

LARGE PRINT EDITION



HOLY COMMUNION

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024 + 9:30 am

The grain of wheat dying in the earth

Learn Live and Share God's Word

In baptism we are anointed a priest with Christ

God promises Jeremiah that a “new covenant” will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God’s heart through Christ and draws God’s light and truth into our hearts. We see God’s heart most clearly in the way Jesus shares human suffering, in an agony both the John and Hebrews readings describe.

The Sundays in Lent this year lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures (first reading) and to use them as lenses through which to view holy baptism (gospel reading).

February 18

The covenant with Noah (Gen. 9:8-17)

February 25

The covenant with Abraham and Sara (Gen. 17:1-7, 15-16)

March 3

The covenant (commandments) at Sinai (Ex. 20:1-17)

March 10

The covenant renewal (lifting up of the serpent) (Num. 21:4-9)

March 17

A new covenant written on the heart (Jer. 31:31-34)

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

“Change My Heart O God”

arr. E. Espinosa

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

ENTRANCE HYMN

(hymn) ELW 328

“Restore in Us O God”

- 1 Restore in us, O God,
the splendor of your love;
renew your image in our hearts,
and all our sins remove.**
- 2 O Spirit, wake in us
the wonder of your pow'r;
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives
like springtime bud and flow'r.**
- 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share
the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life
that death cannot destroy.**
- 4 Three-personed God, fulfill
the promise of your grace,
that we, when all our searching ends,
may see you face to face.**

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

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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.

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself,
and in mercy you receive our prayers.

Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,
that through life and death we may live in your Son,
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

A new covenant written on the heart

Jeremiah 31:31–34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by

the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.

³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

... The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Create in me a clean heart, O God. (51:10)

Psalm 51:1–12
(hymn) ELW 188

**C Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

SECOND READING

Through suffering Christ saves

Hebrews 5:5–10

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

...The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Joel 2:13

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel, singing:

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

GOSPEL

The grain of wheat dying in the earth

John 12:20–33

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

The holy gospel according to John.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life

lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say — ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour.

²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

(hymn) ELW 379

“Now the Green Blade Rises”

- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.**
- 2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.**
- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;**

love is come again like wheat arising green.

**4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.**

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958
Text from *Oxford Book of Carols* © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved

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.

after each petition:

....hear us, O God,

C 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.

"My Song is Love Unknown"

E. T. Childs

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”

(ELW setting 2; page 136)

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.

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

silence for reflection concludes the communion

silence

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.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

(hymn) ELW 660

“Lift High The Cross”

stanza 1, 3, 4

Refrain

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.**

**1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain***

**3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain***

**4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain***

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956
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ANNOUNCEMENTS & DISMISSAL

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

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Lift High The Cross”

arr. Newbolt/Nicholson

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

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor Foy Christopherson, *presiding*

Karen Moeller, *assisting minister*

Jill Davis, *reader*

Ruth Bills, *director of music & worship*

Chancel Choir

Dave Larson, Julie Larson, *technology desk*

Janell Partyka, *sacristan/altar guild*

Steve Ristuben, Justin Fischer, *ushers*

Rick Labandz, *bus ministry*

xxx, *coffee hosts*

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by the Nordeen family
in memory of Matt's dad, Tom Nordeen.

*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.

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
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