

PRELUDE

arr. M. Hayes

“Open Our Eyes/ Be Thou My Vision / O How He Loves Me”

At the sound of the bell please stand and face the worship leaders.

ENTRANCE HYMN

(hymn) ELW 326

“Bless Now, O God, the Journey”

- 1 Bless now, O God, the journey
that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence,
the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert
and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters,
the road where faith is found.**
- 2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims
who share this winding way;
your hope burns through the terrors,
your love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom
while often we are bound;
together we are seeking
the road where faith is found.**
- 3 Divine eternal lover,
you meet us on the road.
We wait for land of promise
where milk and honey flow,
but waiting not for places,
you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written
on roads, as faith is found.**

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly is invited to stand or kneel; and all may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, +
let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one
another.

silence is kept for reflection.

Kyrie (*Lord have mercy*) *sing responsively* (ELW setting 4, p. 147)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C 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.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Amen.

P Gracious God,

**C we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin
and to serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

P By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives us all our sin. Almighty God strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life.
C Amen.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

P Let us pray.
Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

The presider continues with words of welcome.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

CHILDREN'S WORD

Children are invited forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.

FIRST READING

The rainbow, sign of God's covenant

Genesis 9:8–17

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, the Lord destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

... The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 25:1–10 (ICEL)

Your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness. (25:10)

A Lord, I give myself to you.

C I trust you, God; do not fail me,

nor let my enemies gloat.

A No one loyal is shamed,

C but traitors know disgrace.

A Teach me how to live,

**C Lord, show me the way. Steer me toward your truth,
you, my saving God; you, my constant hope.**

A Recall your tenderness, your lasting love.

**C Remember me, not my faults, the sins of my youth.
To show your own goodness, God, remember me.**

A Good and just is the Lord, guiding those who stray.

God leads the poor, pointing out the path.

**C Give praise to the Father Almighty; to the Son, Jesus Christ,
the Lord; to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts; both now
and forever. Amen.**

SECOND READING

Saved through water

1 Peter 3:18–22

As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and

powers made subject to him.

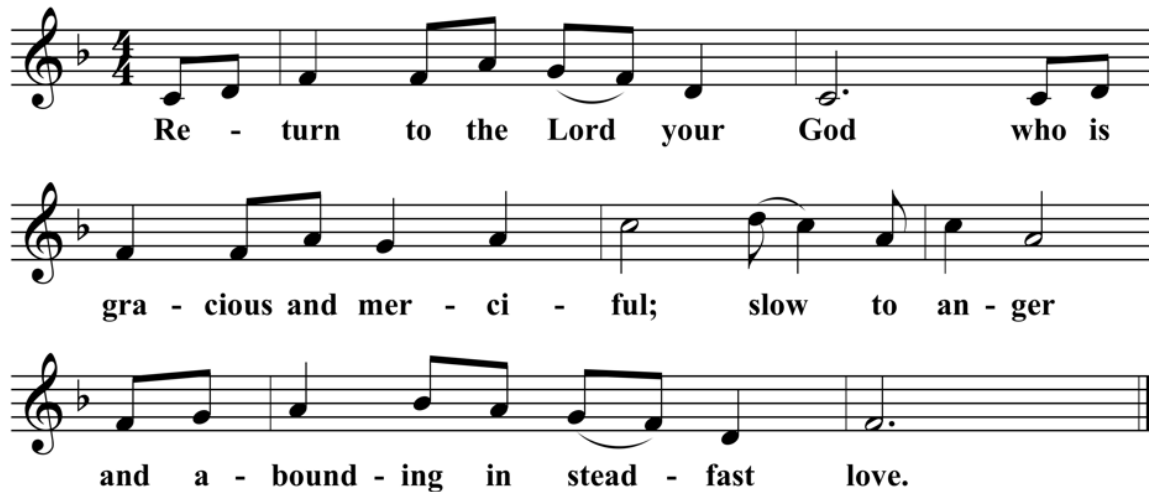
...The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Joel 2:13

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel, singing:



Re - turn to the Lord your God who is
gra - cious and mer - ci - ful; slow to an - ger
and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**Return to the Lord your God who is gracious and merciful;
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

GOSPEL

The temptation of Jesus

Mark 1:9–15

The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He

was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news."

The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

(hymn) ELW 613

"Thy Holy Wings"

- 1 Thy holy wings, O Savior,
spread gently over me,
and let me rest securely
through good and ill in thee.
Oh, be my strength and portion,
my rock and hiding place,
and let my ev'ry moment
be lived within thy grace.**
- 2 Oh, let me nestle near thee,
within thy downy breast
where I will find sweet comfort
and peace within thy nest.
Oh, close thy wings around me
and keep me safely there,
for I am but a newborn
and need thy tender care.**
- 3 Oh, wash me in the waters
of Noah's cleansing flood.**

**Give me a willing spirit,
a heart both clean and good.
Oh, take into thy keeping
thy children great and small,
and while we sweetly slumber,
enfold us one and all.**

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite
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APOSTLES' CREED

A We have been made God's people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C 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

Prayers are offered for the Church, the earth, the nations, and those in any need.

each petition concludes:

...Hear us O God,
Your mercy is great.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

RECONCILING PEACE

P In Jesus Christ God has made peace with us.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The assembly is invited to share God's peace with one another.

