



**March 10, 2024**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**9:00 AM**

**ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Rev. Monte Peterson, Pastor  
Heather May, Youth & Family Minister  
Carol Peterson, Music Director  
Becky Cunningham, Office Manager

*Members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, in response to Christ's love,  
Reach out in service to each other, the community, and the world.*



Welcome to Worship! All words will be displayed on the screen.  
Kids, don't forget your Praise Packs! Children's Bulletins are available in the Praise Packs!

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS



### PRELUDE

"My Song is Love Unknown-Rhosymedre"

R. Vaughan Williams



### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: We come seeking forgiveness for all we have failed to do and be as members of Christ's body. (pause) God forgives and heals us.

**C: We need your healing, merciful God: give us true repentance. Some sins are plain to us; some escape us, some we cannot face. Forgive us; set us free to hear your word to us; set us free to serve you.**

P: God forgives you. Forgive others; forgive yourself.

Through Christ, God has put away your sin: be at peace.

**All: Amen**

### KYRIE

# 157



### OPENING HYMN

"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

#335, verses 1,3 & 4



### FIRST LESSON

Numbers 21:4-9

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

*R: The Word of the Lord*

**C: Thanks be to God**

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Monte



### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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### HOLY GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

*P: This is the Gospel of our Lord*

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

 **SERMON**

Pastor Monte

 **SERMON HYMN**

“What Wondrous Love is This”

#666, verses 1 & 3

 **WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS**

*Pastor:* We are here this morning to welcome these new members into the community which is St. Luke’s Lutheran Church. We are not a building, but the gathered family of God. We are brothers and sisters in Christ, given this new identity through our baptism into Jesus’ death and resurrection. Today we welcome you, *name*, as members of this family in the larger body of Christ.

And so we ask, do you desire to join the membership of St. Luke’s Lutheran Church? If so please answer: “We do.”

*New Members Response:* “We do.”

*Pastor:* I ask the congregation to stand and join in confessing our faith together in the words of the Apostles Creed.

**All: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and 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 life everlasting. Amen**

*Pastor:* Having together confessed our faith in the Triune God, we now welcome you into the family of our congregation and into the ministry of the church. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism, to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*New Members Response:* **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

*Pastor:* People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brother, to pray for them in their life in Christ, and to welcome them in fellowship and service with us?

**Congregation:**

**We welcome you as brothers and sisters in Christ, and thank God for this opportunity to serve God and one another. May the God to whom we belong equip us for every good work that we do together in his name.**

*Pastor:* Let us pray. Heavenly Father, as you called James and John, Mary and Martha and the other disciples, so you have called us to serve you with our own talents and resources. We thank you for bringing to us these new members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church. You have told us that wherever two or more are gathered in your name, there you are with them. Help us, we pray, to see and feel that presence, that together we may work for the glory of your name and the sake of your kingdom.

**All: Amen**



**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

"Lord, listen to your children praying"

#752



**PEACE**

*P: The peace of the Lord be with you always*    **C: And also with you.**  
*Please greet one another with the words, "Peace be with you."*



**OFFERING**

*Pew Pads are located at the far end of each pew.  
Please fill them out and pass them, noting those seated around you.*



**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

"God So Loved the World"

John Stainer

*Voices of St. Luke's*

*Children are invited to gather at the back during the anthem and help bring forward the offering.*

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*P: The Lord be with you.*

**C: And also with you.**

*P: Open your hearts.*

**C: We open them to God and to one another.**

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

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**



### **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.



**P: Bread and wine: the gifts of God for the people of God.**

**C: May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us.**

## **DISTRIBUTION - Continuous**

*If you wish to have the Pastor bring communion to your pew, please notify an Usher.  
All are Welcome!*



### **COMMUNION HYMN**

"Lamb of God"  
"Just As I Am Without One Plea"

Page #154  
#592, all verses



### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P: Generous God**

**C: 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**



### **BENEDICTION**



### **CLOSING HYMN**

"Lift High the Cross"

#660, verses 1,3 & 4



### **DISMISSAL**

**P: Go in peace. You are God's Beloved.**

**C: Thanks be to God.**



### **POSTLUDE**

"Guide Me, Ever, Great Redeemer"

J. Bert Carlson

**+ THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSISTED DURING WORSHIP TODAY! +**

You can now **GIVE ONLINE**, by scanning the QR code:



***Thank you for all the ways you contribute to the life and ministry of the church!***

**CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given by The Beutin family,  
in celebration of Marlene's birthday.

