Worship Leaders

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Vicar Karen Peterson
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Chancel Choir
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Psalm refrain is by Ann Marie Skoglund-Anderson

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Sunday Worship

March 3, 2024 Third Sunday in Lent



Forgotten your checkbook? Don't have a checkbook? Don't carry cash? You can give online to Faith Lilac Way Lutheran Church using the QR Code.







Children are welcome in worship at FLW!

The congregational speaking parts are printed in bold.

All who believe are welcome to commune. You are invited to come forward to receive communion (wine is red and grape juice is white) and bread or a gluten free wafer - or you may pick up a communion kit (chalices filled with grape juice and gluten free wafers) and receive it in your pew.

Prelude

Announcements

Welcome and Sharing of the Peace

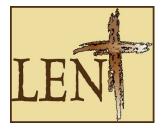
Gathering Hymn

O God, My Faithful God ELW 806

O God, my faithful God, true fountain ever flowing, without whom nothing is, all perfect gifts bestowing: give me a healthy frame, and may I have within a conscience free from blame, a soul unstained by sin.

Give me the strength to do with ready heart and willing whatever you command, my calling here fulfilling-to do it when I ought, with all my might--and bless whatever I have wrought, for you must give success.

Keep me from saying words that later need recalling; guard me, lest idle speech may from my lips be falling; but when, within my place, I must and ought to speak, then to my words give grace, lest I offend the weak.



Communion Blessing

Communion Prayer

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

Announcements

Sending Song

God of Grace and God of Glory

ELW 705

God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r; crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flow'r. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days, for the living of these days,

Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to your control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss your kingdom's goal, lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.

<u>Blessing</u>

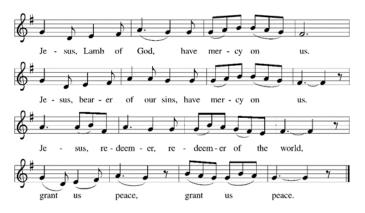
Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace. **Amen.**

<u>Dismissal</u>

Children of God, you are God's beloved. Go in Grace, Grow in Faith. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Communion Distribution

Jesus, Lamb of God



O God of Mercy, God of Light ELW 714

O God of mercy, God of light, in love and mercy infinite, teach us, as ever in your sight, to live our lives in you.

You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.

Teach us the lesson Jesus taught: to feel for those his blood has bought, that ev'ry deed and word and thought may work a work for you.

For all are kindred, far and wide, since Jesus Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and grace provide, to love them all in you.

In sickness, sorrow, want, or care, may we each other's burdens share; may we, where help is needed, there give help as though to you.

And may your Holy Spirit move all those who live to live in love, till you receive in heav'n above all those who live in you. When dangers gather round, oh, keep me calm and fearless; help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheerless; help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small, and, by your Spirit's might, to live at peace with all.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

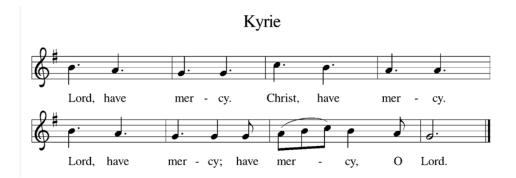
Silence is kept for reflection. Please sit or kneel if you are able.

Holy God, we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. There are times when we hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold; speak in ways that silence others; are silent when we should speak up; let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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

Holy One, creator and redeemer of all things, your Spirit inspires and invigorates; your word informs and guides; your grace restores and refreshes. Transform us by your steadfast love, so that we may manifest for others the mercy of our crucified and risen Lord. Amen.

First Lesson Exodus 20:1-17 (NRSV)

The first lesson is from Exodus, the 20th chapter.

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

<u>Psalm 25:1-10</u> (NRSV) Cantor: *Refrain* All: *Refrain*

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

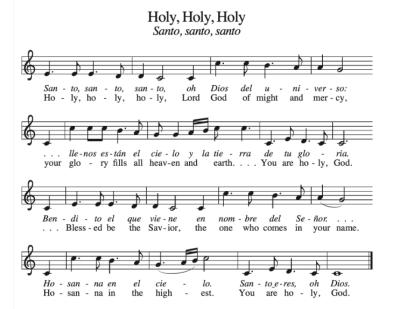
Lift up your hearts.

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 . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Words of Institution

<u>The Lord's Prayer</u> 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.

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.

Prayers of the People

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. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

Offering God, the Sculptor of the Mountains Thornburg and Husberg

Offering Prayer

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. **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.

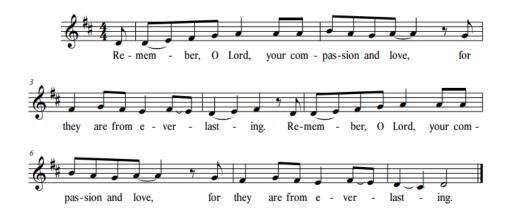
Offering Response



Remember, O Lord, Your Compassion and Love



Ann Marie Skoglund-Anderson



To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame;

rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

Show me your ways, O Lord,

and teach me your paths. Refrain

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

You are gracious and upright, O Lord;

therefore you teach sinners in your way. Refrain

You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness

to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies. Refrain

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (NRSV)

The second lesson is from 1 Corinthians, the 1st chapter.

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

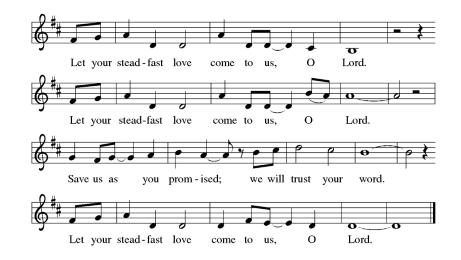
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"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where 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?1For 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. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel John 2:12-22 (NRSV)

The Gospel of the Lord according to John, the 2nd chapter. **Glory to you O Lord.**

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making 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. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for fortysix years, and will you raise it up in three days? "But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After 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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You O Christ.**

<u>Sermon</u>

Hymn of the Day

Built on a Rock

Vicar Karen Peterson

ELW 652 vs. 1-4

Built on a rock the church shall stand, even when steeples are falling; crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, bells still are chiming and calling calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed, longing for life everlasting.

Surely, in temples made with hands God the Most High is not dwelling high in the heav'ns his temple stands, all earthly temples excelling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n above deigns to abide with us in love, making our bodies his temple.

Christ builds a house of living stones: we are his own habitation; he fills our hearts, his humble thrones, granting us life and salvation. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their midst will show his grace, blessings upon them bestowing.

Yet in this house, an earthly frame, Jesus the children is blessing; hither we come to praise his name, faith in our Savior confessing. Jesus to us his Spirit sent, making with us his covenant, granting his children the kingdom.