



# Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2026

**Hope Lutheran Church of Rossmoor**

www.hoperossmoor.org

925-709-4673 (Voicemail ONLY)

**The Rev. Andreas Pielhoop, Pastor**

**Prelude**

**Instrumental Music**

**Jaxon Schlagenhauf**

## **Welcome & Introduction**

**Pastor Andreas Pielhoop**

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**All: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

**All: Amen.**



1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,  
 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,  
 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,  
 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!  
 to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.  
 sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.  
 the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

**Greeting**

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: 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.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**All: Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

P: Let us all pray together.

**All: Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14**

Karen Peterson

*Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."*

<sup>1</sup> The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know."

<sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." <sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup> I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. <sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup> I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

**Psalm 130**

**Karen Peterson & Congregation**

- <sup>1</sup> Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
- <sup>2</sup> **O LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**
- <sup>3</sup> If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand?
- <sup>4</sup> **Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.**
- <sup>5</sup> I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.
- <sup>6</sup> **My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.**
- <sup>7</sup> O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.
- <sup>8</sup> **For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

**Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11**

**Karen Peterson**

*For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.*

<sup>6</sup> To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed, it cannot, <sup>8</sup> and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup> But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Judy Ryken**

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**All: *Glory to you, O Lord.***

*Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.*

<sup>1</sup> Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup> But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." <sup>5</sup> Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup> after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup> The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." <sup>11</sup> After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." <sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." <sup>13</sup> Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup> For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup> Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." <sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup> She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." <sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup> When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup> He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup> Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup> But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" <sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." <sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

<sup>45</sup> Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

**P: The Gospel of Our Lord**

**All: *Praise to You, O Christ.***

Special Music

*Gift of Music*

Dr. James Greening-Valenzuela

Message

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

Hymn of the Day

*Restore in Us, O God-ELW 328*

Judy Ryken



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -  
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from  
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -  
4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.  
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.  
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.  
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Apostles Creed

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

**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 catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

Each petition ends with: Hear us, O God. **Response: Your mercy is great.**

Offering

*We invite you to place your **Offering** in the offering plate as it is passed.*

Special Music

*Gift of Music*

Dr. James Greening-Valenzuela

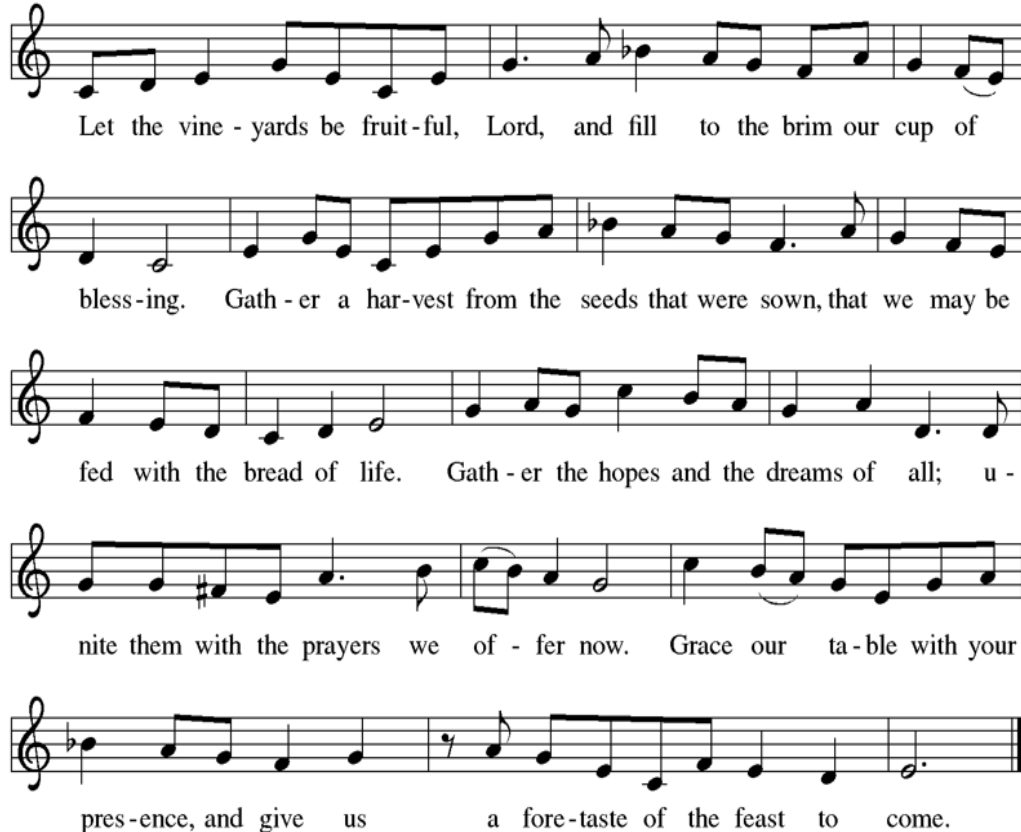
Offering Prayer

**P:** As we lift up our offerings to the Lord, let us pray.

**All:** **O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

### Offering Song



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

#### Holy Communion: Words of Institution

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

P: For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

#### The Lord's Prayer

All: **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.**

*At Hope we practice Open Communion. We believe the invitation to the table comes from Jesus Christ himself. Therefore, you do not need to be a member of this or any other congregation to join in the meal. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please let the pastor know you prefer one when your turn comes. To preserve the solemnity as guests at Christ's table, please return silently to your seat and refrain from talking while others receive Holy Communion. There will be plenty of opportunity afterwards at our coffee hour.*

#### Instrumental Music

Jaxon Schlagenhauf

#### Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray.

