

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 30, 2025 - 9:00 am



Burke Lutheran Church

Reconnect.

5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718-2761

608-244-8486 / burkelutheran@att.net

www.burkelutheran.org

“Preach. Teach. Reach.”

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Please rise.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C **Amen.**

P Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate One,

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 the cross. Amen.**

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

C **Amen.**



GATHERING SONG

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

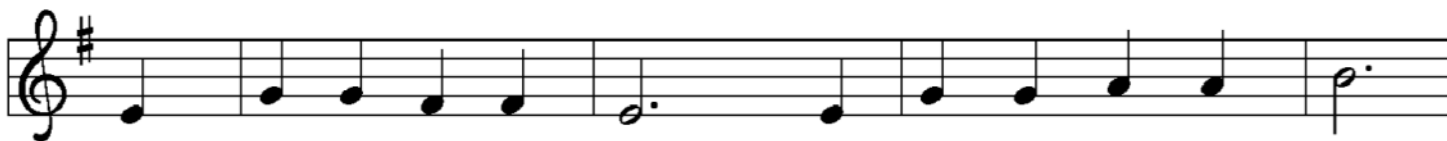
GREETING

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.**

Please be seated.

KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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.

R 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.

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 32

- R ¹ Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!
- C ² **Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**
- R ³ While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.
- C ⁴ **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**
- R ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- C ⁶ **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**
- R ⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- C ⁸ **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.**
- R ⁹ 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."
- C ¹⁰ **Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**
- R ¹¹ 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.

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

Please rise.

GOSPEL VERSE



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -
slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 15th chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**



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 ¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. ² And 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. ¹⁶ He 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; ¹⁹ I 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.

C **Praise to you O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Bryan Lagerstam

Please rise.

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"
 par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909
 Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

THE CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

R God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

R God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

R God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

R God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

P God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion especially Lisa Thompson, Mark Gehrke, June Chadwick, Marie McCoy, Tina Lee, Tim Lothe, and all those we name upon our lips or in our hearts. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

P God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died. We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

P Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you. (*Greet one another with God's peace.*)

Please rise.

THE 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 It is indeed right, our duty, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

Please be seated.

Our Father, We Have Wandered



1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
com - pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929–2006

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612

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Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Please rise.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Generous Host, 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 one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, † bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

My Life Flows On in Endless Song



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-hove earth's lam-en-ta-tion,
2 Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv-eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion.
It finds an ech-o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING. Robert Lowry, alt.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IF YOU ARE VISITING TODAY: Thank you for joining us at Burke for worship and fellowship! Please sign a card in the pew and/or the visitor book in the narthex.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

We teach that Jesus is truly present in the bread and the wine. All are invited to the table to share God's grace. Grape juice is available in the center of the tray for those who desire it, as well as gluten-free wafers.

*Please fill out a communion card
and place it in the offering plate if
you are communing today.*

OUR STAFF

Pastor

Bryan Lagerstam

309-236-7334

Bryan.lagerstam@gmail.com

Administrative Secretary

Laura Steig

608-244-8486

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Maintenance Engineer

Colin Hamrick

CALL TO ACTION

April Food Pantry Focus: April focus is Fats, Oils and sweets. Such as jams/jellies, syrups, honey, mayo, salad dressings or sugar. Please place your non-perishable goods in the 'Donations' basket in the entryway.

Birthday Bags for River Food Pantry. List of contents and bags are located in the entryway.

PRAYERS & CARES

A Nursery (Youth Room) for children under six is located down the hallway near the church offices. Activity bags are available in the Narthex for children at worship.

Our Prayer List: Contact the church office with prayer concerns. Unless otherwise advised, names remain on our list for two weeks.

Lisa Thompson (daughter of Bob & Jeannette Gehrke)

Mark Gehrke (son of Bob and Jeannette Gehrke)

Marie McCoy

June Chadwick

Tina Lee

Tim Lothe

A MUSICAL PRESENTATION

On April 6th, please welcome our special guests from St. Olaf and UCC Church of Windsor who will be providing special music along with our choir at Burke Lutheran at the 9:00am service and at 10:30am at UCC Church in Windsor.

CONGREGATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

QUILTING: Every Wednesday at 9:00am.

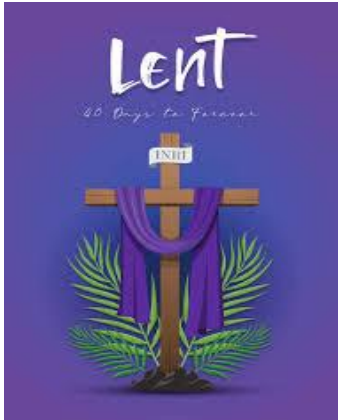
BAND PRACTICE: Mondays at 10:30am.

BIBLE STUDY: Every Wednesday at 1:00pm.

JAM: Every Wednesday at 6:30pm at NGMLC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hospitalized?: Please let the hospital staff know you are a member of Burke Lutheran Church so we are notified.



This year Lenten Services will be held each Wednesday of Lent at 6:30pm. A meal will be served at each service. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for food for these meals. We hope you can join us during this very special season.

SAVE THESE DATES: April 2, and April 9

Palm Sunday: April 13

Good Friday: April 18

Easter Sunday: April 20



PALM SUNDAY

BREAKFAST

Palm Sunday Breakfast will be held Sunday, April 13, 2025 after service in the Fellowship Hall. This breakfast fundraiser helps to send our youth to Lutherdale Bible Camp and other youth group outings. The Men's Club will be looking for volunteers and donations to make this breakfast possible.

Special Joint Maundy Thursday Service

This year we will be joining together with Burke Lutheran, Norway Grove, Christ Lutheran, and United in Christ for Maundy Thursday service. We will be combining worship leaders, musicians, and choirs. The Rev. Jen Christianson from the South-Central Synod office will be preaching. The service will be held at the DeForest Community Center and is open to all. Worship will be April 17th at 6 pm with an opportunity for fellowship as well. Watch for more details to come.



THIS WEEK AT BURKE

Wednesday, April 2	Quilting, 9:00am	Bible Study, 1:00pm Lenten Services, 6:30pm
Thursday, April 3		Teach Board, 6:30pm
Sunday, April 6	Worship, 9:00am	

WORSHIP LEADERS

	March 30 - 9:00am Service	April 6 - 9:00am Service
Organist/Pianist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist
Music Leaders	Dave Wisner Chris Grefe	Dave Wisner Chris Grefe
Communion Assistant	Sharon Hughes	Julie Clark
Communion Prep	Gloria Lundquist	Gloria Lundquist
Lay Reader	Julie Clark	Sharon Hughes
Usher Team	Roger Kittleson	Bob Lenzendorf David Hanson
Coffee Hour	Potluck	Donuts
Counters	Debbie Brown Jeannette Gehrke	Rose Haney Gloria Lundquist

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Sunday 9:00am	Total	45
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