

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**Worship Gathering**  
**March 30, 2025**

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[www.LCRonline.org](http://www.LCRonline.org)

Ministers, People of LCR

Pastor, The Rev. Nicole Schwalbe

Vicar John Evans

Music Director, Ms. Xiaojing Chang

A Welcoming Community Making Christ Known Through Worship and Service

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

- ♦ **Breathe**
- ♦ **Ponder:** Whom did you bring with you on your heart today? For what or whom are you feeling thankful? What is making you anxious today? What do you need to confess today?
- ♦ **Be still,** empty your hands, empty your mind, let sounds pass you, wait upon God.

## Gathering

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The Congregational responses are indented and in bold.*

### PRELUDE

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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

**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate One,

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.**

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.

**Amen.**

## God of Grace and God of Glory



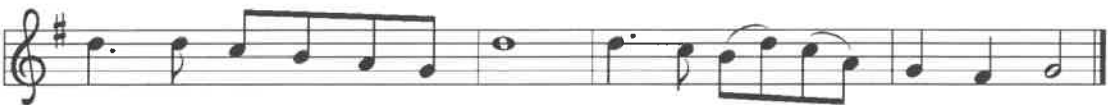
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Divine Word, You sent Moses to speak law to the people and bring order to chaos. You sent prophets to speak repentance and bring hope to the hopeless. You sent your son, Jesus, to become your living Word. Open our ears to hear your word, and our hearts to reflect the light of your truth to others, for the sake of the Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## Word

PSALM: Psalm 41:1-4

<sup>1</sup>Happy are those who consider the poor;  
the LORD delivers them in the day of trouble.

<sup>2</sup>The LORD protects them and keeps them alive;  
they are called happy in the land.

You do not give them up to the will of their enemies.

<sup>3</sup>The LORD sustains them on their sickbed;  
in their illness you heal all their infirmities.

<sup>4</sup>As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me;  
heal me, for I have sinned against you."

*Thy Word (sung)*

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet.  
and a light unto my path.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet.  
and a light unto my path.

GOSPEL: A Reading from Luke 16:19-31

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>19</sup>There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup>In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup>He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' <sup>25</sup>But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup>Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' <sup>27</sup>He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house — <sup>28</sup>for I have five brothers — that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' <sup>29</sup>Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' <sup>30</sup>He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' <sup>31</sup>He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

The Word of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON The Rev Nicole Schwalbe

## Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
 Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.  
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Response:* **Hear our prayer.**

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

## Meal

**OFFERING** *The giving of our time, talents, and money to the work of Christ's Church is an act of worship. As God has blessed us, let us return thanks to Him.*

## As the Grains of Wheat

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.  
1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst, when  
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come  
may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

*Refrain*

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... and join their unending hymn:

### 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 forever. Amen.

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

Thanks be to God.

### COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive the Body and Blood of Christ as he comes to us in the Holy Eucharist.  
Grape juice is also provided for those who prefer it.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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. **Amen.**

### Holy, Holy, Holy *Santo, santo, santo*



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zón te\_a - do - ra.  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.

Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de-cir: San - to\_e-res Se - ñor.  
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

## Sending

### BLESSING

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

**Amen.**

### Light Dawns on a Weary World



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -

see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

*Refrain*  
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;  
the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!  
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,  
as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

DISMISSAL

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

**Thanks be to God.**

### ***Prayer List***

#### **Strength**

Jeffrey Carpenter  
The Eckhart Family  
Arlene Engle  
Jane Newman  
Timothy Patwell  
Barbara Stadelberger  
Glenn Vegezzi  
Sally White  
Christa Zago  
Ron

#### **Serving in the Armed Forces**

Bryan Bennett  
Timothy DelUniversita  
Carmen Green  
Jim Oliveto  
Justin Ortega  
Jesse Fritz

#### **Mission Partner**

Sion Lutheran Bayamon, PR