



Called to Baptism

Uniquely Created

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 18-19, 2023

Abiding Presence

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A PLACE OF GRACE. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Welcome to Worship

Introduction

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

Prelude

Meditation on the 23rd Psalm

Franklin D. Ashdown

Shelbie Simmons, organ

Stand

Confession and Forgiveness

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

☐ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

☑ Amen.

☐ Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

☐ Holy God,

☑ we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

☐ Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, ✝ forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

☑ Amen.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

- 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

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

- Let us pray. Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Sit

Welcome and Announcements

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Pew Bible page 226

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.

- Word of God, Word of life.
- Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

Refrain



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Pew Bible page 951

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

- Word of God, Word of life.
- Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Return to the Lord

☑ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your
God, who is grac - ious and mer - ci - ful, slow to
an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Gospel: John 9:1-41

Pew Bible page 871

☐ The Holy Gospel according to John, the ninth chapter.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

☐ The gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon

Rev. Heather Hansen

Want to dive deeper? Join the pastors for coffee on Monday mornings via zoom. 2104948884

Stand

Hymn of the Day - ELW 612

Healer of Our Every Ill

Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our faith using the words of 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each petition ends with the response:

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Sharing God's Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*Greet one another with a sign of God's peace saying **Peace be with you** or similar words.*

Sit

Offering Message

Offering Music

5:30 pm

Ubi Caritas

Sara Serwacki, soloist

Victor C. Johnson

Translation:

Where there is charity and love, God is there.

The love of Christ has gathered us together.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it. And from a sincere heart let us love one another.

8:30 am

Guide Us, Lord

Noteworthy Women's Chorus

Mark Patterson

11:00 am

Come and Feast

Sanctuary Choir

Lee Dengler

Stand

Offertory Response

Let the Vineyards

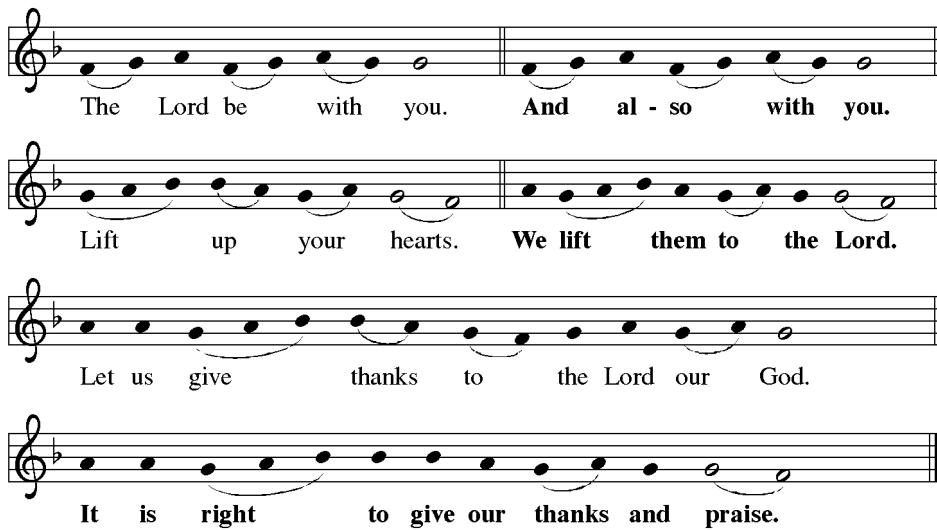
☐ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

☐ God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

☑ Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

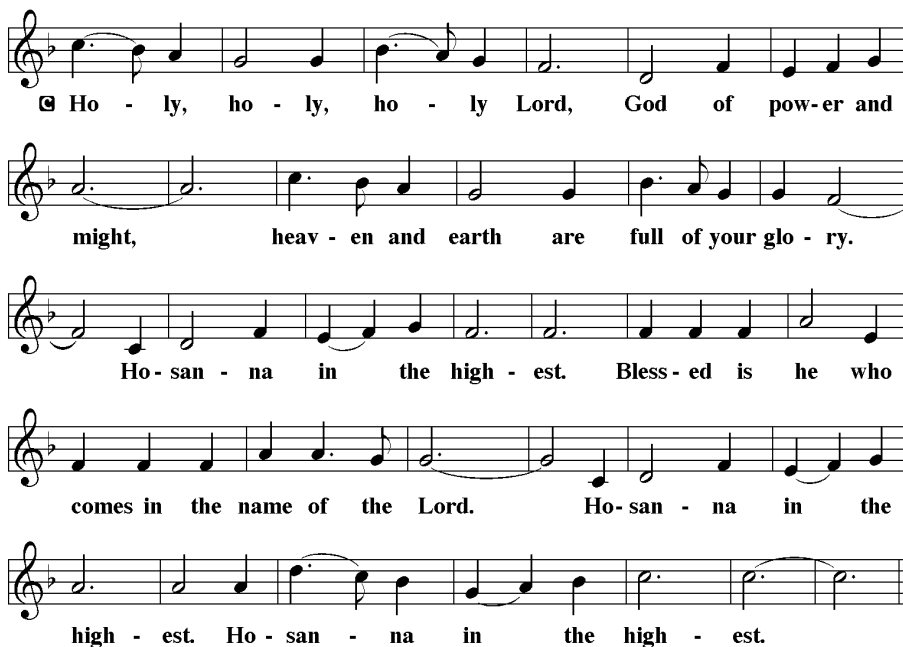
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

Sanctus



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

☐ Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age...

In the night in which he was betrayed...

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... Grace our table with your presence.

☑ Come, Holy Spirit.

☐ Reveal yourself to us... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

☑ Come, Holy Spirit.

☐ ...we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

☑ Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

☑ Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Invitation to Communion

HOLY COMMUNION *Abiding Presence welcomes all to this communion table. Communion is received by intinction. Communicants receive the wafer and then dip it in the chalice or come forward for a blessing. Gluten free wafers and individual communion cups are also available.*



The CERAMIC chalices hold wine.
The CRYSTAL chalices hold grape juice.

Agnus Dei

☑ 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.

Stand

Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in God's grace.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

Amen.

Blessing

God the giver of love, ✝ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

Amen.

Sending Hymn - ELW 673

God, Whose Almighty Word

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

Serving in Worship

<p>Assisting Minister Valerie Dillion Leni Kirkman Xavier Rodriguez</p> <p>Acolyte Declan Elseth Abrielle Giddish</p>	<p>Altar Guild Loretta Beard Linda Menchaca, Becky Rodgers Donna & Hayden Stewart, Linda Viargues</p> <p>Video Jason Scarlett</p> <p>Cantor Sara Serwacki</p>	<p>Lector Elanor Decker Karen Palafox</p> <p>Sound Jay Dewald Mary Jo Bolster Kaleb Ham</p>
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New at Abiding Presence?

We'd love to connect and help you find your way in this community of grace. Send us a message and we'll be in touch.




Rev. Steven Cox, Senior Pastor
Dr. Shelbie Simmons, Minister of Music
Mike Ceyanes, Minister of Youth Faith Formation
Denise Barritt, Business Administrator
Nick Palacios, Custodian

Rev. Heather Hansen, Associate Pastor
Angus McLeod, Sanctuary Choir Director
Frances Harrelson, Day School Director
Kristian Olson, Multimedia Coordinator



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