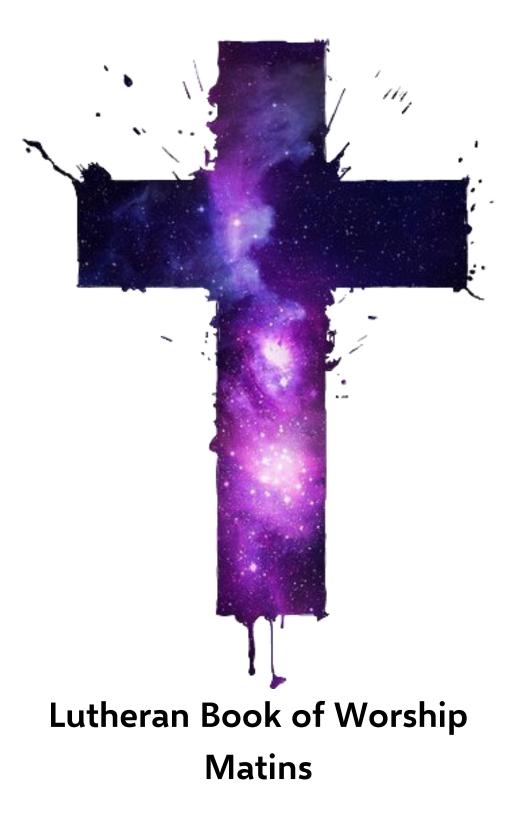
March 15, 2020 Livestream Worship





STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We, the community of First Lutheran Church of Bothell, proclaim the message that the grace of our Lord is infinitely inclusive and that everyone is welcome. We believe that Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation and as disciples of Christ seeking justice and reconciliation among all peoples, we at First Lutheran Church welcome all into the fullness of God's love. We welcome everyone, without exception and regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or station in life. We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God, and through grace, a child of God.

All are welcome at First Lutheran.

All are welcome to worship, to hear the Good News, to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service. As members of First Lutheran Church, we pledge ourselves and our congregation to exercise our faith in Christ, treasuring one another's similarities while embracing our God-given differences. We pledge that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.

Assisting with Today's Service

Presiding Minister: Rev. Tor K. Berg

Music Director: Lucy Kay Osborne

Ensemble: Holly Batstone, Bob Berg, Susan Berg, Kris Dersch, Mark Hatlen, Doug Peterson, Johannes & Karishma Skjonsby, Roger Steinke, Randall Wampler

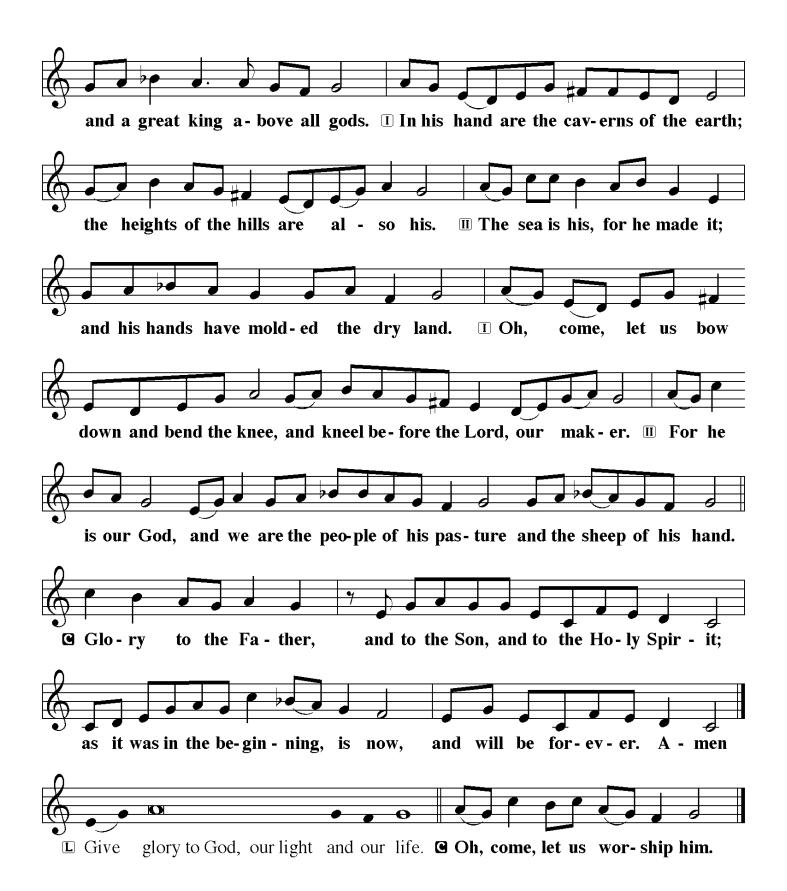
GATHERING The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

