

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran

2nd Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Most merciful God...

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: “Amazing Grace” (Verses 1-4) *ELW 779*

KYRIE: *(spoken)*

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.

RESPONSE: “Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross” – ELW 335



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;

3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.

help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

GREETING and PRAYER:

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

Let us pray:

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

¹The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ^{4a}So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 121

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills —
from where will my help come?

**²My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**

³He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

**⁴He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

⁵The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

**⁶The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

⁷The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

**⁸The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**

GOSPEL VERSE: *Holy Communion Setting 3, page 142*



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and

mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in

stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 3rd chapter.

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

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

L: The Gospel of the Lord. **C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON SONG: "Baptized and Set Free"

ELW 453

SERMON

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:

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

O God, you dearly love your church. Lift the hearts of your people here at Moe Lutheran Church. Encourage us in faith, unite us in love, motivate us in mission and ministry. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you dearly love your creation. Breathe new life into this beautiful planet we call home. Guide our actions and inspire us to be good stewards of all that you have made. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you dearly love the world. Uphold leaders who resist tyranny and oppression. Strengthen organizations that promote peace and harmony. Direct work to alleviate human suffering and address its root causes. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you dearly love your people. Draw near to all who live with mental illness, depression, or addiction, and accompany them in healing and recovery. Hear the cries of those who look to you for healing of body, mind, and spirit (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you dearly love your children. Bless the young in our midst, and delight us with their joy, wonder, and curiosity. Revive our ministries with children and youth and equip us all for faithful discipleship. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you dearly love your saints. As our ancestors in the faith have been a blessing to us, so inspire us by their example of holy living to be a blessing to those who come after us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG: "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

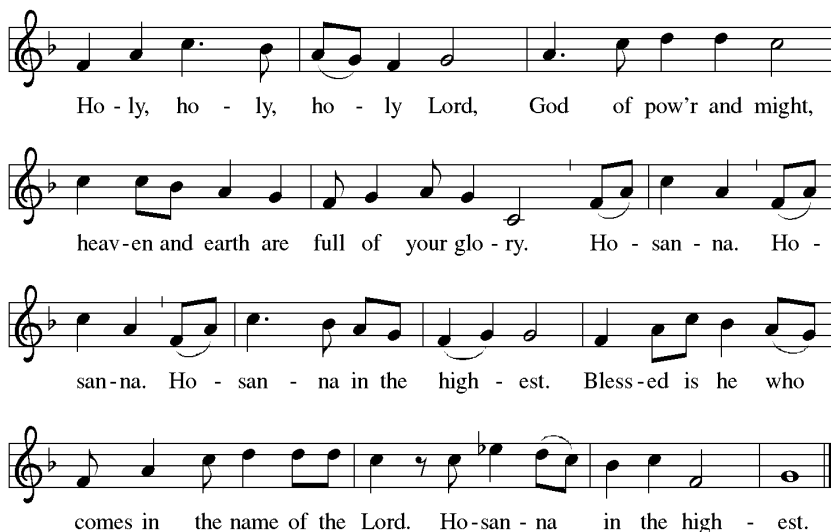
GREAT THANKSGIVING:

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.

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: *Holy Communion Setting 3, page 144*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

*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*

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 THE TABLE

HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER: Embodied God, at your table, we
have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open
to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors
and touch the world with your love. Amen.

BENEDICTION and three-fold Amen.

SENDING SONG: “On Our Way Rejoicing”

ELW 537

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Adapted from Sundays and Seasons.com.
Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #20648.*

