groups of notes.

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:



THANKSGIVING AT TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With Blessed Mary, the Mother of Our Lord, Peter the Apostle,
Mary Magdalene, the first to see the Risen Lord, and
your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,

your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.

Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we

for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al

and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,

and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Happy are those who are called to come to his Supper.

O Lord, we are not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and we shall be healed.

ANGUS DEI

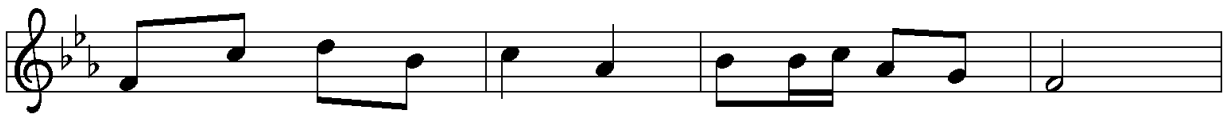
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

Please sit

THE DISTRIBUTION

Gluten-free wafers are available. When you come forward, please let your Communion Minister know if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

COMMUNION HYMN 379 "Now the Green Blade Rises"



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

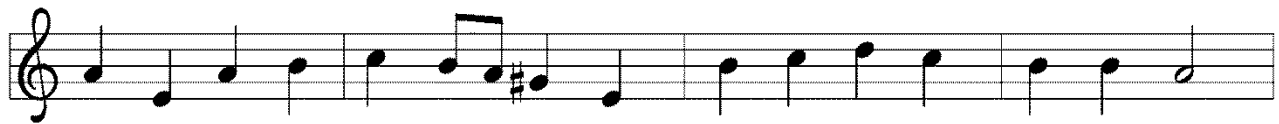
Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

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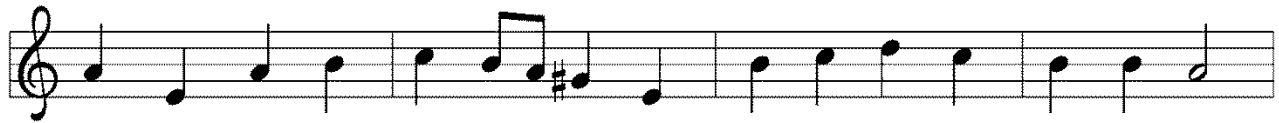
Please stand as you are able

BLESSING

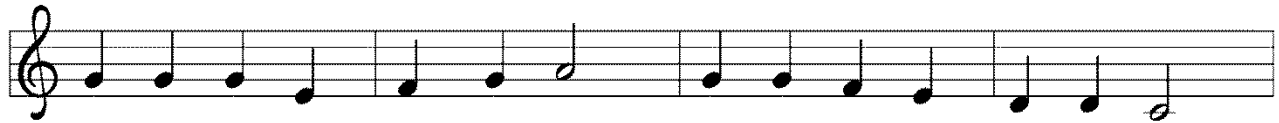
POST COMMUNION HYMN 811 *“On My Heart, Imprint Your Image”*



On my heart im - print your im - age, bless - ed Je - sus, king of grace,



that life's trou - bles nor its plea - sures ev - er may your work e - rase.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, all my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.
Music: DER AM KREUZ, Johann B. König, 1691–1758

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
now make us one loaf to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.
Amen.

SENDING – God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you his peace, In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 545 *“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”*



- 1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
- 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
- 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
Ev - er faith-ful, ev - er faith-ful to your truth may we be found.
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end-less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.
Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

DISMISSAL

Gathered by Christ, Growing in Faith, Sent to serve.

All are welcome!

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“O Lamm Gottes, Unschuldig”

Johann Pachelbel

Monday, March 18, 2024
7:30 pm

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

To you, O God,

all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of ✙ Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN 321 "Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church"



1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



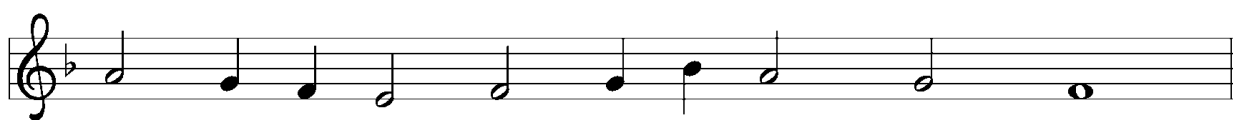
walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
 so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
 you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
 we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
 and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
 know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
 glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
 so we are dead and live with you in God.
 so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–2003

Music: OLD 124TH, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

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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

Let us pray together:

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Gospel: John 12:20-33

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

The Holy Gospel according to John

Glory to You, O Lord

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. ²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit

REFLECTION

Please stand as you are able

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Response: “Your mercy is great.”)

Trusting in God’s promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need, responding “your mercy is great.”

A brief silence.

