

First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 am and Livestream



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

The Rev. Drew McCaffery, 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

Confession and Forgiveness

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

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.**

Entrance Hymn*O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*

No. 319



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

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.**



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

A *Let us pray. O Lord God,*

C **you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, 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 ✦

First Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

A *A reading from Deuteronomy. ¹ When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.” ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the Lord your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our*

oppression. ⁸ The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.” You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

A *The word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

A *¹ You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—*

C **² you will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust.”**

A *⁹ Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,*

C **¹⁰ no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

A *¹¹ For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in all your ways.*

C **¹² Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

A *¹³ You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.*

C **¹⁴ I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

- A** ¹⁵ *They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.*
- C** ¹⁶ **With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.**

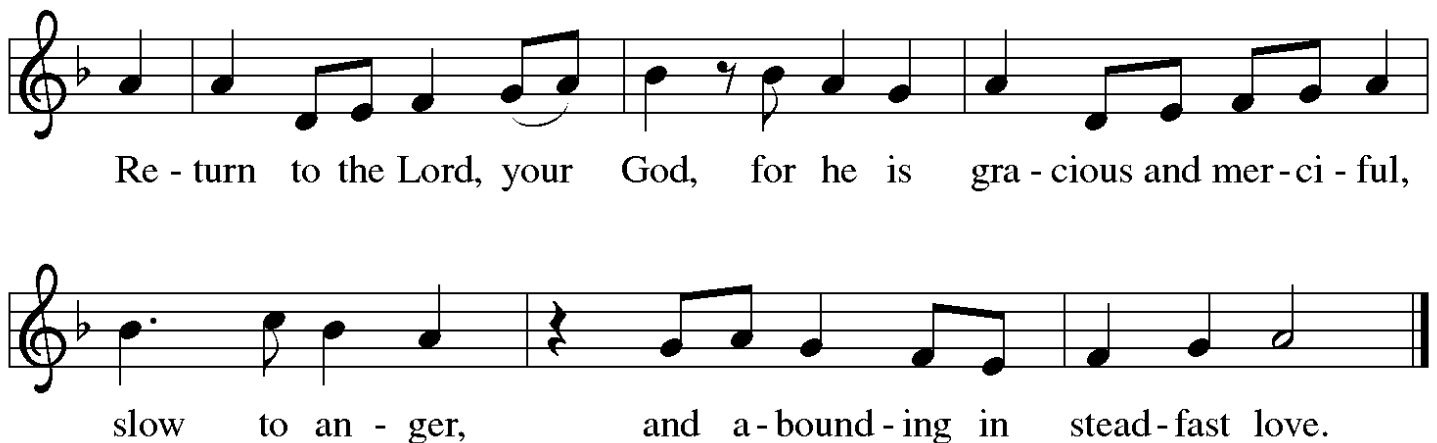
Second Reading

Romans 10:8b-13

- A** *A reading from the letter to the Romans. ^{8b} “The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess
with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God
raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with
the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so
is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be
put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek;
the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on
him. ¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be
saved.”*

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

Please stand as you are able.



P *The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the fourth chapter.*

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” ⁴ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’ ”

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ”

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’

¹¹ and

‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

¹² Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

P *The Gospel of the Lord.*

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Rev. Carla Christopher
Assistant to the Bishop
for Justice Ministries

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

Restore in Us, O God

No. 328



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit-less fear un - furl our lives like spring-time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search-ing ends, may see you face to face.

A *Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.*

C **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of
heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from
Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being
with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and
for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of
the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered
death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in**

accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A *God in your mercy,*
C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P *Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.*
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 & Anthem (11)

Return to God
Chancel Choir

Marty Haugen

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



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

A *Let us pray. Gracious Provider,*
C **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. Amen**

