



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 1, 2023

LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER

7:00 PM

*Our faith has been handed on to us by generations stretching back to the Apostles. We give thanks for the countless individuals who have passed on the faith, running the race that was set before them. We remember missionaries who crossed boundaries and barriers of culture and language to share the faith; we remember scholars, teachers, pastors, and the many faithful people in our own lives who have taught us what it means to follow Jesus.*

*Lenten offerings may be placed in the plate at the entrance to the sanctuary.*

GATHERING

***Bold responses are spoken by the congregation.***

**Prelude**

“Improvisation on ‘Father, I Adore You’”

Tune by Terry Coehlo; Organ setting by Fred Bock

*Please stand as able.*

**Gathering Song**

“Christ, Our Peace” sing two times, from *All Creation Sings*

**CHRIST, OUR PEACE**

Text & Music: Mary Haugen, b. 1950 © 2007 GIA Publications, Inc.

Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;

Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod-y in you.

**Greeting**

The love of God poured into our hearts,  
the saving grace of Jesus Christ +,  
and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Opening Prayer

Let us pray. O God, ancient and eternal, in Christ you make all things new. In baptism we have been buried with Christ and made citizens with the saints. Keep us faithful all our days, and at length bring us into the glory of your kingdom. Through the same Jesus Christ, our life, our strength, and our hope.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## Silence

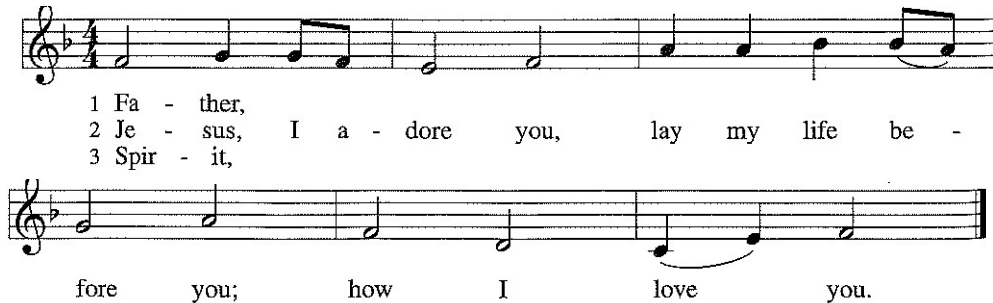
*During this time of silence we quiet ourselves, entering into the mystery of God's presence. The beginning and the end of this period of silence is marked with the sound of a bell.*

## Sung Prayer

“Father, I Adore You”

Text and Music by Tony Coelho

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1 Fa - ther,  
2 Je - sus, I a - dore you, lay my life be -  
3 Spir - it,  
fore you; how I love you.

## WORD

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

Inheritance of Faith

George Herbert, John Wesley and Charles Wesley

## Psalm 145:1-13

(read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

<sup>2</sup>**Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.**

<sup>3</sup>Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

<sup>4</sup>**One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.**

<sup>5</sup>On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

<sup>6</sup>**The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness.**

<sup>7</sup>They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

<sup>10</sup>**All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.**

<sup>11</sup>They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power,

<sup>12</sup>**to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

<sup>13a</sup>Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

<sup>13b</sup>**The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.**

## Reading 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup>To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>3</sup>I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup>Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I

may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup>I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. <sup>6</sup>For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; <sup>7</sup>for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. <sup>8</sup>Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, <sup>9</sup>who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, <sup>10</sup>but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. <sup>11</sup>For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, <sup>12</sup>and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. <sup>13</sup>Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup>Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Song** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" ELW 631 HYFRYDOL

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788; Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

**Lenten Meditation** "The Inheritance of Faith" Pastor Timothy McKenzie

**Song** "I Love to Tell the Story" ELW 661 HANKEY

1. I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.
- Refrain: I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911; Music: William E. Fischer, 1849-1936

## PRAYER

*The Holy Spirit prays with and through us.*

**Prayers of Intercession** (Pastor McKenzie, prayers)

*The congregation may sit or kneel for the Prayers.*

In Christ Jesus we meet the God who knows our weakness and bears the wounds of the world. Therefore, let us be bold as we pray, trusting that God draws near to those in any kind of need.

*A brief silence.*

*"I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever."* Psalm 145:1

Merciful God, you call us to follow you, surrounding us with saints who have shared the gospel with us. We, along with this congregation, remember your church in every place; bless and strengthen all people to follow Jesus, serving according to your purpose in your mission of love toward this world.

O Lord, hear our prayer

**And I will tell of your power**

Merciful God, you call us to suffer with you, giving us a community of living saints in service to you. We remember before you those who are ill and who suffer in any way, and those who struggle with physical, mental, and spiritual health. You are the great healer, and we pray for healing of mind, body and spirit for those we now name in the silence of our hearts.

