HOLY COMMUNION Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

8:00 am and 10:30 am

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

SILENT PRAYER

PRELUDE:

8:00 am: Beneath the Cross of Jesus M. Hayes 10:30 am: Chorale and Second movement from Sonata #6, based on the chorale "Our Father Who Art in Heaven"

F. Mendelssohn

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

Stand

HYMN: God Loved the World

Printed on the next page.

God Loved the World



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ABSOLUTION)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

- In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.
- **P** Almighty God,

to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel/Stand

P Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Stand

GREETING

- 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.

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

God of all mercy, by your power to heal and to forgive, graciously cleanse us from all sin and make us strong; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

С Amen.

Sit *Later service only:* **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Joshua 5:9-12 *By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of* the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

A reading from Joshua. A

⁹ The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The word of the Lord. A

С Thanks be to God.

Later service only:

PSALM 32 (The congregation's verses are in bold face type.)

- ¹ Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven, and whose sin is | put away!
- ² Happy are they to whom the LORD im-¹ putes no guilt, and in whose spirit there ¹ is no guile!
- ³ While I held my tongue, my bones with-[|] ered away, because of my groaning [|] all day long.
- ⁴ For your hand was heavy upon me[|] day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the[|] heat of summer.
- ⁵ Then I acknowledged my | sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt.
- ⁶ I said, "I will confess my transgressions | to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.
- ⁷ Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in [|] time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they [|] shall not reach them.
- ⁸ You are my hiding-place; you preserve [|] me from trouble; you surround me with shouts [|] of deliverance.
- ⁹ "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go; I will guide you | with my eye.
- ¹⁰ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you."
- ¹¹ Great are the tribulations | of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.
- ¹² Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

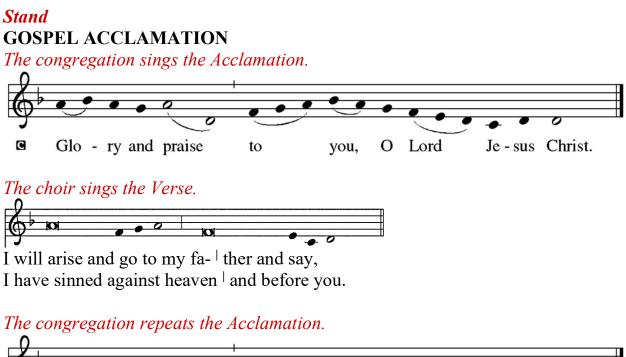
One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

A reading from Second Corinthians.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who

reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

- A The word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.





GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger!¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe-the best one-and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of

yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

P The gospel of the Lord.

O Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit SERMON

Pastor Weleck

Stand

Later service only: HYMN OF THE DAY: Our Father, We Have Wandered Printed on the next page.

Our Father, We Have Wandered



Text © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A735208. All rights reserved.

Stand

The Nicene Creed is appropriate during Advent, Christmas, Easter, and on festival days; the Apostles' Creed during Lent and at other times.

APOSTLES CREED

- **P** With the whole church, let us 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 into hell. 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

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A We pray for the church, for its pastors and other ministers, for the newly baptized, for all the faithful, for this congregation here gathered, and for our growth in grace.

Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all nations, for all rulers, legislators, and judges, for an increase of justice in our lands, and for all who work for peace among nations and among peoples.

Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all in any need, for the hungry and the homeless, for victims of war and injustice, for prisoners, for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, for the sick and infirm, for all with incurable illness, and for all who this day will die. We pray especially for those we name in the silence of our hearts... Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for the members of our armed forces wherever they serve, and especially when they serve in harm's way, that they might speedily complete their mission and be safely reunited with their loved ones. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- **C** Amen.

PEACE

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **C** And also with you.

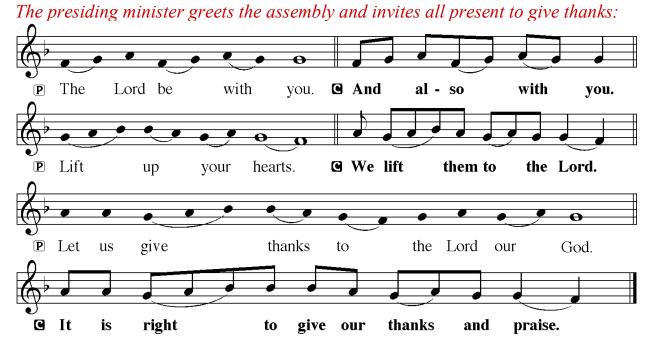
Worshippers do not greet one another. The service continues with the Offertory.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

