

# Welcome to worship at TIERRASANTALUTHERANCHURCH

We're excited that you have chosen to worship with us. We encourage you to fill out the green visitor sheet located in the pew pocket and place it in the offering basket. We have "Busy Bags" for kids in the narthex, and children's bulletins are available from an usher. A Nursery for children 3 and under is at the west end of the hallway.

Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning — to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part today in assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trust the promises of God. Have no fear.

PRESERVICE (Piano)

PRELUDE "Day After Day" - Schreiner (Sung by John Michel)
Copyright 1991 Maranatha Music

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP BY PASTOR JAMES JERPSETH

#### THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

(a moment of silence for self-examination)

P: Most merciful God,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

# **GATHERING HYMN** ELW 879 "For the Beauty of the Earth" (stz. 1, 3, 4, 5)

1 For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,

for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

#### Refrain

Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

- 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: Refrain
- 4 For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild: *Refrain*
- 5 For each perfect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n; for thyself, best gift divine, to our world so freely giv'n: Refrain

### **APOSTOLIC 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: Let us pray together:

C: Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir, and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

#### **Genesis 15:1-6**

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

**SECOND READING** Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

### Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible....By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-and Sarah herself was barren-because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

**GOSPEL** Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

#### Luke 12:32-40

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

SPECIAL MUSIC "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed And Burning" (sung by John Michel)
Spiritual

## **MESSAGE BY PASTOR JAMES JERPSETH**

# HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 764 "Have No Fear, Little Flock"

- 1 Have no fear, little flock; have no fear, little flock, for the Father has chosen to give you the kingdom; have no fear, little flock!
- 2 Have good cheer, little flock; have good cheer, little flock, for the Father will keep you in his love forever; have good cheer, little flock!
- 3 Praise the Lord high above; praise the Lord high above, for he stoops down to heal you,

uplift and restore you; praise the Lord high above!

4 Thankful hearts raise to God; thankful hearts raise to God, for he stays close beside you, in all things works with you; thankful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jilson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4 Text © 1973 Concordia Publishing House

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

P: In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

P: Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace,

# C: hear our prayer.

P: Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace,

## C: hear our prayer.

P: You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace,

### C: hear our prayer.

P: Let your loving kindness be on those in need, especially: Reid Bixler, Barbara Berg, James Vadis, Marianne d'Arnaud, Ellen Mize, Vicki Hansen, Donna Roberts, Audrey Russell, Brandi Vadis, Frank Fogg, Carol Bergdahl, and the Velasquez family at the death of Christophe. Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. Lord, please guide and protect our military personnel serving in harm's way. God of grace,

### C: hear our prayer.

P: Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace,

## C: hear our prayer.

P: For what else do the people pray? God of grace,

## C: hear our prayer.

P: We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. God of grace,

## C: hear our prayer.

P: Trusting in your loving kindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

## C: Amen.

## **OFFERTORY HYMN** ELW 801 "Change My Heart, O God"

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God;

may I be like you.

You are the potter;

I am the clay.

Mold me and make me;

this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God;

make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God:

may I be like you.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953 Text © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing

CHILDREN'S OFFERING - Lutheran World Relief School Kits. We are gathering supplies to make school kits to be assembled on the ELCA Day of Service in September. In August we're collecting: Crayons - the 16 or 24 count boxes and also spiral notebooks - 70 page, wide or narrow rule.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW page 206 spoken)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: 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 ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# (ELW page 207 spoken)

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n 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, hosanna in the highest.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

### DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All Christians are invited by our Lord to receive His Body and Blood in the Eucharist. Children who have not yet received First Communion instructions are invited to come forward to receive a blessing, but are requested to wait with Communing until they have been properly instructed. If you would like to

receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest. Wine is in the gold chalice and grape juice is in the pottery chalice.

# **COMMUNION MUSIC** ELW 502 "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.
- Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth and, where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.
- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me, and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear Lord, beside me, thy rod and staff my comfort still; thy cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth; and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never. Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

#### THE BENEDICTION

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

## SENDING HYMN ELW 632 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" (stz. 1, 5, 6)

- 1 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.

#### THE DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**POSTLUDE** Piano

Assisting Minsiter/Reader: Pete Hovde Ushers: Duke Sobek, Derry Pence Communion: Bill Stephenson Altar: Claudia Murphy

Coffee: Derry & Ginny Pence

Nursery: Isabelle Villa, Aiden Sparks

Permission to podcast/stream music from this service obtained from One License with license # 733910-A. Valid for 04/16/2025 - 04/15/2026 and Christian Copyright Licensing, LLC. License 2953788 & 20576474 for 02/28/2025-02/28/2026.



## **TLC STAFF**

Senior Pastor: Bohdan Vadis; Administrative Assistant: Elizabeth Duffield;

Bookkeeper: Sandy Robinson; Director of Music: Betsy Frater;

Coordinator of Children's Ministry: Tylor Green; Worship Projection

Technician: Amy Hall; Sextons: Sam Irons, Aaron Russell; TLC Pre School

Director: Melissa Vargas.

# **Tierrasanta Lutheran Church**

858.560.8688 Email <a href="mailto:info@tierrasantalutheran.org">info@tierrasantalutheran.org</a> www.tierrasantalutheran.com