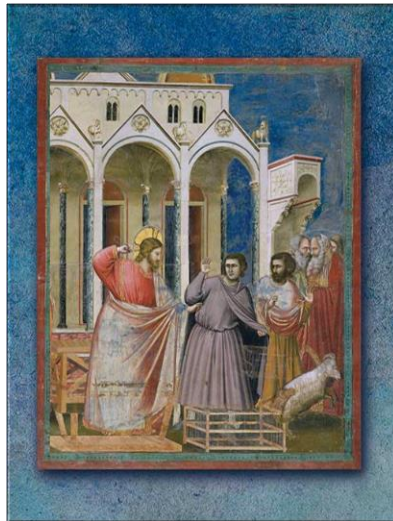


**Lakeside Lutheran Church Traditional Service  
Third Sunday In Lent  
Sunday, March 7, 2021  
9:30 a.m. Lakeside Lutheran Church  
2427 Eaton Ferry Road  
Littleton, NC 27850**



Website: [www.lakesidelutheran.com](http://www.lakesidelutheran.com)  
Email: [admin@lakesidelutheran.com](mailto:admin@lakesidelutheran.com)

**Welcome** to all who have come to worship today! Let us praise the Lord together by singing joyously, praying fervently, listening attentively to God's Word, and reaching out a friendly hand to one another. We share an open communion, all who come are welcome to share the Communion Table of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Blessings to all!

**Prayer for Worshipers:** With thanksgiving we come to worship you this day, O Lord. You have blessed us with gifts of grace and goodness beyond our need and our deserving. Cause us always to recognize the source of our blessings and support, and to be ever grateful to the Giver. Hear our praises and prayers this day and speak to us through your Word that is interpreted by your Spirit. Send us from this time together with new joy and with the strength needed to serve you faithfully. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

**Our worship:** Our setting is a community gathered around Word and Sacrament; communion with God and with each other. In our scripture reading, our musical offerings and at the table, God is in this place. We invite you to experience and give praise to our Creator God as you join in worship.

**Participating in Today's Worship: Director of Music:** Janice Thompson; **Assistant Director of Music:** Diane Colin; **Sound/slides:** John Krysa ; **Video:** John Krysa; **Lector:** Bob Hutchins

## **THEME OF THE DAY:**

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives.

When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

## **WELCOME:**

### **PRELUDE: Glorify Thy Name**

Dave Triplett, trumpet & Janice Thompson, piano

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the keeper of the covenant,  
the source of steadfast love,  
our rock and our redeemer.

**C: Amen.**

P: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Fountain of living water,  
**C: pour out your mercy over us.**  
**Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.**  
**Rebuild what we have ruined**  
**and mend what we have torn.**  
**Wash us in your cleansing flood.**  
**Make us alive in the Spirit**  
**to follow in the way of Jesus,**  
**as healers and restorers of the world you so love.**  
**Amen.**

P: Beloved, God's word never fails.  
The promise rests on grace:  
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,  
the wisdom and power of God,  
your sins are ✝ forgiven, and God remembers them no more.  
Journey in the way of Jesus.  
**C: Amen.**



In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and  
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
 love up - on my way, from the cross the  
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

**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.

# KYRIE:

WOV p.28



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:    ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son:    ⓐ Christ, have mer - cy.  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:    ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE:

WOV p.29



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



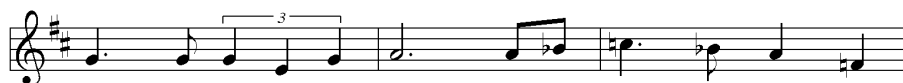
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



**☒** Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



**I** For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
**II**



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly



Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther, A - men.



**☒** Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



## **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: Let us pray.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **WORD:**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## **FIRST READING:** Exodus 20:1-17

L: A reading from the book of Exodus.

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD

your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**L: The Word of the Lord**

**C: Thanks be to God**

## PSALM: Psalm 19

L: <sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

**C: <sup>2</sup>One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

L: <sup>3</sup>Although they have no words or language,  
and their voices are not heard,

**C: <sup>4</sup>their sound has gone out into all lands, and their  
message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a  
tent for the sun.**

L: <sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

<sup>6</sup>It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs  
about to the end of it again;  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the  
simple.