The Offering will be collected in the Narthex as you leave the church. **OFFERTORY**



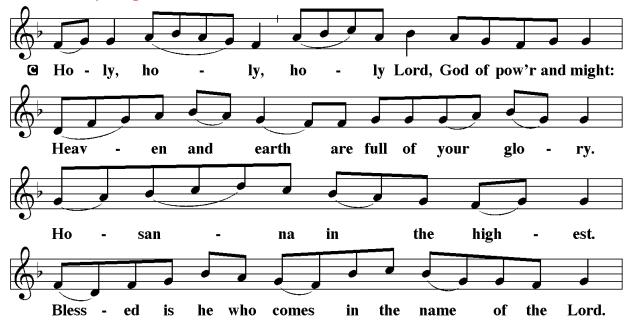
GREAT THANKSGIVING



The minister continues with the PROPER PREFACE:

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:* ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The assembly sings the SANCTUS:





The WORDS OF INSTITUTION are sung to the music Blessed Martin Luther himself composed specifically for this purpose.

 IN THE NIGHT IN WHICH HE WAS BETRAYED, OUR LORD JESUS TOOK BREAD, AND GAVE THANKS; BROKE IT, AND GAVE IT TO HIS DISCIPLES, SAYING: TAKE AND EAT; THIS IS MY + BODY, GIVEN FOR YOU. DO THIS FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

AGAIN, AFTER SUPPER, HE TOOK THE CUP, GAVE THANKS, AND GAVE IT FOR ALL TO DRINK, SAYING: THIS CUP IS THE NEW COVENANT IN MY + BLOOD, SHED FOR YOU AND FOR ALL PEOPLE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SIN. DO THIS FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF ME.



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- Behold the Lamb of God,behold him who takes away the sins of the world.Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.
- Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

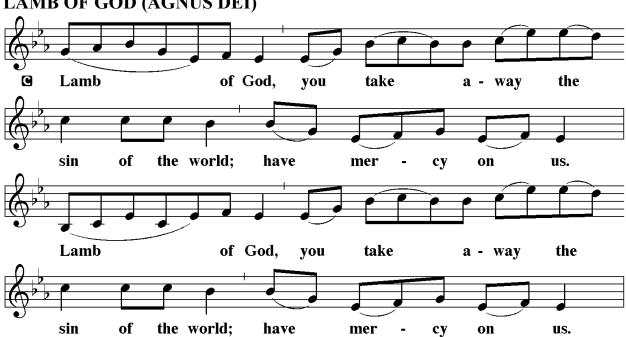
Sit

COMMUNION

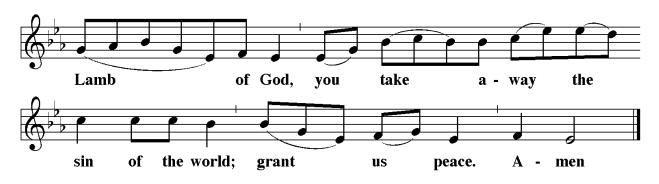
When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers sayThe body of Christ, given for you.and each person may respond

Amen.

We Lutherans believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are "truly and substantially" present "in, with, and under" the forms of bread and wine. We invite to the communion all who are baptized and communing in this or another Christian denomination. We welcome children and others who are not communing to come forward for a blessing.



Music during Communion: LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI)



ANTHEM: "Rejoice I Found the Lost" W. Wold (1994 Augsburg Fortress, All Rights Reserved)

1. And Jesus said, our God is like a shepherd who has lost a sheep, and leaving all the rest he searched until he found what had been lost.

REFRAIN: "Rejoice," he cried," I found the lost! Rejoice, rejoice with me, rejoice!"

2. And Jesus said, our God is like a woman who has lost a coin, she lit a lamp and searched all night until she found what had been lost. (refrain)

3. And Jesus saint, our god is like a father who has lost a son; he waited ev'ry day for him until his son returned to him. "Rejoice," he cried, "my son came home! Rejoice with me, rejoice!", he cried.

