

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA
Worship Bulletin for Sun, February 28, 2021
Second Sunday in Lent – 8:30 AM
ELW Holy Communion Setting Three

*Prior to Worship, please text Prayers to Holy
Cross' "Text in Church" # 314.329.0487
& Pastor will lift them
during Prayers of the People today*

**GATHERING - The Holy Spirit calls us together
as the people of God**

WELCOME

PRELUDE *We Place Upon Your Table, Lord*
(Distress) by George Shearing



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Keeper of the Covenant,
The Source of steadfast Love, our Rock and Redeemer. **Amen.**

God hears us when we cry and draws us close in Jesus Christ.

Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Fountain of Living Water,

Pour out your mercy over us.

Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.

Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn.

Wash us in your cleansing flood.

Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus,

As healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen!

Beloved, God's word never fails.

The promise rests on grace:

By the saving Love of Jesus Christ,

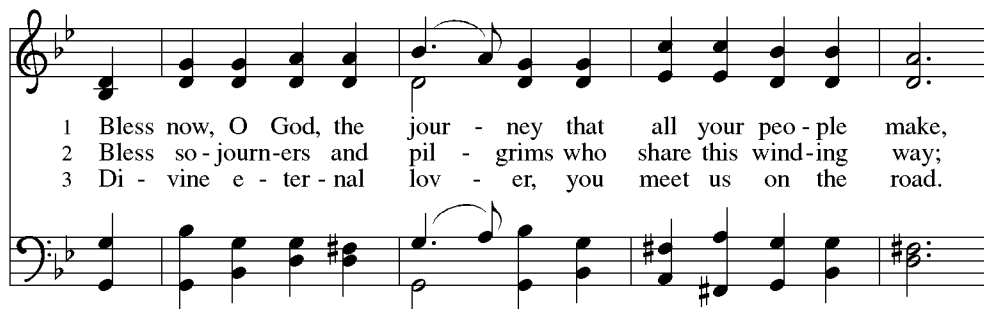
The wisdom and power of God,

Your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more.

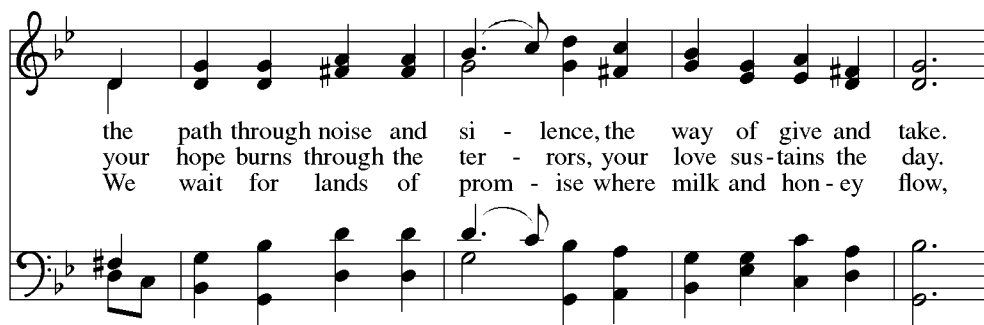
Journey in the way to Jesus. **Amen!**

GATHERING SONG *Bless Now, O God, the Journey* (ELW 326)

Bless Now, O God, the Journey




1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
 2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
 3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
 your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
 We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
 We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
 but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
 to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
 Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
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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.**

KYRIE (ELW p. 138)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, 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 recognize humbly the 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.**

WORD God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Read by the Worship Asst.

A reading from Genesis.

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 22:23-31 Read by the Worship Asst. responsively with All & Pastor (Bold)

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them;**

but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,**

who rules over the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

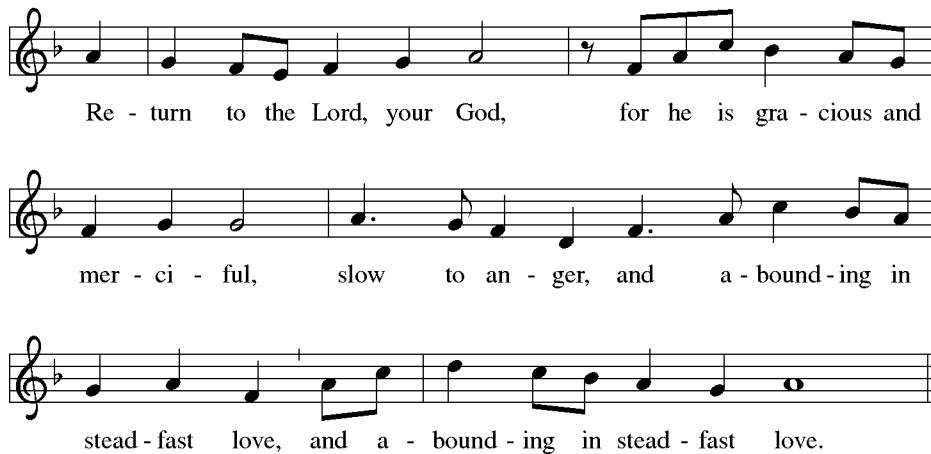
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

KIDS' MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)



GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38 Read by the Pastor

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Promises We Can't Keep

HYMN OF THE DAY *Oh, Love, How Deep* (ELW 322) – Verses 1, 3, 5, & 7

Oh, Love, How Deep

1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all
 2 God sent no an - gel to our race, of high - er
 3 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 4 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 or of low - er place, but wore the robe of
 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tion
 dai - ly works he wrought, by words and signs and
 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
 hu - man frame, in Christ our Lord to this world came.
 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 ac - tions thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.

