



**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT  
MARCH 13, 2022**

**MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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**Welcoming all  
Reaching out in love  
Growing together in Christ  
Worshiping and serving in Jesus' name**

**The Rev. Dr. Christopher Suehr  
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*Office hours are Monday & Wednesday: 9:30 am - 2:00 pm  
Tuesday & Thursday by appointment***

**Welcome to Memorial Lutheran Church. As you prepare for Worship, please silence your cell phone, complete the connection card and place it in the offering plate.**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

## **GATHERING**

### **WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** *"Savior, When in Dust to Thee"*

*- Lau*

*Please kneel or sit*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One,

**we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor.**

**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to us, and all who call out to God shall be saved. Jesus hears our cries with mercy and guides us on the path of love.

In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

**Amen.**

*Please stand*

**GATHERING HYMN** *"Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth"*  
**ELW 727**

*Lord Christ, when first you came to earth,  
upon a cross they bound you, and mocked your saving  
kingship's worth by thorns with which they crowned you. And  
still our wrongs may fashion now new thorns to pierce that  
steady brow, and robe of sorrow round you.*

*O awesome Love, which finds no room  
in life where sin denies you, and, doomed to death, shall  
bring to doom the pow'r that crucifies you, till  
not a stone is left on stone, and then the nations'  
pride, o'erthrown, will nevermore defy you!*

*New advent of the love of Christ, will  
we again refuse you, till in the night of  
hate and war we perish as we lose you? From  
ancient doubts our minds release to seek the kingdom  
of your peace, by which alone we choose you.*

*O wounded hands of Jesus, build in  
us your new creation; our pride is dust, our  
vaunt is stilled; we wait your revelation. O  
Love that triumphs over loss, we bring our hearts  
before your cross; come, finish your salvation.*

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the  
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

*Read Responsively*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Amen, amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

**God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## WORD

### FIRST READING

**Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18**

*God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.*

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup>But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. <sup>7</sup>Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." <sup>8</sup>But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" <sup>9</sup>He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." <sup>10</sup>He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup>And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. <sup>12</sup>As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. <sup>17</sup>When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup>On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>2</sup>**When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,  
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

<sup>3</sup>Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

<sup>4</sup>**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my  
life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in  
the temple.**

<sup>5</sup>For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,  
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high  
upon a rock.

<sup>6</sup>**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround  
me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of  
rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;  
have mercy on me and answer me.

<sup>8</sup>**My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”  
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.  
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O  
God of my salvation.

<sup>10</sup>**Though my father and my mother forsake me,  
the LORD will take me in.**

<sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O LORD;  
lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

<sup>12</sup>**Subject me not to the will of my foes,  
for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing  
violence.**

<sup>13</sup>This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD  
in the land of the living!

<sup>14</sup>**Wait for the LORD and be strong.  
Take heart and wait for the LORD!**

## SECOND READING

## Philippians 3:17--4:1

*Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted,  
he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he  
expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other  
Christians to follow in his footsteps.*

<sup>17</sup>Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live  
according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup>For many live as enemies  
of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you  
even with tears. <sup>19</sup>Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and

their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup>But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup>He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

<sup>4:1</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14-15)**

The holy gospel according to St. Luke the 13th chapter.

**Glory to you O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL**

**Luke 13:31-35**

*Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.*

<sup>31</sup>At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." <sup>32</sup>He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. <sup>33</sup>Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' <sup>34</sup>Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup>See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

## **SERMON**

*Please stand*

## HYMN OF THE DAY “Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth      ELW 735

*Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright morning of this world. Creator, source of ev'ry breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.*

*Mothering Christ, you took my form, offering me your food of light, grain of life, and grape of love, your very body for my peace.*

*Mothering Spirit, nurt'ring one, in arms of patience hold me close, so that in faith I root and grow until I flow'r, until I know.*

### 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 into hell.  
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.**

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

You gather the church into a community of mercy and grace. Unify Christians around the globe in efforts to proclaim good news even in the face of opposition and to protect those whose lives are imperiled by the gospel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You create the entire universe and call it good. Hinder those who would cause further destruction to our planet's fragile ecosystems, and augment the calls of those who advocate for thoughtful stewardship of the earth's resources. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You raise up leaders committed to love and justice. Nurture in those who govern patience to receive criticism, openness to new ideas, and courage to change course when needed for the sake of the common good. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You kindle faith that moves us into action. Guide children and adults preparing for baptism or confirmation. Empower Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, and parents who share their faith with younger generations. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You welcome us into your heavenly realm. We give thanks for those whose labors on earth are ended and who now rest with you. On the final day, gather all of us, with them, in your loving arms. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(Everyone is to remain in their pew for the passing of the peace. To share the peace with someone sitting near you, share a slight bow, wave, or cross your arms with hands touching the opposite arm, a gesture of embrace.)*

*Please be seated*

## **OFFERTORY**

*The Ushers will collect the offering*

## **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Please stand*

## **MEAL**



## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

**Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray.**

**Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## PREFACE - LENT

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 to prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to 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 in their unending hymn.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*Read Together*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*(1 Corinthians 11:23b-25)*

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving Passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again, we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we

ought, but as we are able; and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine; that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints.

All glory and honor is yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

*Please be seated*

## **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward by the center aisle at the usher's direction. If you choose to have wine for communion, take an empty cup from the usher. If you prefer grape juice, receive a pre-filled cup at the altar. If you or a child has never received the sacrament, fold hands to receive a blessing instead. After receiving communion or a blessing, you may choose to remain at the altar for extra time in prayer. When you return to your pew do so by the side aisles. Please deposit the empty cup in the basket.*

*Please stand*

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

**Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.**

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, + bless you this day and always.

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN “All Who Love and Serve Your City”

**ELW 724**

*All who love and serve your city, all who  
bear its daily stress, all who cry for peace and  
justice, all who curse and all who bless,*

*In your day of loss and sorrow, in your  
day of helpless strife, honor, peace, and love  
retreating, seek the Lord, who is your life.*

*In your day of wealth and plenty, wasted  
work and wasted play, call to mind the word of  
Jesus, “You must work while it is day.”*

*For all days are days of judgment, and the  
Lord is waiting still, drawing near a world that  
spurns him, off’ring peace from Calv’ry’s hill.*

*Risen Lord, shall yet the city be the  
city of despair? Come today, our judge, our  
glory. Be its name “The Lord is there!”*

*Please be seated*

### POSTLUDE “Rigaudon”

- Young

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

**Thanks be to God.**

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