



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 29, 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 great cloud of witnesses 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 in their witness to us have modeled what it means to look to Jesus.

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

GATHERING

Bold responses are spoken by the congregation.

Prelude

“This Is the Spirit’s Entry Now” from *Seven American Folk Hymn Settings*

LAND OF REST; Setting for organ by Dale Wood

Welcome

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

Please stand as able.

Gathering Song

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

CHRIST, OUR PEACE

Text & Music: Marty 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

T & M © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. The Copyright Company

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.

“Dying and Rising with Christ”

Hans Nielsen Hauge; John Donne

Romans 6:3-11

(read responsively)

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

⁴**Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,**

so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵**For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.**

⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin.

⁷**For whoever has died is freed from sin.**

⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

⁹**We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.**

¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

¹¹**So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

Reading Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.” ¹³Then

one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Song

“This Is the Spirit’s Entry Now” ELW 448

LAND OF REST

Text: © Thomas E. Herbranson, b. 1933; Music: North American traditional; arr. hymnal version ©2006 Augsburg Fortress

1. This is the Spirit’s entry now: the water and the word,
the cross of Jesus on your brow, the seal both felt and heard.
2. This miracle of life reborn comes from the Lord of breath;
the sinless one from life was torn; our life comes through his death.
3. Let water be the sacred sign that we must die each day
to rise again by his design as foll’wers of his way.
4. Renewing Spirit, hear our praise for your baptismal pow’r
that washes us through all our days. Come, cleanse again this hour.

Lenten Meditation

“Raised in Christ”

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

Song

“You Servant of God” ELW 825

LYONS

1. You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
The name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!
2. Ascended on high, almighty to save,
yet still he is nigh, his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king!
3. Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb
4. Then let us adore and give him his right,
all glory and pow’r and wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.; Music: arr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737-1806

PRAYER

The Holy Spirit prays with and through us.

Responsive Prayers

(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.*

“These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.” Revelation 7:14b

Lord Jesus, you call us to follow you. Help us to die with Christ that we may be raised with him. Bless your church to share your word in every language and place so that all people might experience cleansing, forgiveness and new life in Christ.

O Lord, hear our prayer

And I will tell of your power

Lord Jesus, you call us to cast our hope on you. Help all nations to hope in Christ, the source of true freedom and community. Bless leaders to pray and to act for peace and justice for the weak and oppressed so that war and fear are no more, and your kingdom is revealed on earth as it is in heaven.

O Lord, hear our prayer

And I will tell of your power

Lord Jesus, you call us to compassionate lives. As you promise to wipe away every tear, guiding all people to the springs of the water of life, bless all care givers to be signs of your healing for all who suffer. Bless us to care for the sick and the dying, offering healing and new life in Christ. We pray for healing of body, mind and spirit for those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

Silence

O Lord, hear our prayer

And I will tell of your power

Lord Jesus, you are the salvation of the nations, shepherding all people to eternal life. Bless us to walk in the footsteps of the saints in light, that we too, might also share our confident faith in your grace and love with our neighbor, and bring us with them into the radiant light of your kingdom.

O Lord, hear our prayer

And I will tell of your power

“For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.” Romans 6:5

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 on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. 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." The score includes a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The melody is simple and suitable for congregational singing. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a bracket) in the second and third staves.

† † †

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Worship Leaders: Pastor Timothy McKenzie; live streaming camera: Charles Lakeman; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, 8:30 am & 10:30 am, Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday, 7 pm, Holy Communion

Good Friday, 7 pm, Service of the Word and Stripping of the Altar

Easter Day, 8:30 am & 10:30, Holy Communion (Coffee & goodies served 9:30-10:15 am; Easter Egg Hunt 9:45 am)

Peace Lily and Sunburst donations Peace Lilies are \$14 each. Please order by this Sunday, April 2. Sunburst donations and Lenten Box donations accepted until Easter. Forms are in the Gathering Place.

Lenten Box Offerings: We hope you are remembering your Lenten box and the infants who will be using the purchased car seats with our donations. These are infants of refugee families being aided by REFUGEE SUPPORT SERVICES. As you place your donation in the box, please remember these newest members of our community and the sacrifice our Lord made for us.

† † †

“Dying and Rising with Christ”

John Donne (1572-1631), poet

“A Hymn to God the Father”

Wilt thou forgive that sin where I begun,
Which was my sin, though it were done before?
Wilt thou forgive that sin, through which I run,
And do run still, though still I do deplore?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
For I have more.

Wilt thou forgive that sin which I have won
Others to sin, and made my sin their door?
Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun
A year or two, but wallow'd in, a score?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
For I have more.

I have a sin of fear, that when I have spun
My last thread, I shall perish on the shore;
But swear by thyself, that at my death thy Son
Shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore;
And, having done that, thou hast done;
I fear no more.

Hans Nielsen Hauge (1771-1824), renewer of the church

“Myself and what is mine, will I gladly surrender, if you alone will dwell in my soul.” (1796)

“The Word is the means by which God's Spirit prepares a place in the person's heart so that it can take up residence there. The Word cleans out evil and is like the sharp sword that pushes between marrow and bone and judges the thoughts of the heart and divides good from evil. Each and every person can experience this as soon as he believes and welcomes the Word. Then evil becomes something he hates; he is saddened and grieves his impurity. Now he is baptized internally with the cleansing of his soul in the same way as water cleans externally...” (Sermon on Acts 8:14-17)

St. Mark's Prayer List

Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, David Kutscher, Vann Milheim, Steve Rach, Oakley Coburn, Stanley Davis, Arlene Fielding, Anthony Perrini, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Christopher Shirley, Joan Love, Jane Thompson, Kliffia Harman, Jamie Bates, Jimmy Schwartz, John Simon, Dan Price, Roxi Tolbert, Susan Campbell, and Katie Yowell.

Please feel free to email Pastor McKenzie with Prayer List and other prayer requests
(pastortimsmc@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 (pastortimsmc@gmail.com)



Our Ministers

All the people of God at St. Mark's

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