Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 10, 2024 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Livestream at 11:00 a.m.



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

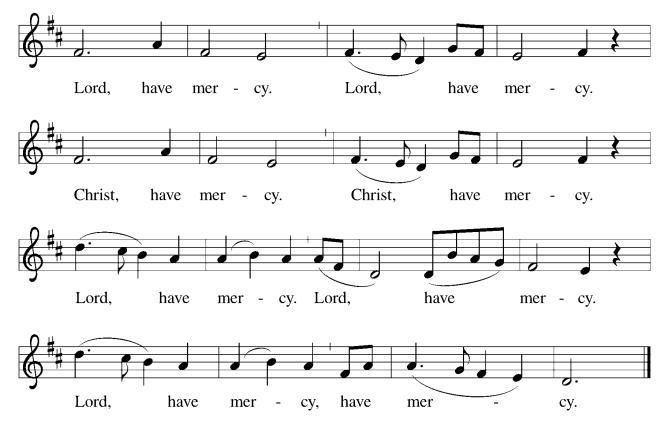
- **P** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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.



- **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 rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect 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.

Please be seated.

→ THE WORD **→**

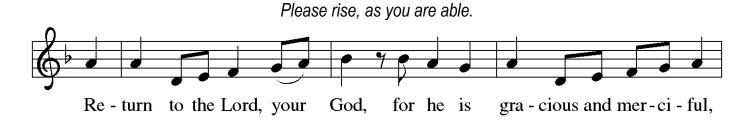
Reading

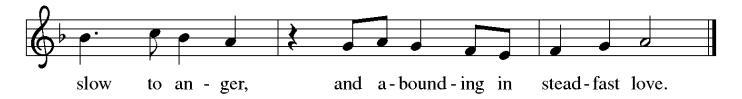
Ephesians 2:1-10

A reading from Ephesians. ¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone

else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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





Gospel

John 3:14-21

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

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴ "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

- **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.

Hymn of the Day

All Are Welcome

No. 641



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

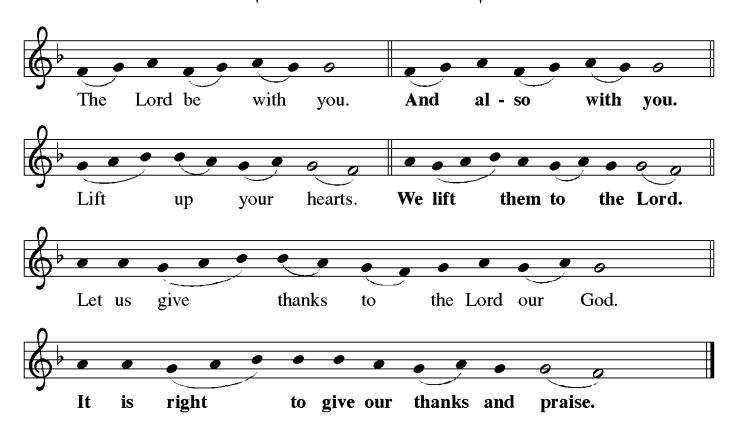
As the gifts are presented, please rise as you are able.



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 **+**



The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season; the congregation responds: Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more än vinån - sin kan för - stå, du är пä raän - då. than we ev - er un-der - stand. You are al - ways at hand. Väl sig - nad va - re dи kom - mer hit just som nu, Bless-ed are you com-ing Bless - ed you com-ing here near. are sig - na-de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord. väl to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead. Du är he lig, dи är hel het, You are whole ho ly, you are ness, dig! du är när het he - la kos - mos lo - var you are pres ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord! Ho-si-anho - si na, anna, Sing ho - san high the na in est! ho - si - an vår Gud. ho - si na, anna Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to God! our

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.

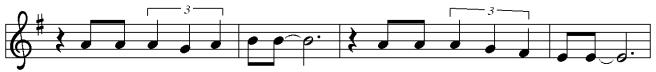
We welcome to the table all who proclaim with us that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and the wine. (Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice.

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; . .



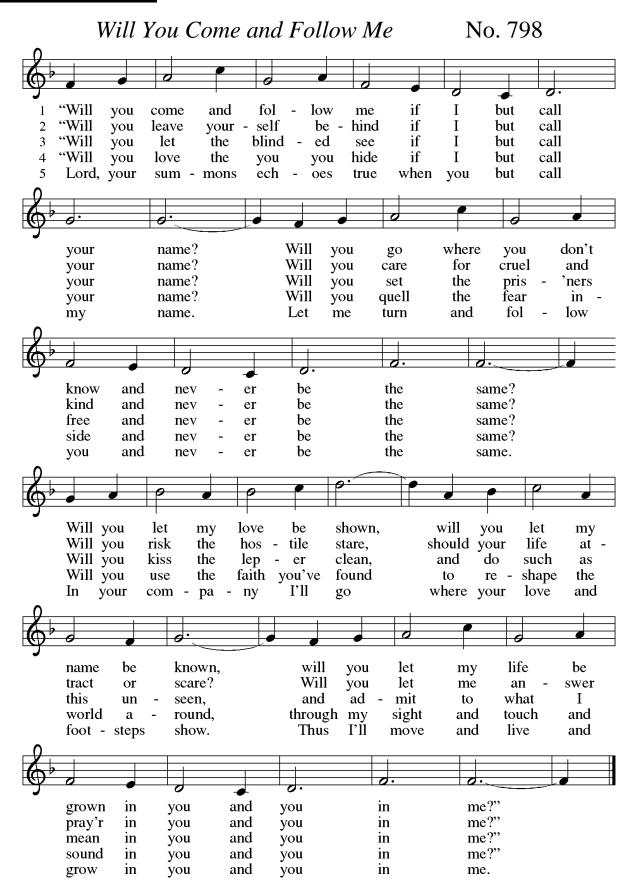
ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, have . . mer-cy up - on us, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros. have . . mer - cy up - on us.



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



- **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.



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

Postlude

We welcome and thank Jessie Lim for leading our music during worship this morning!

The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God by

By Phyllis Berger in Memory of Jack Berger's Birthday on March 9th

&

By Shirly Ernst in Memory of Ed Tausendschoen on what would have been his 85th Birthday

Pray for Those That Need God's Healing

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SERVING TODAY 11:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. Greeters **Deb Smeton Assisting Minister** Sherman Canapp Communion Assistants Gina Miller Tina Zimmerman Tricia Horst Joan Serio **Ushers** Doyle McCracken Monica Thaver Tim Miller **Acolytes** Livestream Joel Raedeke