**C: <sup>8</sup>The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to  
the eyes.**

L: <sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**C: <sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, more than much  
fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

L: <sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

C: <sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

L: <sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let  
them not get dominion over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great  
offense.

C: <sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight,  
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

L: A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are  
perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

<sup>19</sup>For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and  
the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is  
the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom  
of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did  
not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the  
foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

<sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we  
proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and  
foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both  
Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of

God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Return to the Lord Your God**  
**ELW p. 142**

**Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.**

**GOSPEL: John 2:13-22**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

**C: Glory to you O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables.

<sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup>His

disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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



**SERMON: Pastor Kim Triplett**

# HYMN OF THE DAY:

## (V.1,2&4)

ELW 787

### Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . . age to age, we re -

God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -

won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.

You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the

weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

*Refrain*  
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.

Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat  
 Music: STAR OF COUNTRY DOWN, Irish traditional  
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## **APOSTLES CREED:**

**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 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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

**P:** Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**



P: The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering (*especially*). Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: We commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces especially those related to our church family. Defend them day by day with your heavenly

grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that surround them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence. Let us pray.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for (*Perpetua, Felicity, and*) all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **PEACE:**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**OFFERING:** Thank you for sharing the gifts that God has given you to continue God's ministry in our church, community and the world.

Options for submitting your offering or building fund donation:

- Mail your check to Lakeside Lutheran Church, 2427 Eaton Ferry Road, Littleton NC 27850.
- Use your bank's web bill pay to send a check directly and with no fees to Lakeside Lutheran at the above address.
- Drop your offering envelope in the no-contact collection basket in the Narthex as you exit Worship.

## OFFERING SONG:

ELW p.182

### 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.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## OFFERING PRAYER:

**P:** Let us pray.

Faithful God, You walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC: More Precious Than Silver**

Dave Triplett, trumpet & Janice Thompson, piano

### **DIALOGUE:**

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.**

### **PREFACE:**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY:

ELW 190

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE :

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us.  
Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.  
**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: All praise and glory are yours,  
Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.  
**C: Amen.**

### **THE 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

## COMMUNION SONG: Lamb of God

ELW 191

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## COMMUNION:

P: The body of Christ, given for you.

C: Amen.

P: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

C: Amen.



**POST COMMUNION SONG: Here is Bread    ELW 496**

**Here is bread, here is wine,  
Christ is with us, He is with us.  
Break the bread, taste the wine,  
Christ is with us here.**

**In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life  
forever. In this moment by the Spirit, Christ is with  
us.**

**Here is grace, here is peace,  
Christ is with us, He is with us.  
Know His grace, find his peace  
feast on Jesus here.**

**In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life  
forever. In this moment by the Spirit, Christ is with  
us.**

**Here we are, joined in one,  
Christ is with us, He is with us.  
We'll proclaim til he comes  
Jesus crucified.**

**In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life  
forever. In this moment by the Spirit, Christ is with  
us.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**

P: God of steadfast love, at this table You gather Your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

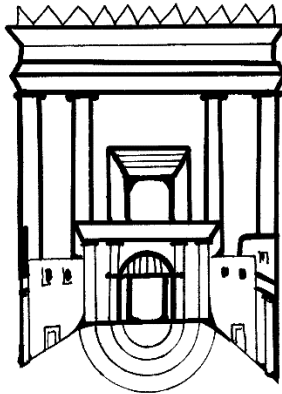
**C: Amen.**

## **BLESSING:**

P: You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor.

God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

**C: Amen**



**SENDING SONG:**  
(V. 1, 2 & 3)

**ELW 808**

**Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song**



1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*  
1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;  
2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,  
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;



*Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an-non-cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,*  
I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:  
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.  
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.  
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



*car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:*  
you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.  
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.  
And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,



*Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.*  
Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.  
Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.  
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

## **SENDING:**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## **DISMISSAL:**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

# **God's Love Is Not For Sale**

The trouble isn't that there are people buying and selling animals and exchanging money in the temple. Those things have always happened in the temple. No one is being corrupt; no one is getting rich. These are facets of temple life that exist to uphold God's law.

