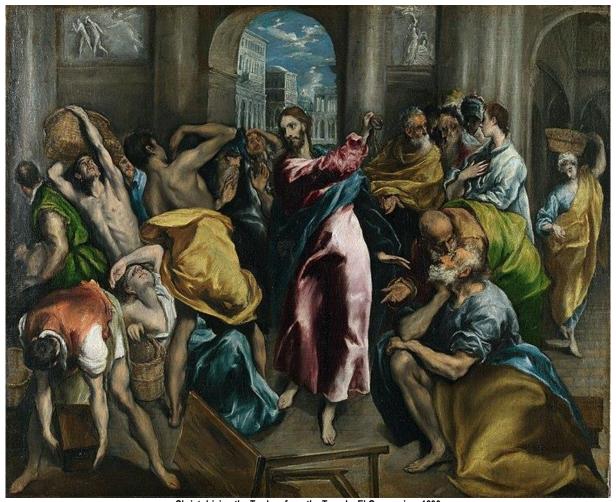
Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 3, 2024 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Livestream at 11:00 a.m.



Christ driving the Traders from the Temple, El Greco, circa 1600

FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Rev. Alejandro Mejia, Interim Senior Pastor The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl, Jr., Interim Associate Pastor

At The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, we embrace the uniqueness of every individual and respect their dignity and worth, for all are created in the image of God. We strive to welcome everyone in the fullness of who they are.

Let us call together for reconciliation, and live out God's vision of love for people of every sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental ability, political persuasion, race, ethnicity, and personal history.

Let us walk together to strive for racial equity, as Jesus calls us to do.

All people are welcome here to worship, build community, and grow together as Jesus' disciples at this place.

♦ GATHERING **♦**

Prelude

Please rise, as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

- **P** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

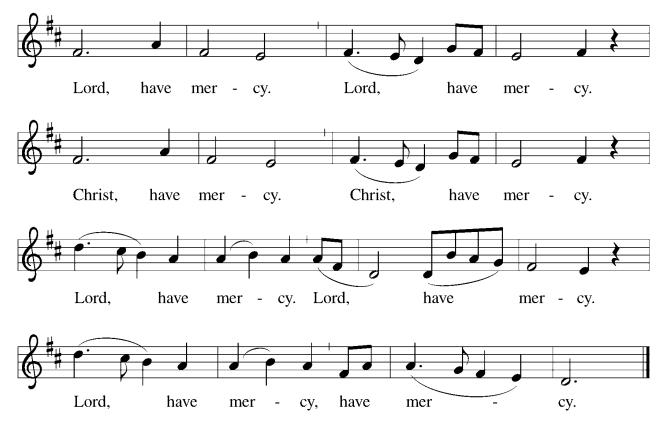
Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Most merciful God,
- 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 word and sacrament in 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.
- C Amen.

Gathering Hymn Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! No. 413



- **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.



- **P** Let us pray. O God,
- C by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, 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.

→ THE WORD **→**

Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

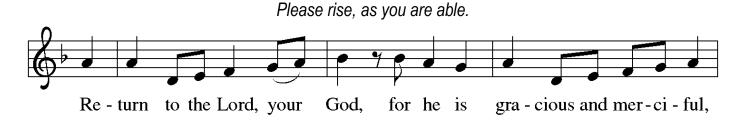
A reading from first Corinthians. ¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

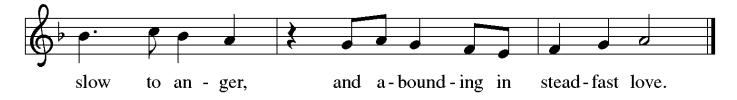
"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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





Gospel

John 2:13-22

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to John, the second chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a

whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

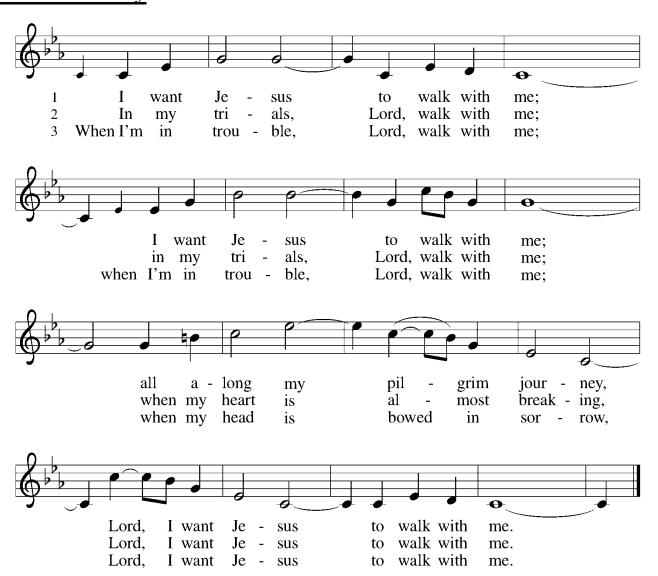
- **P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Rev. Alejandro Mejía

Please rise, as you are able.



A Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

- **A** Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

- **P** Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C Amen.

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

After sharing the peace, please be seated.

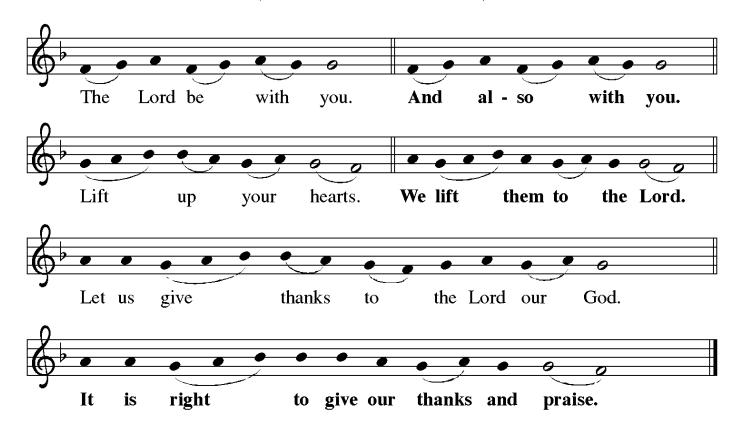
Offering and Offertory

As the gifts are presented, please rise as you are able.



- **A** Let us pray. Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.
- C Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

♦THE EUCHARIST♦





P Holy God...

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Again, after supper...

- **P** Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- **P** With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.
- C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.
- P Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.
- C Amen.

- **P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
- C 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.

- **P** Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!
- C Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

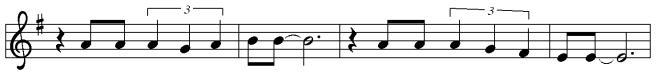
We welcome to the table all who proclaim with us that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and the wine. (Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice.

During the distribution, the following is sung: Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; O Lamb of . God, you . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, have . . mer-cy up - on us, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros. have . . mer - cy up - on us.



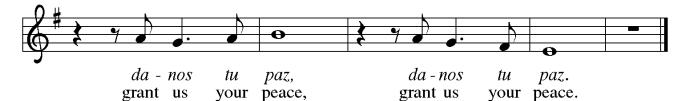
Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



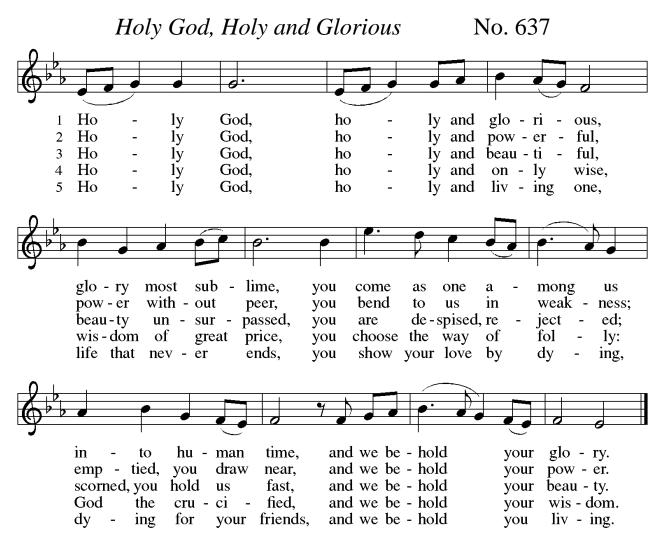
ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, have . . mer-cy up - on us, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros. have . . mer - cy up - on us.



Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



Communion Hymn



After all have communed, please rise, as you are able.

- **P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.
- A Let us pray. O God,
- C in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

♦ SENDING **♦**

P May the outrageous welcome of our Creator + accept and love us for who we are; may the incarnation of the Word touch and hold us close; may the dancing flicker of the rainbow Spirit help us risk ourselves for love; and may the blessing of God Parent, Son (+), and Holy Spirit be upon you now and forever.

C Amen.

Sending Hymn God of Grace and God of Glory

No. 705



- **A** Go in peace. Share your bread.
- C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

We thank Saxon Brown for leading our music during worship this morning!

Pray for Those That Need God's Healing

Ray, Paul, Al, Donna, Lind, Joan, Ed, Marion, Betty, Theresa, Linda, Elaine, Georgeann, Jean, Nicholas, Lois, Barbara & Bruce

Prayers of Comfort

For William and Stephen Groom on the passing of their father, Donald Groom.

Visitation and Memorial service will take place on Monday, March 4th beginning at 10:00 a.m. at McComas Funeral Home on West Broadway.

May the blessed hope of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ comfort the Groom family and all who mourn Donald.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SERVING TODAY 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

Greeters Gail Fricke

Assisting Minister Sherman Canapp, OSSD Maureen Stark

Communion Assistants

Ushers Doyle McCracken

Tina Zimmerman

Acolytes

Livestream Joel Raedeke