God of the covenant, through the church you draw us into community. We give thanks for the means of grace around which we gather. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all that exists, you lavish the earth with extravagant beauty. Preserve the rich and complex diversity of living things. Support local, national, and international efforts to protect the environment for future generations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for any experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse. Protect and comfort all who are suffering or ill, especially Evelyn, Bob, Claudette, Jim, James, Barbara, Patrick, Tony, Doris, Betty, Jeff, Ron, Aubrey, Fran, Roger, George, Alice, Anthony, Melinda, Mildred, Kathy, Jessica, [], those on our prayer list, and those we name before

you, aloud or in our hearts *pause for names*. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of promise, we give thanks for the saints whose faith inspires us. Grant us faith to trust in your everlasting love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN 339 (st.1)

“Christ the Life of All the Living”

***Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, yourself for me once giving
to the darkest depths of woe:
through your suff'ring, death, and merit
life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
dearest Jesus, unto you.***

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: Jesus, you are the bread of life
and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.

Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.

We pray this in your name.
Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

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 Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he (+) who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

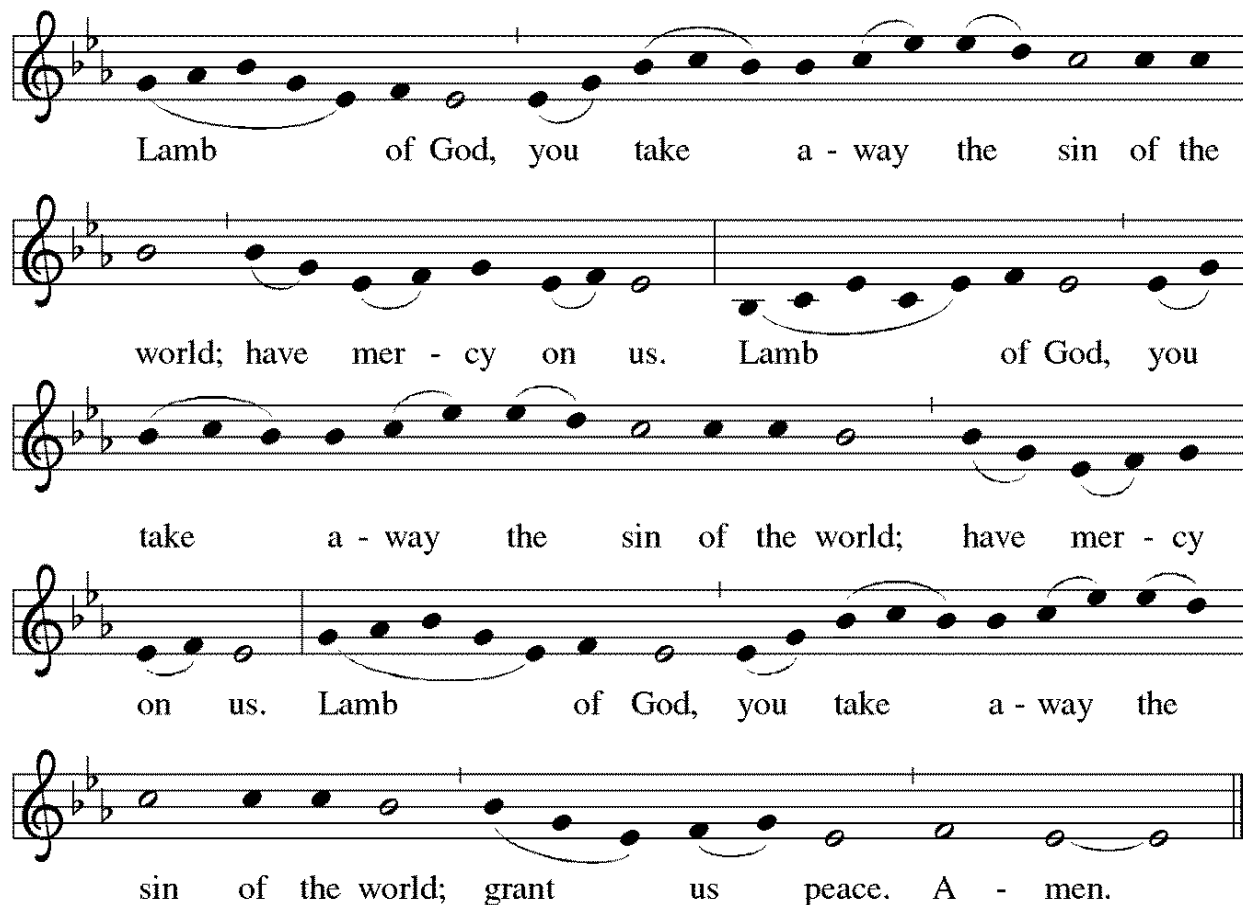
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Happy are those who are called to come to his Supper.

C: O Lord, we are not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and we shall be healed.

AGNUS DEI



THE DISTRIBUTION

Gluten-free wafers are available. When you come forward, please let your Communion Minister know if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.

