

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
at Swan's Trail

Sunday, March 26, 2023

Fifth Sunday in Lent

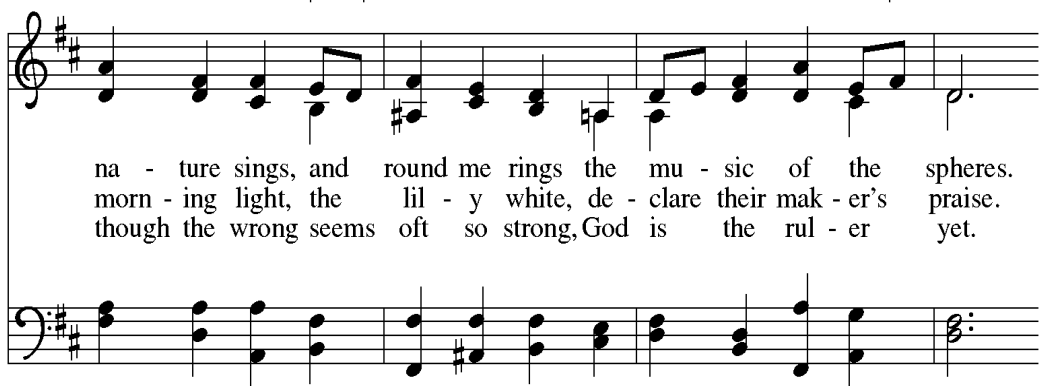


GATHERING HYMN


"THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD"



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
 2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the
 3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,



na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
 morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their mak - er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
 This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
 This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won - ders wrought.
 rus - tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
 Lord is king, let heav - en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C And also with you.

“SONG OF NEEDS”

Cantor: God, we need forgiveness, now. (4x)



Cong.. Christ, we need com - pas - sion, now. Christ, we need com - pas - sion, now.

Christ, we need com - pas - sion, now. Christ, we need com - pas - sion, now.

The first two lines of the musical score are in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each line consists of two measures of music. The first line is for a Congregation part, and the second line is for a Cantor part. The lyrics are 'Christ, we need com - pas - sion, now.' repeated twice.

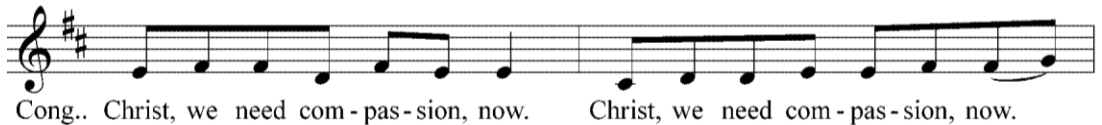
Cantor: For when we fail to act, for when we fail to stop,



Cong.. God, we need for - give - ness, now. God, we need for - give - ness, now.

The third line of the musical score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two measures of music. The lyrics are 'God, we need for - give - ness, now.' repeated twice.

Cantor: For all who live in fear, for all who have no hope,



Cong.. Christ, we need com - pas - sion, now. Christ, we need com - pas - sion, now.

The fourth line of the musical score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two measures of music. The lyrics are 'Christ, we need com - pas - sion, now.' repeated twice.

Cantor: For choices that bring harm, for ambition without love,



Cong.. God, we need for - give - ness, now. God, we need for - give - ness, now.

God, we need for - give - ness, now. God, we need for - give - ness, now.

God, we need for - give - ness, now. God, we need for - give - ness, now. A - men.

The fifth line of the musical score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three measures of music. The lyrics are 'God, we need for - give - ness, now.' repeated twice, followed by 'A - men.' at the end of the third measure.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. (*Brief silence is kept*) Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON EZEKIEL 37:1-14

Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."

A reading from Ezekiel:

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

The Word of God, the Word of Life.

C

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 130 (Read responsively)

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;

²**O LORD, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand?

⁴**Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.**

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

⁶**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

⁸**For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

SECOND LESSON ROMANS 8:6-11

For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.

