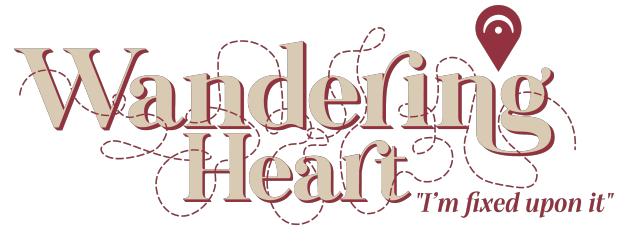


**March 10, 2024**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**Lord of Life Lutheran Church**



**WELCOME**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

Suzanne Bowen

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

On our worst days,

**God is good.**

On our best days,

**God is good.**

When life is consistent,

**God is good.**

And when life turns on its head,

**God is good.**

Day and night, Monday through Sunday,

**God is good. God is here. God is love.**

Hold tight to that good news. Let us worship God!

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy God, We often find ourselves moving through a world that does not make sense.

Like Peter, we want to yell out, "This should not happen!" We want to control scenarios beyond our reach. We want to hold your world in our hands. Forgive us for the moments when we lead with declarations instead of curiosity. Forgive us for arguing when we could listen. Forgive us for fixating on one truth, when we could open ourselves up to many. Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen. With hope in our hearts we pray, amen.

**WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

**HYMN**

*Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty*

vss. 2, 3, 4, 6

#777

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Listening God, If we could attach ourselves to you, we would. We would scribble your scripture onto our tender hearts. We would weave your good news into the fiber of our being. We would bind ourselves to you, but instead, we wander. Instead of attaching ourselves to you, we find ourselves swept up in the business of the day. Like a seesaw of faithfulness, we move back and forth, up and down, constantly trying to find you in the midst of it all. So speak clearly to us now. Quiet the distractions long enough for us to affix ourselves to your good news. We are listening. We are hungry. We are hopeful. Amen.

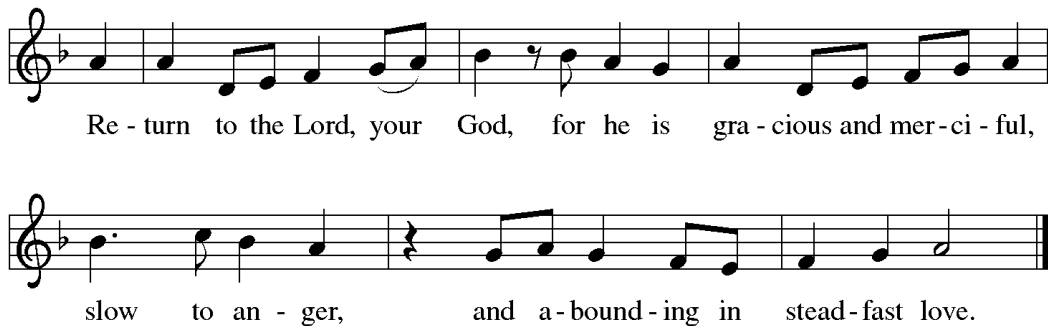
**HOLY BAPTISM**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### PSALM: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

- <sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures for ever.
- <sup>2</sup> **Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,  
those he redeemed from trouble**
- <sup>3</sup> and gathered in from the lands,  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.
- <sup>17</sup> **Some were sick through their sinful ways,  
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;**
- <sup>18</sup> they loathed any kind of food,  
and they drew near to the gates of death.
- <sup>19</sup> **Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress;**
- <sup>20</sup> he sent out his word and healed them,  
and delivered them from destruction.
- <sup>21</sup> **Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.**
- <sup>22</sup> And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,  
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



### THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-23

<sup>21</sup> From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' <sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

### MESSAGE

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

*Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*

#335

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in a God of second chances,  
**a God who sees through my stubbornness  
and holds my fear with tenderness.**

I believe that this God of second chances  
uses ordinary people like Peter to do good in the world.  
**Therefore, I believe and hope that God can use me too.**

I believe that from time to time, God invites us to imagine the impossible.

I believe that from time to time, God invites us to change our minds.

**This change is holy and important work, although challenging.**

**When fear and scarcity plague me,**

**or when the impossible feels out of reach,**

**I believe that God meets me with grace and invites me to follow.**

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

**Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS**

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

#### **OFFERTORY**

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

#742

#### **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**

*Baptized and Set Free*

#453

#### **SENDING**

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | Graphic Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](https://sanctifiedart.org)

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