DIALOGUE



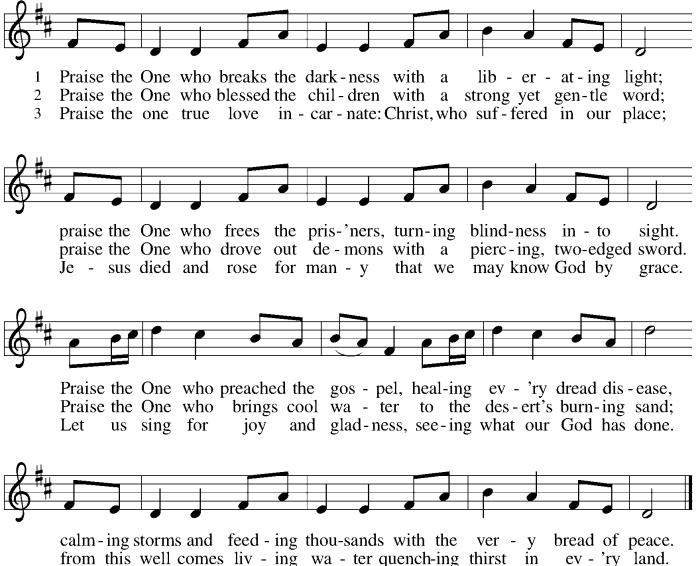


MEDITATION:

"Six Recognitions of the Lord-4" by Mary Oliver

Of course I have always known you are present in the clouds, and the black oak I especially adore, and the wings of birds. But you are present too in the body, listening to the body, teaching it to live, instead of all that touching, with disembodied joy. We do not do this easily. We have lived so long in the heaven of touch, and we maintain our mutability, our physicality, even as we begin to apprehend the other world. Slowly we make our appreciative response. Slowly appreciation swells to astonishment. And we enter the dialogue of our lives that is beyond all understanding or conclusion. It is mystery. It is love of God. It is obedience.

GOSPEL HYMN: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness (ELW 843)



Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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THE WORD: MARK 12:1-17

¹Then he began to speak to them in parables. "A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watchtower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ²When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard. ³But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted. ⁵Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. ⁶He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ⁷But those tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' ⁸So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. ⁹What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. ¹⁰Have you not read this scripture:

'The stone that the builders rejected

has become the keystone;

¹¹this was the Lord's doing,

and it is amazing in our eyes'?"

¹²When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.

¹³Then they sent to him some Pharisees and some Herodians to trap him in what he said. ¹⁴And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality, but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not? ¹⁵Should we pay them, or should we not?" But knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why are you putting me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me see it." ¹⁶And they brought one. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." ¹⁷Jesus said to them, "Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." And they were utterly amazed at him.

Word of God. Word of Life.

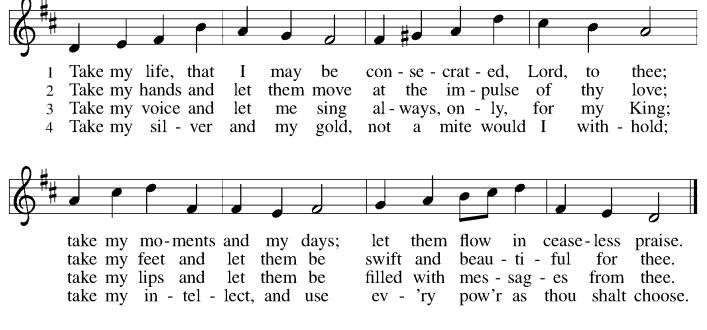
SERMON

PRAYER

O Lord, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day; preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome in adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

HYMN OF THE DAY: Take My Life, That I May Be (ELW 685)