*Silence*

O Lord, hear our prayer

**And I will tell of your power**

Merciful God, you call us to share in your Son's baptism, welcoming us into the communion of saints. We remember all your children who daily face oppression, abuse, hatred or imprisonment for the color of their skin, their caste, gender, identity, or their faith. As we have died with Christ in baptism, raise us to offer life and grace to all who suffer injustice knowing that your kingdom of love is everlasting.

O Lord, hear our prayer

**And I will tell of your power**

Merciful God, you call us to serve with you, gathering us into your body the church. We remember before you, all who because of war, natural disaster or systemic poverty, become homeless, orphaned, or refugees wandering the earth in search of new homes and a place of belonging. Lead us to be faithful to the gospel of mercy and grace which is our inheritance, so that the world might believe in you the God of justice, peace and steadfast love.

O Lord, hear our prayer

**And I will tell of your power**

*"Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations."* Psalm 145:13

Into your wide embrace, O God, we place all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting that you will receive them into your heart of mercy, Jesus Christ, your Son and our Savior.

**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

*Please stand.*

### SENDING

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

### **Blessing**

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that has been set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. May the God who makes sinners into saints bless us, keep us, and give us peace, now and always.

**Amen.**

## Sending Song

If We Live, We Live to the Lord” sing two times

from *All Creation Sings*; IF WE LIVE

Text & Music: Rolf Vegdahl, b. 1955, based on Romans 14:8, Psalm 103; T&M © 2009, 2016 Augsburg Fortress

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: "If we live, we live to the Lord. If we die, we die to the Lord. So then, wheth-er we live or wheth-er we die, we are the Lord's." There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a bracket) over the notes for "wheth-er" in the second and third staves.

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Worship Leaders: Pastor Timothy McKenzie; live streaming camera: A. J. Pridgen; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

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### George Herbert, Antiphon 1 (from *The Temple: Sacred Poems*, 1633)

**Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,  
My God and King.**

The heav'ns are not too high,  
His praise may thither fly:  
The earth is not too low,  
His praises there may grow.

**Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,  
My God and King.**

The church with psalms must shout,  
No door can keep them out:  
But above all, the heart  
Must bear the longest part.

**Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,  
My God and King.**

*Note:* This poem was set to music by Ralph Vaughan Williams as the fifth piece in "Five Mystical Songs" (1911). The fourth piece in that work, "The Call," also by George Herbert, is the hymn "Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life" (ELW 816).

**Lenten Mid-Week Worship series:** "The Lenten Journey: Dying and Rising with Christ" During Lent, please join us online, Wednesdays (3/1-3/29), at 7 pm at St. Mark's and live on Facebook, for the weekly worship series.

**Lenten Schedule**

**Lenten Wednesday Supper** 6 pm-6:45 pm Fellowship Hall, beginning March 1.

**Lenten Midweek Worship** 7 pm (in-person and online)

**LENTEN BOX OFFERINGS:** If you have not yet received a Lenten box and would like one, they will be on the gathering place desk along with a letter explaining this year's recipient - REFUGEE SUPPORT SERVICES. Your donations will provide infant car seats for babies of recently arrived refugees . Put your name on the box and during Lent donate loose change, paper money or simply write a check made out to St. Mark's, and deposit into the box. Place the box where it will be a daily reminder of Jesus' journey to the cross and ultimate sacrifice for us. Please return to church before Easter.

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**St. Mark's Prayer List**

Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, Jeff Casella, Rona Reeves, David Kutscher, Vann Milheim, Shirley Larson, Diann Krewson, Mindy Curley, Steve Rach, Oakley Coburn, Stanley Davis, Connie Pope, Arlene Fielding, Anthony Perrini, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Mickey Byrd, Christopher Shirley, Kaoru Otsubo, Joan Love, Jon McKenzie, Jane Thompson, Kliffia Harman, Ingrid Keiris, Sam Temple, Greg Bruce, Jamie Bates, Henry & Sharon Vander Voort, Jimmy Schwartz, Larry Marko, Marilyn Creech, Lisa White, John Simon, Dan Price, Jane Waggoner, Roxi Tolbert, and Susan Campbell.

Please feel free to email Pastor McKenzie with Prayer List and other prayer requests ([pastortimsmlc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortimsmlc@gmail.com))



Do you feel like you are in crisis? In Isaiah it is written, "Fear not, for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God." Stephen ministers are here to show the Lord's love and comfort for you in times of trial. If you would like to confidentially speak to a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Tim ([pastortimsmlc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortimsmlc@gmail.com))

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*Our Ministers*

**All the people of God at St. Mark's**

**Rev. Dr. Timothy McKenzie, Senior Pastor**  
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**Lester Ackerman,**  
**Director of Music Ministry, Organist**  
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**Jessie Craig, Financial Administrator**  
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