



**Grace Lutheran Church**  
**Sunday, March 16, 2025**  
**Second Sunday in Lent**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**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 forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate One,

**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.**

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. **Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn**

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

ELW 597 vs. 1-3



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than  
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I  
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -  
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my  
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and  
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are  
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.  
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

*Refrain*



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

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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



Ⓐ 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:*

## \*Prayer of the Day

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## First Lesson

Genesis 15: 1-6

### A reading from Genesis:

<sup>1</sup> After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” <sup>4</sup> But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>6</sup> And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 27

(read responsively)

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>2</sup> **When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

<sup>3</sup> Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

<sup>4</sup> **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

<sup>6</sup> **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

<sup>8</sup> **My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

<sup>10</sup> **Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.**

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

<sup>12</sup> **Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**

<sup>13</sup> This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

<sup>14</sup> **Wait for the LORD and be strong. Take heart and wait for the LORD!**

## Second Lesson

**Philippians 3: 17-4:1**

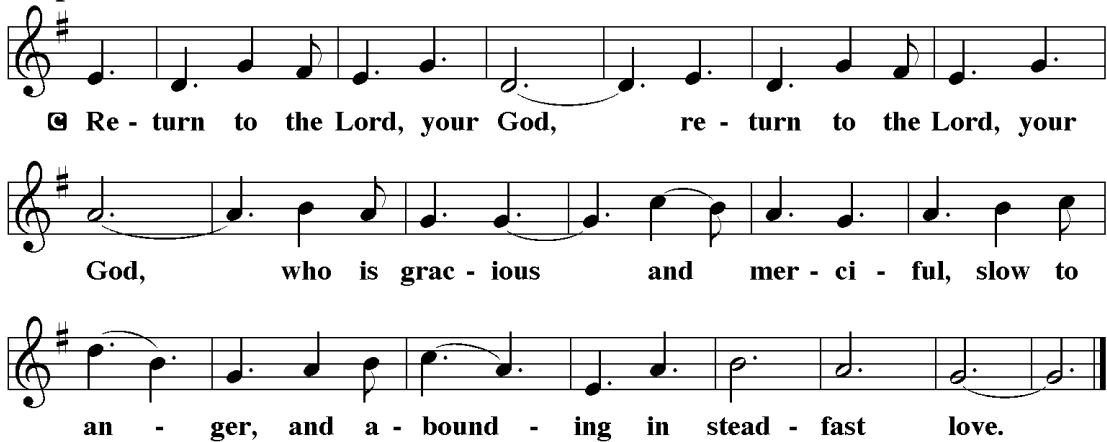
### **A reading from Philippians:**

<sup>17</sup> Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup> For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup> Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup> He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. <sup>4:1</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*Gospel Acclamation



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

**Luke 13: 31-35**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>31</sup> At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” <sup>32</sup> He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. <sup>33</sup> Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ <sup>34</sup> Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup> See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

**Pastor Priscilla**

Hymn of the Day *Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth* LBW 421 vs. 1, 2, 4



1 Lord Christ, when first you came to earth, up - on a cross  
 2 O awe - some Love, which finds no room in life where sin  
 3 New ad - vent of the love of Christ, will we a - gain  
 4 O wound - ed hands of Je - sus, build in us your new



they bound you, and mocked your sav - ing king - ship's worth  
 de - nies you, and, doomed to death, shall bring to doom  
 re - fuse you, till in the night of hate and war  
 cre - a - tion; our pride is dust, our vaunt is stilled;



by thorns with which they crowned you. And  
 the pow'r which cru - ci - fies you, till  
 we per - ish as we lose you? From  
 we wait your rev - e - la - tion. O



still our wrongs may fash - ion now new thorns to pierce that  
 not a stone was left on stone, and then the na - tions'  
 an - cient doubts our minds re - lease to seek the king - dom  
 Love that tri - umphs o - ver loss, we bring our hearts be -



stead - y brow, and robe of sor - row round you.  
 pride, o'er - thrown, will nev - er - more de - fy you!  
 of your peace, by which a - lone we choose you.  
 fore your cross to fin - ish your sal - va - tion.

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**\*Apostles' Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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**

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

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Give wisdom and strength to all stewards of land, water and animals, so that due care is given for today and tomorrow. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need. May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**Amen.**

## **\*Peace**

Jesus said to his disciples, *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you."*

The peace of the Lord be with you, always. **And also with you.**

## **Offering**

## \*Offertory Hymn

### *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

Gracious Provider, 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 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.**

And so we sing with all the saints in glory...



## \*Holy, Holy, Holy

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.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The lyrics are: "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." The score ends with a double bar line.

## \*Words of Institution

### \*The Lord's Prayer

**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

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

# Lamb of God



☞ 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.

Communion Hymn

Come, Let Us Eat

LBW 214

F Gm7 F Dm Bb

1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
 3 In . . . his pres - ence now we meet and rest,  
 4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word,

F Bbmaj7 C9 Bb F Gm7

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
 In . . . his pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word.

F Bb Gm Dm Gm7 Bb

Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom,

F Bb Bb F

Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.  
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom.

## Blessing after Communion

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace, from now unto everlasting life. **Amen.**

## \*Post Communion Canticle

*Thank the Lord*



☒ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -



one what God has done. Let all who seek the



Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and



lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



giv - ing. A - men, a - men.

## \*Prayer after Communion

Generous Host, 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.**

## Blessing

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit,

☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

ELW 705 vs. 1-3



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

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**\*Dismissal**

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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