\*\*\*\*\* **We Welcome Our New Members** \*\*\*\*\*  
Kim Roberts and daughter Autumn Johnson  
Lisa Dettlaff  
Dick Brannin

**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

- Monday, March 11**
  - 9:00 am Quilters
  - 2:30 pm Caregiver's Support
  - 6:30 pm Parish Ed Meeting
- Wednesday, March 13**
  - 1:00 pm Wednesday Worship
  - 6:00 pm Handbell Choir
  - 6:30 pm Soup Supper for the Soul
  - 7:30 pm Choir
- Friday, March 15**
  - Church Office Closed**
  - Newsletter Articles Due
  - † Andy Bunzel Funeral: Visitation 3-5pm, Service 5:00pm
- Saturday, March 16**
  - † Tom Sneed Funeral: Visitation 1-3pm, Service 3:00pm
- Sunday, March 17**
  - 9:00 am Worship
  - 10:00 am Fellowship
  - 10:15 am Education Hour (Intergenerational/Easter Garden)



**We Look Forward to the Season of Lent**

<p><b>Palm Sunday: March 24, 2024,</b> * <i>Cantata</i> in-person and online worship service at 9:00am.</p> <p><b>Maundy Thursday: March 28, 2024,</b> * Agape Dinner &amp; Worship 6:30pm</p>	<p><b>Good Friday: March 29, 2024,</b> * Cross Walk at 2:00pm * Ecumenical Service at St. Alphonsus - 3:00pm * St. Luke's in-person and online worship service - 7pm</p> <p><b>Easter Sunday: March 31, 2024</b> in-person and online worship service at 9:00am.</p>
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— Church —  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ALL ONLINE SIGN-UPS CAN BE FOUND AT:** [www.slchurch.org/sign-ups](http://www.slchurch.org/sign-ups)

**FLOWER ORDERS:**

Are due no later than **TOMORROW**, the 11<sup>th</sup>!

## **FORGIVENESS: A LENTEN STUDY**

Join Jeri Smith in this Lenten Study with Marjorie Thompson's book on Forgiveness. Books are available at the Welcome Center. We will meet during Education Hour **Today**, and March 24<sup>th</sup>. Join us!

## **EASTER GARDEN**

This miniature garden is a visual reminder for kids (and adults!) of what Easter is all about. Watch the grass sprout as the days of Lent pass, and roll the stone away to reveal an empty tomb on Easter morning! \$6 per garden. Bring money to the class on Sunday, March 17, 10:15 am.

## **HELP GET US TO NEW ORLEANS**

We are asking for your help to get us to the National Youth Gathering. Take an envelope from the vine, to place your donation, and hand it to Heather (or put it in the offering plate). Watch the "speed" increase, to assist in transportation costs.









**A WAY TO SERVE IN LENT** - the group that usually worships on Wednesday is putting together Easter Bags for the clients who visit the First Lutheran Food Pantry. We are asking for items to be donated to be added to the bags. The suggestions are toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, and shampoo. All of these would be available to pick up at a Dollar Tree for on \$1.25 each. There is a tub in the Gathering Space to use for contributions. Our goal is to make 40 bags. We thank you for your support. God Bless your generosity.

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

- Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> :  
Annual Easter Egg Hunt ~ Rain or Shine! 11:00am - 1:00pm
- Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Choir Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am
- June 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> – Music Camp
- July 29<sup>th</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup> - Vacation Bible School



### **\*\* LENTEN PRAISE PACKS \*\***

-  • Light your candle when the candles are lit at the front of the church and hold it up high. At the end of the service turn your candle off.
-  • Take out the smooth stone and hold it tight during times of prayer. This stone symbolizes the tomb Jesus was put into on Good Friday.
-  • Wave the Palm leaf to move to the music.
-  • Look at the booklet in your bag. Look at the pictures for today to follow along with the readings.
-  • While listening to Pastor's Sermon, take a look at your children's bulletin. Can you make any connections between what is on there to the sermon?
-  • Fill out a prayer slip or two (attached on your clipboard) and place them in the offering plate. Help our Lenten prayer chain grow!
-  • Greet those around you with a handshake, wave, fist bump, peace sign, or say hello
-  • Place the sticker on your shirt to remember that you are a child of God and He loves you!