

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
Vincent Mroz	Vicar
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Barry Schoenthal	Worship Assistant
Rick Kern	Lector
Makayla Schriver	Acolyte

Missionaries: The Rev. Dr. Jonathan and Deaconess Cheryl Naumann

Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website listed above. Services are live-streamed on our Facebook page listed above.

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The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prayer on entering church: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Prelude on "Herzliebster Jesu"

Nigel Williams

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN *(please rise and sing)*

There is a Fountain Filled with Blood

**There is a fountain filled with blood Drawn from Immanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood Lose all their guilty stains.**

**The dying thief rejoiced to see That fountain in his day;
And there have I, as vile as he, Washed all my sins away.**

**Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood Shall never lose its power
Till all the ransomed Church of God Be saved to sin no more.**

**E'er since by faith I saw the stream Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme And shall be till I die.**

**When this poor lisping, stammering tongue Lies silent in the grave,
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing Thy power to save.**

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross (+) may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism

P: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION¹

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

(We take a moment of silence before the Lord as we call to mind how we have not properly loved Him, ourselves, or other people.)

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

KYRIE

P: Heavenly Father, Your only begotten Son overcame Satan, sin, and death by His patience and suffering. Help us, we pray, to treasure in our hearts all that our Lord has borne for us that we would be inspired to patiently persevere in true faith unto life everlasting.

C: *(sung)* Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:1–14

L: The first reading for the Fifth Sunday in Lent is from chapter thirty-seven of Ezekiel.

Life is restored in the valley of the dry bones.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 130

L: O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with Him is plentiful redemption.

**C: O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with Him is plentiful redemption.**

L: Out of the depths

I cry to You, O Lord!

O Lord, hear my voice!

Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness,

that You may be feared.

**C: O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with Him is plentiful redemption.**

L: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in His word I hope;

My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning.
more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with Him is plentiful redemption.

And He will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.

**C: O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with Him is plentiful redemption.**

**A: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was
in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:1–11

L: The second reading is from chapter eight of Romans.

Life in the Spirit is through Christ.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 11:1–45

P: The Holy Gospel is according to St. John, chapter eleven.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus raises Lazarus after four days in the tomb.

Following the reading...

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE APOSTLES' CREED²

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ, the Life of All the Living

Hymnal p. 420

Christ, the life of all the living,

Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Who, Thyself for me once giving
To the darkest depths of woe:
Through Thy suff'rings, death, and merit
I eternal life inherit.

Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou, ah! Thou, has taken on Thee
Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;
Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee,
O Thou sinless Son of God!
Thus didst Thou my soul deliver
From the bonds of sin forever.

Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou has borne the smiting only
That my wounds might all be whole;
Thou has suffered, sad and lonely,
Rest to give my weary soul;
Yea, the curse of God enduring,
Blessing unto me securing.

Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Heartless scoffers did surround Thee,
Treating Thee with shameful scorn
And with piercing thorns they crowned Thee.

All disgrace Thou, Lord, hast borne,
That as Thine Thou mightest own me
And with heav'nly glory crown me.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou has suffered men to bruise Thee,

That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:
Thence I gain security;
Comfortless Thy soul did languish
Me to comfort in my anguish.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou hast suffered great affliction
And hast borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion,
Fully to atone for me;
Thou didst choose to be tormented
That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Then, for all that wrought my pardon,
For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden,
I will thank Thee evermore,
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry,
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

SERMON³

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

What Wondrous Love Is This

Emma Lou Diemer

OFFERING SONG

Hymnal p. 437

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed
Alas! And did my Savior bleed, And did my sov'reign die?

Would He devote that sacred head For such a worm as I?

**Thus might I hide my blushing face While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, And melt mine eyes to tears.**

**But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away: 'Tis all that I can do.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for ourselves, the church, and the world.

Following each petition:

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

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.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

P: Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give You humble thanks for all Your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom You have made. We bless You for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for Your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of Your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth Your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to Your service, and by walking before You in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with His favor and (†) give you His peace.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane

Hymnal p. 436

**Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter's pow'r;
Your Redeemer's conflict see, Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away; Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.**

**Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.**

**Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.**

"It is finished!" hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

**Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid His breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken Him away?**

Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes, Savior, teach us so to rise.

Prayer after worship: Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Sing Praise to God

Keith Kolander

¹*The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."* John 20:22-23. We take heart that the absolution proclaimed by the pastor is as from the Lord Himself.

²*It is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.* Romans 10:10. Our response to the Word of God that has just been read is our confession of faith in the one, true, triune God.

³Martin Luther teaches us about hearing the Word: "Know, therefore, that you must be concerned not only about hearing, but also about learning and retaining it in memory, and do not think that it is optional with you or of no great importance, but that it is God's commandment, who will require of you how you have heard, learned, and honored His Word." (Large Catechism) *Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!* Luke 11:28

HOME COMMUNION: Christ Lutheran is providing Home Communion Packages with individually wrapped wafers and wine cups. These packages are to be distributed to those who are institutionalized or remain at home on Sundays. Your help getting these packages out is needed. Talk to Pastor if you'd like to help.

Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.