OFFERING

When bread and wine are broken and shared in the Lord's Supper an offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Please leave your offerings in the baskets in the aisles or give online. During this time, the table is set. Please stand as the offering procession reaches the chancel. Thank you for your generosity.

"Ubi Caritas"

Carol Browning

tr: Where charity and love prevail there is God

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray together.

C **God our provider,**

**you have not fed us with bread alone,
but with words of grace and life.**

**Bless us and these your gifts,
which we receive from your bounty,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C it is right to give our thanks and praise.

P ... and join their unending hymn: *(ELW setting 2, p. 130)*

C 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. Hosanna in the highest.

The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:

Lord's Prayer (1789)

C Our Father who art 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.

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

Communion

"Lamb of God"

setting 2; page 135

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Worshipers are invited to kneel at the chancel rail or in the pews after receiving the Lord's Supper.

silence for reflection concludes the communion

Prayer after Communion

A Let us pray.

God of mercy, we give you thanks for seating us at your table and serving us with the food of eternal life. We who once were dead are now living members of your Son.

Accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism. And send us out to awaken others to the mystery of your love, which is revealed to all the world in the one who came to give himself away, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

We are sent to be God's hands in the world

BENEDICTION

P Love the Lord your God with all your heart,
With all your soul, with all your mind, with all your strength.
Keep these words in your heart as you walk the way of Lent.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever. Almighty God, Father, + Son,
and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

(hymn) ELW 618

“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”

- 1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.**
- 2 Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.**
- 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.**

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & DISMISSAL

A Marked with the cross of Christ,
go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Guide Me Ever”

arr. John Hughes

You are welcomed to be seated and enjoy the postlude if you wish.

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor Foy Christopherson, *presiding*

Audrey Erickson, *assisting minister*

Linda Obright, *reader*

Ruth Bills, *director of music & worship*

Chancel Choir

Dave Larson, Myrna Flatland, *technology*

Janell Partyka, *sacristan/altar guild*

Dave Samletzka, Fred Chinquist, *ushers*

Andy Benedict, *bus ministry*

Rick & Cheryl Sundly, *coffee hosts*

Chancel flowers this weekend are given to the glory of God.

If you wish to donate flowers sign up in the narthex or call the church office.

Please join us for coffee fellowship in the lower level following worship.

This service is being streamed live on the internet.



WORSHIP LIFE

Lent: a sense of the season

The word Lent means *springtime*. This word comes from the same root as *lengthen*. Daytime lengthens during Lent. The northern hemisphere turns toward the sun, the source of life, and winter turns into spring. In Hebrew, the word for repentance is the same as the word that means to turn, like the turning of the earth to the sun, like the turning of the soil before planting.

“Even now, says the Lord, turn to me.” (Joel 2:12) We are called to turn from our separate selves to come together in community. Spiritual disciplines are the way we express our repentance. In the lengthening brightness from Ash Wednesday until Holy Thursday afternoon, our holy Lent, we turn to God as our source of life. The disciplines of Lent are threefold, advises Matthew’s gospel. We pray: “Go to your room, close your door, and pray” We fast: “No one must see you are fasting but [God].” We give alms as acts of love: “Keep your deeds of mercy secret.” Through the Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting and acts of love, we spring-clean our lives, sharpen our senses, put tomorrow in its place, and treasure the day at hand.

Why are there forty days in Lent? It took forty days for sinfulness to drown in the flood before a new creation could inherit the earth. It took forty years for the generation of the Exodus to die before their descendants could enter the promised land. For forty days Moses and Elijah and Jesus fasted and prayed to prepare themselves for a life’s work. Lent’s forty days are a tithe (10%) of the year. Lent is the forty days of final preparation before the Easter baptisms. The already baptized can share the excitement and the struggles

of the candidates and rediscover the meaning of baptism in their own lives. During the forty days, both candidates and the faithful journey together to the baptismal font.

If we count the days, we will see that to get 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter, Sundays must be excluded. They are the Lord's Day, weekly celebrations of the resurrection even within our Lenten discipline. On Sundays in Lent we will gather around Jesus in word and supper with alleluias put away for the season. Confession and absolution will take a larger role. Let us keep Lent together. "For now is the acceptable time! Now is the day of salvation!"

adapted: ©1997, LTP, Chicago.

WELCOME



Everyone is welcome. We are a faith community participating in the life of God, a life that is a gift to us and in which we are actively engaged. That gift compels us to be actively engaged in the neighborhoods of Northeast Minneapolis as well. We are a multigenerational community that proudly celebrates our history while joining together with younger generations to follow where God is leading. We build our community through faith practices like prayer, dwelling in the Word and hospitality.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. If you would like more information about Mt. Carmel, please contact us at 612-781-2796, or email pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org

Children are welcome at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available outside the sanctuary.

Welcome to the Lord's Table. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to you where you are seated if you require accessibility accommodation. Please inform the ushers. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. White grape juice is available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

Welcome to the Holy Baptism. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. Our pastor will contact you.

Friends of Mt. Carmel...Stay connected

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you're one of them, we invite you to join a new network of Friends of Mt. Carmel. Email pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org for more information or to join.



Digital giving is available at Mt. Carmel. You can easily donate online through our website at mountcarmelmpls.org and click on **Give**. Mt. Carmel Lutheran is supported by generous people like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-781-2796.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
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