The trouble is that something has gone haywire: we have allowed our experience of the marketplace to shape the way we see God; if I give God this, God will give me that. Instead of God informing our understanding of the marketplace, it has come to be the other way around. Jesus has come to turn this haywire understanding on its head.

In the face of trouble, promising to give God something as a down payment will not make God any more likely to come to your aid. God has already come and made a home with you in your trouble.

In the face of death, bargaining with God will not attract God's favor for you, because God is already there. Your death is

forever wedded to Christ's death, and likewise your resurrection to his resurrection.

In the face of helplessness, negotiating with God for help is useless because God was your helper long before you even asked.

Do you see? God's love is not to be bought or sold, only given freely and lavishly, even to those who could never pay if they wanted to.

As a result, the body of Christ today, the church, sets out to live in ways that are unfathomable to the modern-day market. We spend our communal life on hungry people who will never be able to invite us to their own tables, and on children who cannot contribute to our offering plate, on dying people who after receiving our most prized treasures are not there to enjoy them. Our life is senseless lived by the rules of the marketplace. Thanks be to God that Christ comes to overturn it.

## **Credits:**

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## **Announcements:**

- **Sunday Mornings at 11:00 am – Christian Education:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89738865427>  
Password for entry: 238527
- Daily Faith Practices Bible Study at 9 a.m. each Wednesday,  
**Join Zoom Meeting # 84581372630; Passcode: 089118**
- **Women's Bible Study** at 10 a.m. at the Lake Gaston Lion's Den. For more information contact: Kathy Casey  
[kloesser@umw.edu](mailto:kloesser@umw.edu) or Barbie Armstrong  
[barmstrong199@yahoo.com](mailto:barmstrong199@yahoo.com)
- **Men's Bible Study** at 8 a.m. at the Lake Gaston Lion's Den on Stanley Road, Lake Gaston every Wednesday. Breakfast on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:30 a.m.
- Small Group meeting March 18, 7 p.m.
- Any information that is to be posted in the **Bulletin** must be received in the Church Office no later than 4:00 pm on the Tuesday before.
- Please send your articles and information for the **April newsletter** by March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Learn more about our church by visiting us at  
[www.lakesidelutheran.com](http://www.lakesidelutheran.com). Like us on Facebook.

## **Prayer List:**

**Please remember the following in your prayers this week:**

Nancy, Ilissa, Anne, Bruce, Adele, Georgie Lee, Joyce, Charles, Geneva, Elizabeth, Karl, Mercy, Linda, Carolyn, Dale, Jane, Bobbie, Valorie, Sybil, Claire, Terry, Amy, Mary, Aimee, Chip & Jan , & Michelle & Susan.

### **Those who are in the Military:**

Terry, Andy, Captain Amanda, Mollie, KC, Remington, Austin, Parker, Heather, Major Mark, and Nicholas.

## **Upcoming Commemorations**

- **Perpetua and Felicity and companions, martyrs at Carthage, died 202 Sunday, March 7, 2021**

Vibia Perpetua was a noblewoman, and Felicity her slave, who were catechumens at Carthage, northern Africa. They, with four other catechumens, had defied the Roman emperor who had forbidden conversions to Christianity, and were put to death in the amphitheater.

- **Harriet Tubman, died 1913; Sojourner Truth, died 1883; renewers of society Wednesday, March 10, 2021**

Harriet Tubman, born into slavery, helped about 300 others to escape slavery until the institution was abolished. Sojourner Truth, whose birth name was Isabella, was freed after slavery was abolished, and discerned a call to be a preacher. Taking the

name Sojourner Truth, she set out on an evangelistic journey, where people found her testimony to be deeply moving.

- **Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, died 604**  
**Friday, March 12, 2021**

Born into wealth and power, Gregory was for a time the chief administrator of the city of Rome. Giving this up for a life in the church, he was elected pope in 590. He influenced public worship through the establishment of a lectionary and prayers to correlate with the readings. Gregorian chant is named in his honor.