All: **God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Blessing** (*Please stand as you are able*)

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✚ bless you now and always.

All: Amen.

***Peace I Leave With You***

***Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth, give I unto you; Not as the world giveth, give I unto you.  
Let not your heart be troubled; Neither let it be afraid.  
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Amen.***

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

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**Announcements**

**Pastoral Needs** – For any pastoral need, you can call or text Pastor Andreas Pielhoop at 415-577-5461 or via email at pielhoop77@earthlink.net.

**Meet with Pastor Andreas** – Pastor Andreas will have office hours on April 16 from 1pm-3pm in Card Room 1 upstairs at Stanley Dollar Clubhouse. You can make an appointment but walk-ins are welcome too.

**Birthday Blessings** go out to **Everett Arnold** who celebrates his birthday on Mar 27

**Anniversary Blessings** go out to **Carolyn & Marv Schick** who celebrate their 60th anniversary on Mar 25.

Thank you to **Dr. James Greening-Valenzuela** for providing special music for today's worship!

Our **Tenor-Bass (TTBB) Choir** will rehearse & sing at worship on Sunday, Mar 29, at 9:15am. Come join us!

**Fourth Wednesday Lunch Group** – On Wednesday, March 25, we will gather for food and fellowship in Jesus' name at Buttercup at 11:30 a.m. Call Pastor Andreas at 415-577-5461 by March 23 so he can make a reservation.

**Fourth Sunday Lunch** – We will be having our **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday lunch** after the service today. Everyone is welcome. We want to thank **Judy Dybevik** for sponsoring today's sandwiches!

**Helpers & Worship Assistants for:**

<b>Today – March 22</b>	<b>Next Sunday – March 29</b>
<b>Presider</b> Pastor Andreas Pielhoop	<b>Presider</b> Pastor Andreas Pielhoop
<b>Altar</b> Jean, Gerda, Kathy	<b>Altar</b> Jean, Kathy
<b>Greeters</b> Ann Gillette, Bill Kuhnsman, Robin	<b>Greeters</b> Karen Peterson, John Moilan, Robin
<b>Lay Reader</b> Karen Peterson	<b>Lay Reader</b> Karen Krauth, Kathy Odne, +8 more
<b>Communion Assistants</b> John Moilan, Lois Nelson	<b>Communion Assistants</b> Mark & Karen Krauth
<b>Ushers</b> Mark & Karen Krauth	<b>Ushers</b> John Odne, Bill Kuhnsman
<b>Livestream</b> Chase	<b>Livestream</b> Jaxon
<b>Special Music</b> Dr. James Greening-Valenzuela	<b>Special Music</b> TTBB

**Readings for next Sunday, Mar 29:** Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66

**The Christ In Our Home Devotional Booklets** for Apr-May-June are available at the greeting table if you would like one. Large print version is available. Limit one per household please.

**Anchor Newsletter** – if you are not currently receiving Hope’s Anchor newsletter and would like to, please give Robin your email address so you can be added to the distribution list.

**Fellowship** – Immediately following worship, please join us for a time of sharing coffee, goodies and great fellowship. Thank you to those helping with the set-up and clean-up. We ask one person from each table to bring their tray up to the counter at 12:15pm. This helps the clean-up tremendously. You are welcome to stay, socialize and drink coffee beyond that but we must have the clean-up completed by 1pm.

**Rides to Church** – Our volunteer drivers to worship are Sally Lionetti, Camilla Durham, Nancy Conrad (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays only). If you need a ride to church, please contact them for the possibility of a ride.

**Our Worship Service is available to live-stream and view online each week on our website.** The link to the live-stream worship service is <https://bit.ly/3v6JTXm> The bulletin is available on the Hope website under the tab “Worship”. Select “Worship Bulletin” and click on the desired week.

**Your Offering** – If you would like to mail us your offering (including QCDs), please send it to: Hope Lutheran Church, 399 Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek CA 94598 (This is Hope’s mailing address, not our worship location).

**Please remember in prayer:** Paula Tagliareni, Joan Birke (Carole Weyand’s friend), Haley Thaning (Todd’s daughter), Sandy Williams, Wayne Anderson, Lina Hale, Camilla Durham, Tom Lee, Evelyn Olson



*"We have this Hope of Christ's promises as an Anchor for our lives"*  
*Hebrews 6:19*