Stand

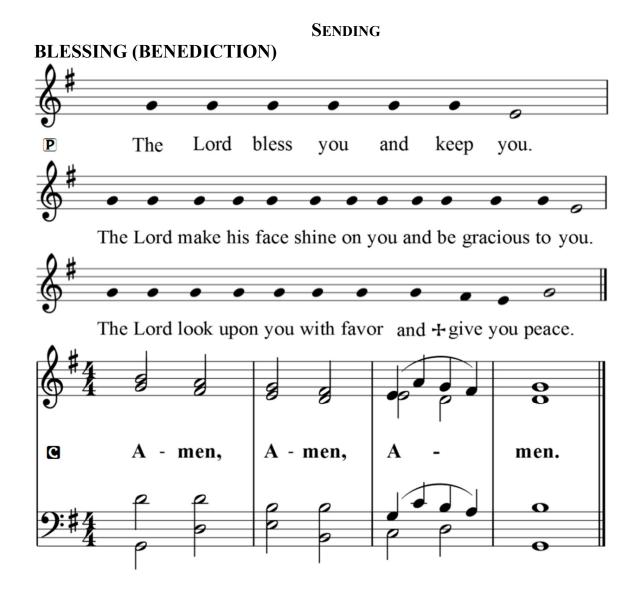
BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

- The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- **G** Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

 Let us pray.
 We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

G Amen.



DISMISSAL

- **A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

HYMN: Amazing Grace

Printed on the next page.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



OFFERING

The offering will be collected as you leave the Church.

POSTLUDE: 8:00 am: *Improvisation on Amazing Grace* 10:30 am: *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*

B. Tonkin J. S. Bach

+ + +

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SAS017622.

Unless otherwise indicated, hymns are in public domain.

+ + +

The Easter Cycle celebrates the events surrounding our Lord's passion, death, and resurrection. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, the Easter Cycle includes the Lenten season, Holy Week, and the Easter Season. This cycle concludes with the Day of Pentecost, as the culmination of the resurrection through the coming of the Holy Spirit to Christ's followers.

During Lent, a Hymn of Praise is not appropriate because of the preparatory and penitential nature of this time.

The liturgical color purple, symbolic of our penitence and Jesus' royalty, is used in Lent.

+ + +

2025 Vestry		
Member	Special Area	E-mail Address
Gary Wessner	President/Property	gtwess@comcast.net
Dick Allebach	Vice President	Doot44@gmail.com
Alison Fishell	Secretary	alisonhfishell@gmail.com
Jeannie Funk	General Treasurer	jeanniefunk@gmail.com
Sherry Jessee	Trust Fund Treasurer	dsajessee@hotmail.com
John Kochel	Parish Life	John.kochel@thrivent.com
Karl Stefan	Mutual Ministry	kssurf@verizon.net
Chilly Lyaro	Christian Education	chillylyaro@yahoo.com
Brian O'Hara	Outreach	Brian.ohara24@gmail.com
Shane Elison	Christian Education	scrabbie1@aol.com
Jennifer Wentworth	Old Church Committee	jawentw@aol.com
Matthew Vera	Cemetery Committee	Matthew_vera@verizon.net

Worship Assistants

Ushers: Dick Allebach, Scott Halteman, Brooke Rush, and Bryan Fishell

Elevator Attendant: Mike Taylor

Lectors: Lessons: Rebecca Catagnus Prayers: Jennifer Wentworth

Communion Assistant: Sherry Jessee

Acolyte: Wade Anderson Crucifer: Mya Schiller

Altar Guild: 8:00 am: Deb Augustine and Sally Sweeney

10:30 am: Linda Romano and Carol Gerhart

Offering Tabulation: John Kochel, Alison Fishell, and Shane Elison

Video Streaming: Jim Lien and Chilly Lyaro

<u>The Flowers that Adorn the Altar</u> are given to the glory of God by the Redeyoff family in honor of our two granddaughters.

<u>The Sanctuary Candle</u> is given to the glory of God by Deborah Harley in loving memory of husband, Jerry Harley.

<u>The Worship Bulletins</u> are given to the glory of God by Mr. and Mrs. John Wentworth and Family in memory of loved ones.



Augustus Lutheran Senior Youth Group			
Easter Fundraiser			
Homemade Peanut Butter Eggs, Coconut Crème Eggs and Thin Mints Orders due by Wednesday, April 16 th			
Order Pick up on Easter Sunday, April 20 th			
Name:			
Peanut Butter Eggs \$5.00/half pound \$10.00/pound	Coconut Crème Eggs \$5.00/half pound \$10.00/pound		
Thin Mints \$5.00/dozen	Total: \$		
I will pick up after the 8:00 service			
I will pick up after the 10:30 service			
Thank you for supporting the Senior Youth Group!			





