

# LARGE PRINT EDITION



## HOLY COMMUNION

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

April 6, 2025 + 9:30 am

*Mary anoints Jesus for burial*

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Learn Live and Share God's Word

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***Christ is a way through the wilderness, a river in the desert***

*The Lord our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading we recall the transformation of Saul, the persecutor, into Paul, the apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.*

***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 23</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

*"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"*

*J.S. Bach*

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

## **GATHERING HYMN**

*(hymn) W&P 126*

*“Sing Out, Earth and Skies”*

*stanza 1, 3 – 5*

**1 Come, O God of all the earth:  
come to us, O Righteous One;  
come, and bring our love to birth:  
in the glory of your Son.**

### **Refrain**

**Sing out, earth and skies! Sing of the God who loves you!  
Raise your joyful cries! Dance to the life around you!**

**3 Come, O God of flashing light:  
twinkling star and burning sun;  
God of day and God of night:  
in your light we all are one. Refrain**

**4 Come, O God of snow and rain:  
shower down upon the earth;  
come, O God of joy and pain:  
God of sorrow, God of mirth. Refrain**

**5 Come, O Justice, come, O Peace:  
come and shape our hearts anew;  
come and make oppression cease:  
bring us all to life in you. Refrain**

Text: Marty Haugen  
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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** 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.

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness,  
and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be  
transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives  
may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all

through 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

Isaiah 43:16-21

*The LORD gives water in the wilderness to the chosen people  
The prophet declares that long ago the Lord performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, the Lord is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new exodus.*

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea,  
a path in the mighty waters,

<sup>17</sup>who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,

they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

<sup>18</sup>Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

<sup>19</sup>I am about to do a new thing;

now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

<sup>20</sup>The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches;

for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert,

to give drink to my chosen people,

<sup>21</sup>the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.

The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

Psalm 126 (ICEL)

*Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. (126:6)*

A The Lord brings us back to Zion, we are like dreamers,  
laughing, dancing, with songs on our lips.

**C Other nations say, "A new world of wonders!  
The Lord is with them."**

A Yes, God works wonders. Rejoice! Be glad!

**C Lord, bring us back as water to a thirsty land.  
Those sowing in tears reap, singing and laughing.**

A They left weeping, weeping, casting the seed.  
They come back singing, singing, holding high the harvest.

**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 3:4b-14

*To know Christ and his resurrection to share in his sufferings  
Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation  
could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual  
pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of  
values.*

*Paul writes to the church at Philippi:*

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:

<sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

... 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**

*Mary anoints Jesus for his burial*

John 12:1-8

*Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.*

P The holy gospel according to John.

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

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup>(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

*silence is kept for reflection*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*(hymn)* ELW 666

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

**1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?**

- 2** When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.
- 3** To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;  
to God and to the Lamb I will sing;  
to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,  
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,  
while millions join the theme, I will sing.
- 4** And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing God's love for me,  
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and through eternity I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**A** ... we proclaim the faith that we share.

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

**I** PUT MY TRUST 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 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.*

**A** Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer  
for the church, the world, and all those in 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.*

"Lamb of God"

*T. Paris*

**Presentation of the Gifts 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 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 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**

**“Guide Me Ever”**

*J. Hughes*

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## **SERVING TODAY**

Pastor Foy Christopherson, *presiding*

Trina Benedict, *assisting minister*

Nancy Felicetta, *reader*

Ruth Bills, *director of music & worship*

Sanctuary Choir

Erik Ruser, Matti Gurney, *technology desk*

Janell Partyka, *sacristan/altar guild*

Steve Ristuben, Patrick Kutzer, *ushers*

Andy Benedict, *bus ministry*

April Salty Carmel team, *hospitality*

Leona Olson, Rick & Cheryl Sundly, *coffee hosts*

**Chancel flowers** this weekend are given by the Carolan/Kutzer family  
in honor of Leif and Oliver's birthdays.

*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.*



## **LENT AND HOLY WEEK**

### **11am Wednesday Lunches at Culver's**

*includes responsive prayer for Lent and brief scripted reflections on the passion  
"Reflections from the Edge of Faith"*

### **Wednesday Suppers in Lent (including Ash Wed)**

5:30 – 6:30 arrive any time; serving until 6:30 pm

*Hosted by ministry teams*

*Midweek Lenten offerings designated for five of our hunger ministries*

### **6:45 Wednesday evenings**

Holden evening prayer

*includes brief scripted passion "Reflections from the Edge of Faith"*

### **7 pm April 17 Maundy Thursday**

Holy Communion worship service

*Celebration of the pre-confirmation daily prayer milestone this year*

*Includes commemorating the first Lord's Supper, corporate and individual  
absolution/forgiveness, and foot or hand washing (optional).*

### **7 pm April 18 Good Friday**

Good Friday Prayer around the Cross worship service

*Includes a contemplative reading of the passion from John, prayer for the world,  
and prayer around the cross with optional participation in votive candle lighting.*

# PALM SUNDAY

*Next Sunday - Procession with palms; brunch*

Calling all kids, youth (and parents too). We are planning a procession with palms for Palm/Passion Sunday for next Sunday, April 13. All are invited to meet in front of church (weather permitting) for the blessing of the palm bearers and procession into the sanctuary. Come join us to begin the Holy Week services of Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday, climaxing with the Resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday. A Palm Sunday brunch sponsored by the youth is also planned for next Sunday

# HOLY COMMUNION WORKSHOP

*Sunday, April 27*

Calling all Sunday School kids, youth (and grown-ups too). We are planning a faith formation workshop exploring the meanings and practices of Holy Communion for Sunday, April 27 after worship. All are invited for bread-making, exploring the Passover and Last Supper stories, looking at all the communion-ware and discussing the many layers of meaning for this sacramental meal. Trina Benedict and Pastor C are leaders.

# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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.



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