

LARGE PRINT EDITION



HOLY COMMUNION

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025 + 9:30 am

A hen gathers her brood

Learn Live and Share God's Word

Under protective wings, Christ our hen gathers us

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 the face of the Lord 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."

Lent 2025 (Year of Luke) Reconciliation and Compassion

We journey to the place of God's mercy

<i>March 9</i>	<i>Jesus tempted in the wilderness)</i>
<i>March 16</i>	<i>Jesus desires to gather Jerusalem as a hen gathers chicks</i>
<i>March 33</i>	<i>Jesus speaks of repentance with the fig tree parable</i>
<i>March 30</i>	<i>Jesus speaks of forgiveness with the prodigal parable</i>
<i>April 6</i>	<i>Mary anoints Jesus foreshadowing his burial</i>

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

GATHERING MUSIC

At the sound of the bell please stand if you are able and face the worship leaders.

GATHERING HYMN

(hymn) ELW 596

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

stanza 1 - 3

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Refrain

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**

- 2 When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil. Refrain**

- 3 His oath, his covenant, his blood
sustain me in the raging flood;
when all supports are washed away,
he then is all my hope and stay. Refrain**

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

from the baptism font

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

C Amen.

P Let us turn to God and confess our sin
in the assurance of God's abiding love.

silence is kept for reflection

P Merciful God,

C 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 Jesus. Amen.

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

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.

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.

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

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

The covenant with Abram and his descendants

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a son, 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.

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." ²But Abram said, "O LORD God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But 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." ⁵He 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." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He 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." ¹⁰He 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. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. ¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On 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.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 27 (ICEL)

In the day of trouble, the Lord shall keep me safe. (27:7)

A The Lord is my saving light; whom should I fear?

C God is my fortress; what should I dread?

A When the violent come at me to eat me alive,
a mob eager to kill – they waver, they collapse.

**C Should battalions lay siege, I will not fear;
should war rage against me, even then I will trust.**

A One thing of ask the Lord, one thing I seek:

**C to live in the house of God every day of my life,
caught up in God's beauty, at prayer in his temple.**

A The Lord will hide me there, hide my life from attack:

C a sheltering tent above me, a firm rock below.

A I am now beyond reach of those who besiege me.

**C In his temple I will offer a joyful sacrifice,
I will play and sing to God.**

A O God, listen to me; be gracious, answer me.

C Deep within me a voice says, "Look for the face of God!"

A So I look for your face, I beg you not to hide.

C Do not shut me out in anger, help me instead.

A Do not abandon or desert me, my savior, my God.

C If my parents rejected me, still God would take me in.

A Teach me how to live, lead me on the right road
away from my enemies.

**C Do not leave me to their malice;
liars breathing violence rise to swear against me.**

A I know I will see how good God is while I am still alive.
Trust in the Lord. Be strong. Be brave. Trust in the Lord.

**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

Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

Our citizenship is in heaven from where we expect a Savior

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.

Paul writes to the church in Philippi:

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He 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.

^{4:1}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.

C Thanks be to God.

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Joel 2:13

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel, singing: (ELW setting 3, p. 142)

C Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

GOSPEL

Luke 13:31-35

Jesus desires to gather Jerusalem as a hen gathers her brood

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

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²He 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. ³³Yet 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.'

³⁴"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! ³⁵See, 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.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

silence is kept for reflection

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 Living together in trust and hope,
we proclaim the faith that we share.

C I PUT MY TRUST IN in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I PUT MY TRUST IN 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 PUT MY TRUST IN 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.

C Your mercy is great.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

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 the peace of Christ 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.

Presentation of the Gifts

Offertory Procession

(ELW hymn #186)

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.

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray together.

**C Gracious Provider,
you set your immense treasures in our midst,
opening your heart to the world.
Bless us and these your gifts,
and inspire us to follow you
in sharing these treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The assisting minister pours out the wine.

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:

(*setting 3, p. 144*)

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

The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:

Lord's Prayer (1789)

P As Christ teaches, we pray:

C 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.

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

Communion

"Lamb of God"

(setting 3; page 146)

C 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.

silence for reflection concludes the communion

Prayer after Communion

A Let us pray.

Generous and merciful one, 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 and risen one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

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 768**

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

Refrain:

**Lead me, guide me along the way;
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

**1 I am weak, and I need thy strength and pow'r
to help me over my weakest hour.
Let me through the darkness thy face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]**

**2 Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,
be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.**

I am putting all..... my trust in thee.

Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]

3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,

I am blind without..... thy Light to see.

Lord, just always let me thy servant be.

Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]

Text: Doris Mae Akers 1923-1995
Text & music © Doris Akers, 1953, Unichappell Music Inc.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

DISMISSAL

Please face the worship leaders for the dismissal.

A Marked with the cross of Christ,

go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor Foy Christopherson, *presiding*

Dave Olson, *assisting minister*

Patrick Kutzer, *reader*

Ruth Bills, *director of music & worship*

Oliver Hall, *guest musician*

Julie and Dave Larson, *technology desk*

Janell Partyka, *sacristan/altar guild*

Dave Samletzka, Fred Chinquist, *ushers*

Dave Larson, *bus ministry*

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by Sinéad Carolan and the Kutzer family in honor of their Irish family.

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

If you wish to sponsor the webcast 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

Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland, died 461



Patrick is remembered for his role in establishing the Church in Ireland. But his first introduction to Ireland was involuntary. At the age of sixteen he was kidnapped from his village in Roman Britain and taken to Ireland as a slave. Sold to a local king, he spent six years in menial occupations. His life was not valued more highly than the beasts he tended.

All the while he clung to his Christian faith and dreamed of home. Eventually, an opportunity arose for him to escape, and he made his way back home. But he had changed. Apart from the scars of his ordeal, he bore the zeal of a profound faith. He believed his sufferings and deliverance had been ordained for some purpose.

After studying for the priesthood in Gaul, he had a dream in which Irish voices, the voices of those who had stolen his youth, cried out for him to return. In 432, by now a bishop, he returned to the land of his oppressors to devote himself to their salvation.

Patrick's thirty years as a wandering bishop are the stuff of legend. He is justly honored as the patron of Ireland. But it is well to remember that Patrick was the victim of injustice before he became the symbol of Irish pride. His extraordinary return to the site of his oppression—not to wreak vengeance but to implant the reconciling seeds of his own hard-won faith—deserves

commemoration. His spiritual conquest of Ireland followed the prior victory of love over the anger and bitterness in his own heart.

“Christ be with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me.” —St. Patrick

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.



MT. CARMEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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