- 5 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt. Music: Ратмоs, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Son of God, you spoke words to Jerusalem's leaders that were hard to hear. Give us ears to receive your word of life so that we can follow you faithfully. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God of living water, send your church beyond boundaries to proclaim your grace. May its witness be a source of refreshment for thirsty souls. Strengthen our voices, that all people can know and believe that Jesus is truly the savior of the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of living water, protect from pollution or misuse all rivers, lakes, oceans, and streams, the Sammamish River, Lake Washington, and the Puget Sound. Bless the work of those who dig wells and those who advocate for access to clean water, that all people and animals have enough to drink. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of living water, open the hearts of leaders and authorities, that they hear the cries of the suffering and act with compassion toward them. Bring peace to disputed lands and bring reconciliation to people divided by race, culture, or nationality. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of living water, mend the hearts of those who grieve broken relationships, whether by conflict, abuse, divorce, or death. Draw near to all who are ill. Assure those questioning your presence in the midst of doubt or suffering. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God of living water, renew us in the promises of baptism. Join us together in worship, fellowship, and sharing your good news. Embolden us to serve others and to work for justice and peace. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Silence to offer our own prayers.

God of living water, we thank you for those who endured suffering and who now boast in the glory of God. Pour your Holy Spirit into our hearts and give us peace as we live in the hope of our salvation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

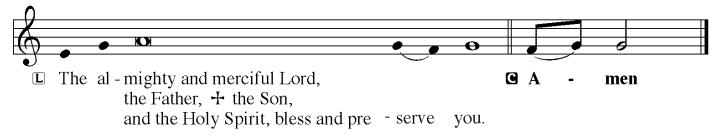
LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen. Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

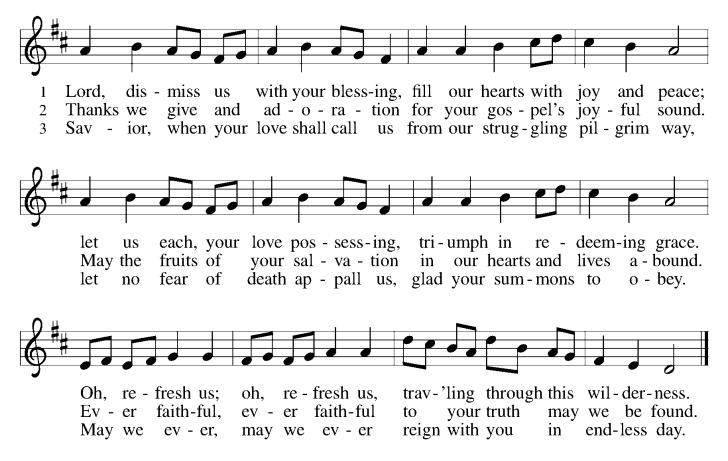
CLOSING PRAYER

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

BENEDICTION



CLOSING HYMN: Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing (ELW 545)



Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt. Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

POSTLUDE

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About Lent

The Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday (February 26) and lasts 40 days (excluding Sundays which are "little Easters"). The English word *Lent* is a shortened form of the Old English word *lencten*, meaning "spring season." This liturgical season is a time for reflection, repentance (turning back to), affirmation of our baptisms, deepening of our spiritual practices, in short a time for rebirth and renewal. For us in the Northern Hemisphere these are themes we associate with the coming spring time. It is a time to prepare ourselves for Easter through a rehearsing of the story of Jesus' arrest, suffering, crucifixion, death, and resurrection.

Holy Week worship begins with Palm Sunday (April 5). This is the day that we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his quick betrayal. There is no real benediction since we understand that we are in worship the entire week as one long worship service. Wednesday we will have prayer around the cross, Maundy (Latin for command) Thursday we are taught about the giving of the command to love one another and the institution of the Lord's Supper. Good Friday we gather to hear the story of Jesus' suffering and death.

The expectation is that the worshipping community experiences this story together to prepare for the Easter Season.

LENT & EASTER DATES

Third Sunday in Lent—March 15 10:00 am—Matins Facebook Livestream

Fourth Sunday in Lent–March 22 10:00 am–Matins Facebook Livestream

Fifth Sunday in Lent–March 29 10:00 am–Matins Facebook Livestream

We are hoping that we can have Holy Week:

Palm Sunday—April 5 8:30 and 11:00 am Worship with Holy Communion.

Prayer Around the Cross—April 8 7:00 pm worship with candle light and music

Maundy Thursday—April 9 Noon and 7:00 pm Worship with Hand Washing and Holy Communion

Good Friday—April 10 7:00 pm Worship with Coral Cantata

Easter Sunday—April 12 7:00, 8:30, & 11:00 am Worship with Holy Communion 8:00am-10:45am—Easter Breakfast

Lenten Soup Supper and Vespers has been cancelled!

