St. Mary's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Saturday, March 29th at 4:00pm & Sunday, March 30th at 9:00am

All are Welcome!

ELCA

- *Please respect the beauty of reverence and quiet reflection as we prepare for worship. Turn off phones or silence them.*
- *Please know that St. Mary's Lutheran Church celebrates Holy Communion for ALL! This is Christ's table and His invitation. You do not need to be a Lutheran, or a member of our church to participate. Also, if you wish to come up for only a blessing, please tell us when you approach, and we will bless you! If you are unable to come up for communion, tell the usher that you would like to receive communion at your seat, and someone will bring it to you.*

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand in body or spirit.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Compassionate One,

you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.
We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.
We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.
We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.
Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.
Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.
In ☩ Christ your sins are forgiven.
You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG Hymn #588 *"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"*

GREETING

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

And also with you.

KYRIE *(Assisting Minister starts; congregation follows using music here)*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

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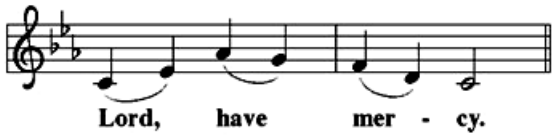
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

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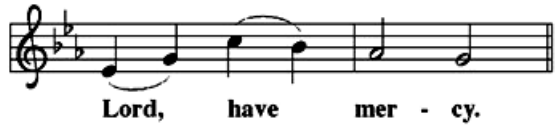
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

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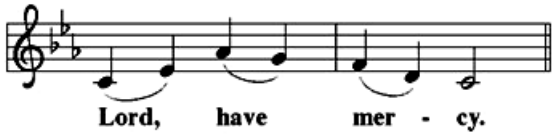
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

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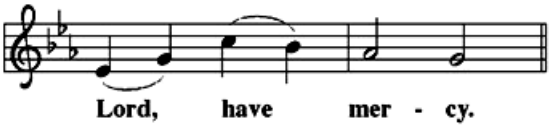
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

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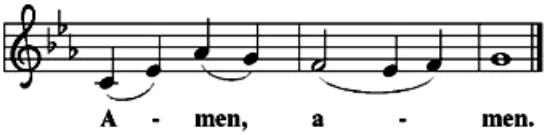

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(Congregation prays along with Assisting Minister—see insert)*

PLEASE BE SEATED

MUSICAL OFFERING *A CHORD WITH THE LORD Youth Choir*

"Good, Good Father" BY ANTHONY BROWN, PAT BARRETT

WORD *(see insert)*

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

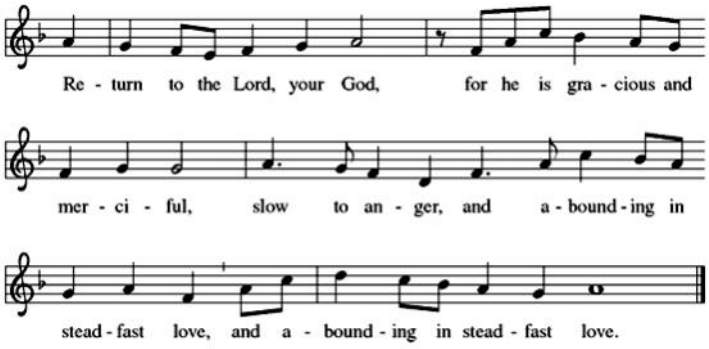
PSALM 32 *(read responsively)*

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

KIDS CONNECTION

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Please stand in body or spirit.*



GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The holy gospel according to St. Luke the 15th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

SERMON

Please stand in body or spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY Hymn #606 *"Our Father, We Have Wandered"*

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

MEAL

MUSICAL OFFERING *A CHORD WITH THE LORD Youth Choir*

"Great Are You, Lord" BY DAVID LEONARD, JASON INGRAM, LESLIE JORDAN

PASSING OF THE PLATE

OFFERING *Please stand in body or spirit.* *Hymn #188 "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God."*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

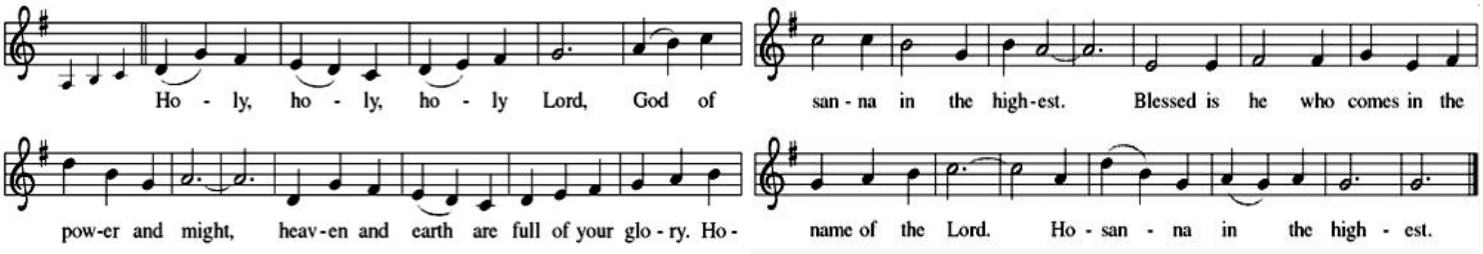
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right ...join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (HOLY, HOLY, HOLY)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

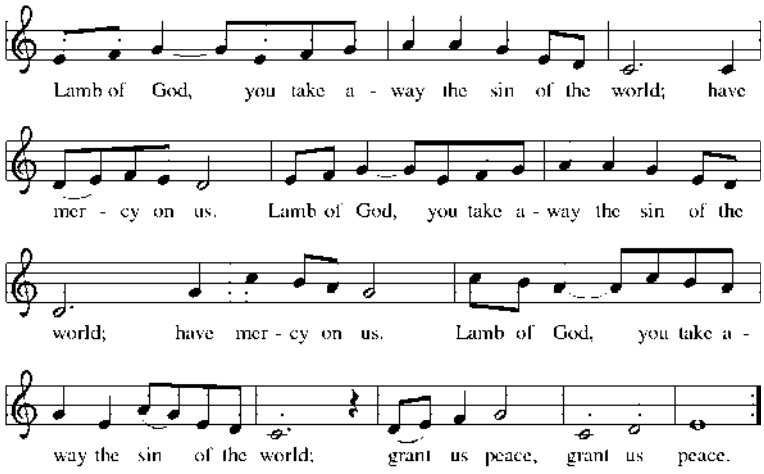
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

PLEASE BE SEATED

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG



DISTRIBUTION HYMN Hymn #608 *"Softly and Tenderly"*

Please stand in body or spirit.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG Hymn #675 *"O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True"*

DISMISSAL We are God's People. **Followers of Jesus Christ.**
Gifted by the Spirit. **Go Pray. Go Love. Go Serve. Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

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SACRISTY HELP: *Pat Gallo, Cheryl Hayes*
MUSICIAN: *Deb Black*
YOUTH CHOIR: *Kendra Richter/Christina Oldani*
SATURDAY:
ASSISTING MINISTER & READER: *Tim Somers*
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: *Lisa Zanin, Kate Dischler-Noreen*

SUNDAY:
ASSISTING MINISTER & READER: *Harold Frush*
KIDS CONNECTION: *Lara Rader*
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: *Cheryl Hayes, Kay Manderfeld, Sharon Corso*
GREETERS: *Anne Winkle*