THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 23, 2025 - 9:00 am





5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718-2761 608-244-8486 / burkelutheran@att.net

"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.



Come Now Is The Time To Worship

(as published by Vineyard Music USA)

Words and Music by Brian Doerksen



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading Isaiah 55:1-9

To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.

- ¹ Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy R and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. 4 See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- R The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 63:1-8

- R ¹ O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
- C ² Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.
- R ³ For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.
- C ⁴ So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.
- R ⁵ My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- C ⁶ when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.
- R ⁷ For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- C ⁸ My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.

- R ¹ I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. ⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." 8 We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰ And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.
- R The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 13th chapter.
- C Praise to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 13:1-9

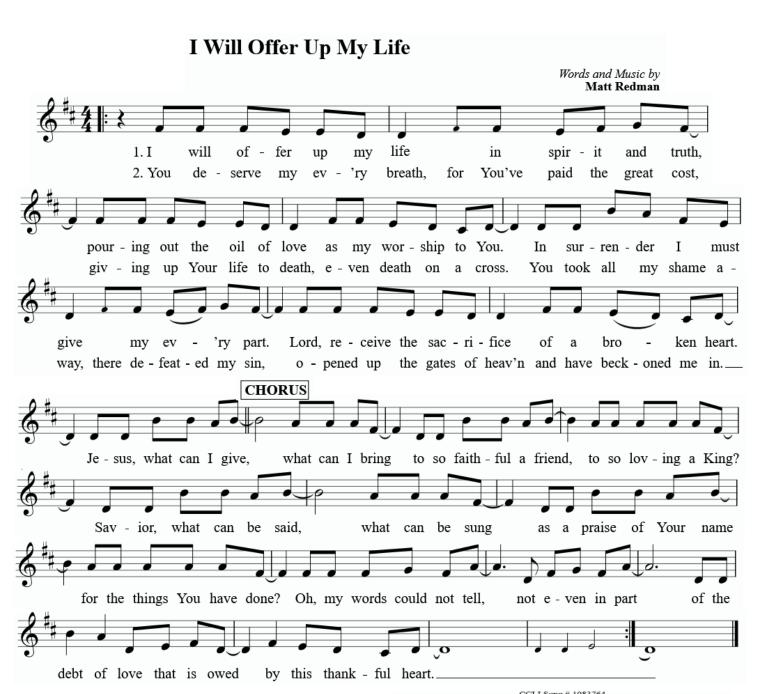
Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

- P ¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² [Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." ⁶ Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸ He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."
- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Glory to you O Lord.

SERMON

Please rise.

HYMN OF THE DAY



CCLI Song # 1083764

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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 We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

R We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

R We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

R We pray for this assembly, called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless food pantries, community gardens and kitchens, clean water projects, and all ministries that address human hunger and thirst. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

P We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion Lisa Thompson, Mark Gehrke, June Chadwick, Marie McCoy, Tina Lee, and all those we name upon our lips or in our hearts. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters and human conflict. Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

P We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended. May their witness inspire our own. God, in your mercy,

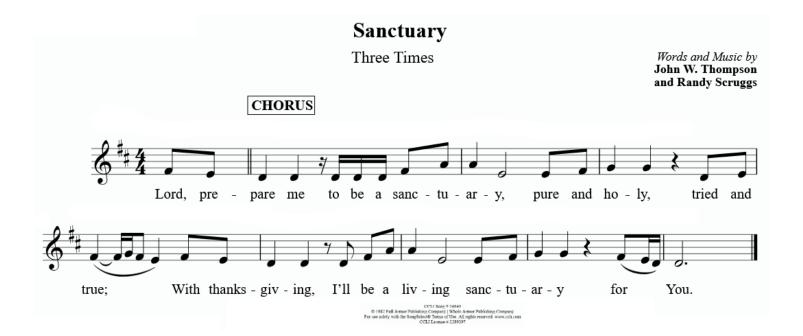
C receive our prayer.

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 God thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION & HYMNS





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 SONG



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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 burkelutheran@att.net

Maintenance Engineer Colin Hamrick

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

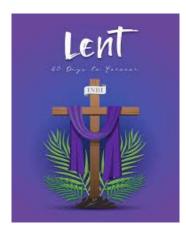
CONGREGATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

QUILTING: Every Wednesday at 9:00am. **BIBLE STUDY:** Every Wednesday at 1:00pm. **JAM:** Every Wednesday at 6:30pm at NGMLC

BAND PRACTICE: Mondays at 10:30am.

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: March 26, April 2, and April 9

Palm Sunday: April 13 Good Friday: April 18 Easter Sunday: April 20

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.



CALL TO ACTION

March Food Pantry Focus: March focus is "Toiletries," such as shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, hair brushes/combs, disposable baby diapers, feminine products (pads/tampons), Depends, etc. Please place your non-perishable goods in the 'Donations' basket in the entryway and it will be delivered to the pantry.

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

THIS WEEK AT BURKE

Wednesday, March 26	Quilting, 9:00am	Bible Study, 1:00pm	
		Lenten Service, 6:30pm	
Sunday, March 30	Worship, 9:00am		

WORSHIP LEADERS

	March 23 - 9:00am Service	March 30 - 9:00am Service	
Organist/Pianist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist	
Music Leaders	"Praise Band"	Dave Wisner	
		Chris Grefe	
Communion Assistant	Sharon Hughes	Sharon Hughes	
Communion Prep	Jeannette Gehrke	Gloria Lundquist	
Lay Reader	Debbie Brown	Julie Clark	
Usher Team	Karl & Sheri Patzer	Roger Kittleson	
Coffee Hour	Donuts	Potluck	
Counters	Sharon Hughes	Debbie Brown	
	Jean Schnick	Jeannette Gehrke	

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Sunday 9:00am	Total	44
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