5 For us by wickedness betrayed,
 for us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
 he bore the shameful cross and death;
 for us he gave his dying breath.

6 For us he rose from death again;
 for us he went on high to reign;
 for us he sent his Spirit here
 to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

7 All glory to our Lord and God
 for love so deep, so high, so broad:
 the Trinity whom we adore
 forever and forevermore.

Text: Thomas á Kempis, 1380–1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819–1885, alt.
 Music: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad, 15th cent.

CREED *The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 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,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

and he will come 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.

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE- LED BY THE WORSHIP ASST.

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Your gift of grace is for all. Give confident faith to all the baptized to follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

All the ends of the earth worship you. From galaxies to microorganisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to tend to creation's well-being. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ruler over all nations, raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Restore all who are sick or grieving. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression

Sionie Elavsky,

Vika (Yelena Barnhart's aunt, recovering at home on oxygen),

Keith DeCamp,

Myron and Patsy Holm,

Adam Jackson,

Betty Kent,

Vera Bannen (heart monitoring),

Lois Ristau (recovering from recent surgery),

Wayne Mosher (cardiac issues),

Tara (Mary Bailey's daughter),

Scotty Larson (can now put her own body brace on and graduated from therapy, exercising on her own),

Bud Niebling (recovering from carpal tunnel surgery),

Dot Bangert (at home recovering),

Steve (friend of Tocco's & Rockwell's),

Leah,

Michael Rockwell (recovering from surgery),

Lloyd Campbell (tests for cancer),

Jack Hamill (recovering from laser eye surgery),
JR (Merry Franklin's brother is having health issues),
Todd Halter (Merry Franklin's nephew is having heart issues),
Bryce Mosher & family (Tested positive for Covid)
Lisa (daughter of Hilde, Helen Krull's sister, home from recent hospitalization),
Gayl Pease (Goddaughter of Sandy Kalin. She need testing for cysts),
Seth Andrews (Godson of Sandy Kalin. He has blood clots in his legs),
Hannah (a young mother with many challenges in her life),
Jackie Johnson
Lynn (Sandy Frueh's friend, recovering from knee surgery),
Brock Klinger (toenail surgery),
Lezlie Heimsoth's mom (recovering from surgery)
Maya Heimsoth's friends (one friend has a broken wrist & another friend has broken fingers)
Remembering Families in their time of need & loss...
The Family of Dennis McCracken (Kevin and Moira (daughters Maureen, Teagan & Margaret),
 Will McCracken and his parents Tricia Gladden & Mike McCracken)
The Family of Tina Sheppard, whose mother passed away (Friend of Moira McCracken)
The Family of Kareen Deanes, whose mother passed away (Friend of Moira McCracken)
The Snelson Family (for the passing of Brian's Father, husband to Penny and sister-in-law of Pam
 Jokerst)
The Sinclair Family (Susie Garrett's niece, Lisa Sinclair and her family for the loss of Lisa's mother)
 Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You made Abraham and Sarah the ancestors of a multitude of nations. Bless grandparents, parents, and foster parents, and the children who look to them for care and guidance. Console those who deal with infertility, parents who have entrusted their children to adoption, and children longing to be adopted. Equip ministries, such as the Lutheran's Children and Families Services, to help strengthen families. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered from Text-in-Church

Pastor: We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING *Please continue to offer to Holy Cross what you desire to give to God through*

1) Your established e-giving pledge through Vanco OR

2) through a new mobile App called GIVEPLUS+ is available from your mobile store online

3) send your check directly to Holy Cross at 13014 Olive Blvd. in Creve Coeur, MO 63141

4) Go to our Website and hit "DONATE NOW" <http://www.holycrosselca.com/site/cs/links.asp>

OFFERTORY *O God, My Faithful God* from *Praise and Thanksgiving*

Hymn Improvisations Set. 8 arr. by Michael Burkhardt

OFFERING PRAYER *After the table is set, the assisting minister leads.*

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 144)

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,
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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

[Please hold up your Communion Elements if you are Receiving today at Home]

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for Home Communion.

COMMUNION (ELW p. 146)

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen. *The ministers commune after others commune.*

Please give Blessings '+' on forehead to those not Communing today.

COMMUNION INSTRUMENTAL *Our Father, We Have Wandered*

(Herzlich tut mich verlangen) In a setting of Chopin's *Prelude in C Minor*

arr. by Cindy Berry - Chopin

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *The assisting minister leads.*

Let us pray. Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus* (ELW 802) -> Next Page

DISMISSAL *The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.*

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Oh, Love, How Deep* (Deo Gracias) from *O God, Beyond all Praising*,
Seven Pieces for Organ on English Hymn tunes arr. by Charles Callahan

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WE ARE GRATEFUL!

Worship Assistant: **Renate Hawn**

Organist: **Jack Hamill**

Singer: **Linda Tyahla**

AV/Camera Volunteers: **Donovan Lucas, David Ristau, Philip Paul**

Staff: **Marcus Benson**

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead

through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
 Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
 he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
 that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,

On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
 Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
 Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
 we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be

full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
 all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.

Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
 Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
 Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
 Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.
 Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.
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