As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
now make us one loaf to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor, and give us his peace, In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 545 *“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”*



- 1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
- 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
- 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der-ness.
Ev - er faith-ful, ev - er faith-ful to your truth may we be found.
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end-less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.
Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

SENDING

A: Gathered by Christ, Growing in Faith, Sent to serve

C: All are welcome!

A: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

OUR MISSION

The mission of Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, a spiritual home centered in Christ and community, is to share Jesus' love in our words and in our works as we welcome all to the family of God.

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IN OUR PRAYERS FOR COMFORT AND HEALING ARE: Alie, Rakel Anderson, Annette, Jean B., J. Bauer, Margaret Belt, Betsey Berry, Robert Bogart, Betty Bose, Brenda, Matthew Bruce, Annabelle Carini, Carol Carini, Fran Casola, Claire, Anthony Ceriello, Christel Clausen, Mitch Crowley, Jackie DeVille, The Dillon Family, Avery Doino, Richard Domchick, Karen Dragani, Roy Erlandson, Wendy Erlandson, Felix, Jeff Fenn, Kathleen Gaglio, Ralph Gallo, George Garone, Melinda Geis, Ella Giana, Frank Gonzalez, Gregory, Thomas H., Ed and June Heidelberger, Charlie Hoffman, Mariette Israelian, Wendy J., Joanne, Joe, Ginny Kacin, Evelyn Kaestner, Robert Kelly, Brian Kennedy, Erik Krisch, Kristen, Loretta Lusteg, Doris Meyer, Terry Moore, Jennifer Morrell, Mildred Morse, Steven N., Kim Nallan, Robert Nedwick, Rose P., Patrick, Alice Pecchio, Richard Pecchio, Dorothy Philcox, Conrad Pohlmann, Jessica Pucci, Ron Pucci, Lynn R., Bill Roche, Charlotte Roessle, Jim Rogin, Sal, Susan Salerno, The Schettino Family, John Scott, Jeff Smith, Jeffrey Starke, Suzanne Stoklosa, Peter T., Anna T., Victoria, Michael Wagner, Bud Weber, Peter Weichner, Bill Witte, Kathy Zieran, Erwin Zimmermann.

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Joseph Begley, Liam Begley, Courtney Burke, Paul Cassuti, John Delano, Jonathan Dixon, Jason Ericksen, Walton Delano Gouldin, Eric Hank, Jr., Michael Hewson, Alycia A. Howard, Dr. Daniel Howard, Claire James, Justin MacDonald, Katie Mayer, Daniel Murray, Richard Mutari, Jay Rosenwald, Jake Sass, Kaitlin Stark, Bryce Michael Wheeler.



Our prayers and sympathies are with Debra, Louis and Delaney Lograno on the death of Debra's mother, Valerie Stilwell.

Rest eternal grant her O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE burns this week signifying the Presence of God among His people.

Daily Bible Readings for Year B (March 17 – March 24)

From *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Sun 3/17	<i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i> Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33	
Mon 3/18	Psalm 119:9-16 Isaiah 43:8-13 2 Corinthians 3:4-11	
Tues 3/19	Psalm 119:9-16 Isaiah 44:1-8 Acts 2:14-24	<i>Joseph, Guardian of Jesus</i> 2 Samuel 7:4, 8-18 Psalm 89:1-29 Romans 4:13-18
Wed 3/20	Psalm 119:9-16 Haggai 2:1-9, 20-23 John 12:34-50	Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a
Thurs 3/21	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Deuteronomy 16:1-8 Philippians 2:1-11	
Fri 3/22	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Jeremiah 33:1-9 Philippians 2:12-18	
Sat 3/23	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Jeremiah 33:10-16 Mark 10:32-34, 46-52	
Sun 3/24	<i>Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday</i> Mark 11:1-11 Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 14:1—15:47	

THE PARISH COUNCIL

***If you would like contact information for the council members listed below,
please call the church office at 631-269-6454.***

Joanne Pittfick, President
Pr. Robert Schoepflin, Vice-President
Brian Ansink, Fellowship
Karen Garone, Finance
Karen Alicata, Treasurer
Karen Garone, Assistant Treasurer
Mark Waldron, Assistant Treasurer
Arthur Wakefield, Assistant Treasurer
Barbara Kaifler, Secretary
Marina Bedrossian, Youth
Rich Doino, Property
Karen Wallin, Social Ministries
Betty Bose, Music and Worship
Aubrey Minton, Christian Education
Paul Farber, Stewardship

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Sunday Schedule	9:30am In person and Live stream via YouTube	The Holy Eucharist
Sunday school N3 – Grade 5	9:00am In person	
Monday Schedule	7:30pm In person	The Holy Eucharist

Church Office: 631-269-6454 School Office: 631-269-4898
www.abidingpresencechurch.org
email: abidingpresenceoffice@gmail.com