

March 3, 2024  
Third Sunday in Lent  
Lord of Life Lutheran Church



WELCOME  
MUSICAL OFFERING

Suzanne Bowen

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Inspired by Psalm 19

If you ask the sky who God is,  
    **the sky will tell you of God's reach.**  
If you ask the day who God is,  
    **the sun will tell you of God's warmth.**  
If you ask the night who God is,  
    **the moon will tell you of God's comfort.**  
"The heavens are telling the glory of God" (Psalm 19:1).  
Are you listening?  
    **We are listening!**  
    **We will sing of God's glory.**  
Let us worship Holy God.

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God,  
Some days, we are quick to declare your goodness.  
Like Peter, we see you in our midst and we are confident in our faith.  
Other days, we are distracted and uncertain, desperate for answers.  
    **Forgive us for losing sight of you.**

Some days we are quick to trust your blessings—  
trusting that we are called, that we can make a difference.  
Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in.  
    **Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.**

We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith.  
But for the days when we are far from you and far from ourselves, we ask for your tender grace.  
    **Pull us closer toward you. Remind us of the mountaintop moments of our faith.**  
Amen.

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

#### HYMN

*He Comes to Us as One Unknown*

#737

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy Word, For generations people have bowed their heads, have prayed the Psalms, have asked for your presence in their lives. For generations people have whispered, "May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable and pleasing to you, O God." For generations we have gathered here, we have quieted our minds, we have prayed to feel your presence in our midst. So once again, just as the generations before, we turn our hearts to your Word. Still our busy minds so that we might truly comprehend what you have to say to us today. With joy and hope we pray, amen.

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### PSALM: Psalm 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God;  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

<sup>2</sup> **Day to day pours forth speech,  
and night to night declares knowledge.**

<sup>3</sup> There is no speech, nor are there words;  
their voice is not heard;

<sup>4</sup> **yet their voice goes out through all the earth,  
and their words to the end of the world.**

**In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,**

<sup>5</sup> which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,  
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

<sup>6</sup> **Its rising is from the end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to the end of them;  
and nothing is hidden from its heat.**

<sup>7</sup> The law of the Lord is perfect,  
reviving the soul;

the decrees of the Lord are sure,  
making wise the simple;

<sup>8</sup> **the precepts of the Lord are right,  
rejoicing the heart;**

**the commandment of the Lord is clear,  
enlightening the eyes;**

<sup>9</sup> the fear of the Lord is pure,  
enduring forever;

the ordinances of the Lord are true  
and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup> **More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;**

**sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

<sup>11</sup> Moreover by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup> **But who can detect their errors?  
Clear me from hidden faults.**

<sup>13</sup> Keep back your servant also from the insolent;  
do not let them have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless,  
and innocent of great transgression.

<sup>14</sup> **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable to you,  
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’ <sup>14</sup> And they said, ‘Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ <sup>15</sup> He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’ <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.’ <sup>20</sup> Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

## MESSAGE

### HYMN OF THE DAY

*God is Here!* vs. 1, 3, 4

#526

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jesus asked the disciples, “But what about you? Who do you say that I am?”  
Church, what do you say?

**Jesus is a hand reaching out in the storm,  
the voice of truth spoken over us,  
and love without walls.**

**Jesus is justice for the weary,  
healing for the hurt,  
and welcome for the stranger.**

**Jesus is teacher, Messiah, and friend—  
with me on the mountain  
and beside me in the valley.**

**Jesus is a star in the night,  
and the love that knows my name.**

Jesus asked, “Who do you say that I am?”

**Like Peter, we say,  
“Jesus, you are the Messiah, son of the Living God.”**

## THE PRAYERS

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

## OFFERTORY

*Lord, Be Glorified*

#744

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### COMMUNION BLESSING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE BLESSING

### SENDING HYMN

*Drawn to the Light*

#593

### SENDING