✦ THE EUCHARIST ✦

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

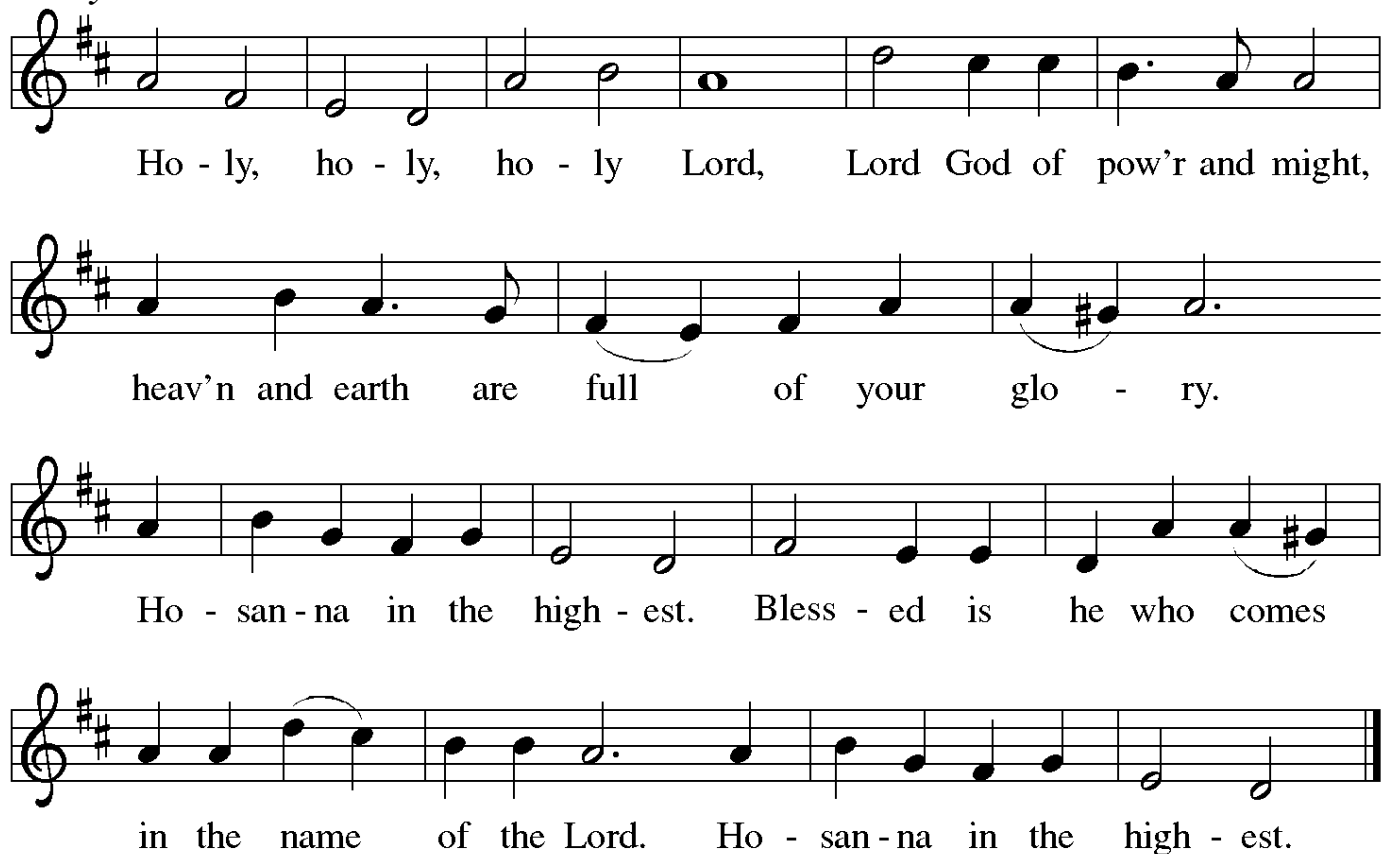
P *Lift up your hearts.*

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 and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

P *Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you. You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.*

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world. Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

P *Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior 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 *All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.*

C **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table! Whether you are a member of this church or a visitor, the Communion celebrated here is "open" to all who trust that our Lord Jesus Christ—his true Body and his true Blood—is present for All of God's People.

(Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice.)

During the distribution, the following is sung:

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



1 All who hun - ger, gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
2 All who hun - ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.
3 All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

After all have communed, please stand, 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. Generous Host,*

C **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**

✦ SENDING ✦

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

C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

No. 774



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
 last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

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

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

We welcome and thank Pastor Carla Christopher for being with our church council at retreat this weekend and for preaching today!

Pray for Those That Need God's Healing

*Ray, Ken, Bob, Al, Andrea, Donna, Joan, Ed, Marion, Betty, Doris,
Georgeann, Jean, Nicholas, Lois, Barbara & Bruce*



everything [in] between

Meeting God **in** the midst of extremes

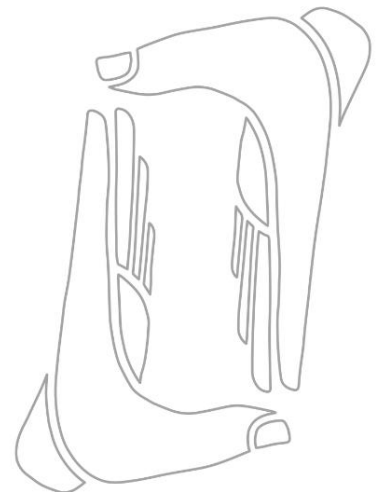
A Mid-Week Lenten Series

Join us at Dinner Church Wednesdays beginning
March 12 at 6:45 in Celebration Hall

Have you ever felt like you was stuck between a rock and a hard place? Many times in live, we feel we are stuck in the midst of things where we are tugged and pulled in opposing directions. In today's world, that notion of being stuck in-between is very prevalent and scripture is no different.

During the Wednesdays in this Lenten Season, we will study these scriptures as we are struck by how Jesus intentionally points out cultural and political extremes to emphasize the radical, inclusive, and surprising love of God. It will be during these weeks, we will explore the opposing views of where our faith and lives can be transformed.

This Lenten Series will also be unique as we will be having worship in a different format. Our gatherings will be conducted in a Dinner Church format. These services are to mimic what we would believe Maundy Thursday to have looked like. We will gather in song, prayers, and break bread together as we ponder on God's word.



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SERVING TODAY

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Greeters

Assisting Minister

Sherman Canapp, OSSD

Tina Zimmerman

Communion Assistants

Sue Quinn

Ushers

Doyle McCracken

Monica Thayer
Tim Miller

Acolytes

Livestream

Joel Raedeke