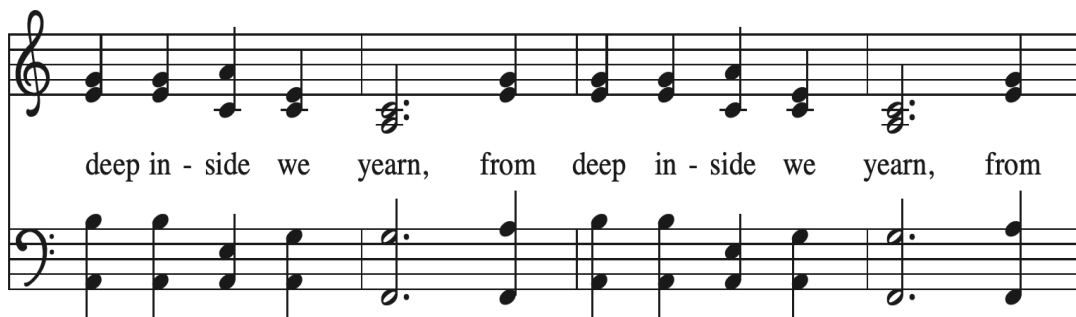
A reading from Romans:

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. The Word of God, the Word of Life. **C Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“O GOD, WE CALL”



HOLY GOSPEL JOHN 11:1-45

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

C Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the gospel of our Lord. **C** **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HOMILY

DEACON LIZ COLVER

HYMN OF THE DAY “MY LIFE FLOWS ON IN ENDLESS SONG”



- 1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
- 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring - ing.
- 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?



Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?



APOSTLES CREED

P God has made us His people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**ALL 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 into hell.* 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

(Between the first and last prayer, congregation please share in reading the prayers)

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

A brief silence.

P You have breathed into us the breath of life. Enliven your church. Deepen our partnerships with our companion churches around the globe, and bless the work of missionaries who accompany them. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P Your spirit brings life to creation. Enliven the natural world and restore ecosystems in need of healing. Uplift prophetic voices that turn us to the needs of the soil beneath our feet and the air all around. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You redeem the world and its peoples. Free us from systems of oppression. Unbind nations and societies from the sins of racism, sexism, and homophobia. Raise up leaders at all levels of government who work to promote the dignity of every human life. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You weep when we weep. Be present with those who grieve or who are troubled by illness especially those we name before you today (*a brief silence*). You hear us when we call to you. Deliver us from the depths of our despair, and free us from the worries that bind us. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P Your Spirit of life dwells in our assembly. Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who lead us in hymns of praise and thanksgiving and in songs of lament and prayer. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P God of Peace, we pray for all those places in the world where there is war and violence, particularly for the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. Protect all who are in harm's way and comfort those who mourn. Give wisdom to those in authority, that they put an end to conflict, and work towards peace. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P God, we are grateful for your continued presence with Good Shepherd in this time of pastoral transition. Give guidance to our call committee as they do the work to interview and recommend to us a candidate for our next pastor. Prepare that new pastor as well, that they might sense a new calling, and begin to see how their ministry could come along side ours. Give us all wisdom in this discernment, so that together we may continue to serve you in and from this place, for the benefit of our neighbors and your Kingdom. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You are the resurrection and the life. Even though we die, we will live. With thanksgiving, we remember all your saints who now live in your eternal love. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P 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.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“COME TO THE TABLE”



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. (*Brief silence is kept*) 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.

C **Amen.**

CELEBRATING THE HOLY SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for yours is the power of life that even death cannot hold back. You created the world and breathed your Spirit into our bodies of earth, forming for yourself a people with whom to celebrate life. In Jesus Christ, your child, you have sent to us one who is both life and resurrection. Sharing our grief in the face of death, he prised open the grip of the grave and called us forth into the fullness of life and peace. Arousing the fury of hell, he was crucified and cast lifeless into the depths, but you raised him to new life. Now, wherever people lay lost in valleys of death, he again comes speaking the word of life and calling his Spirit to breathe new life into us so that hope is reborn and you are glorified. And so, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C Holy, holy, holy, are you, God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

P 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.

For as often as we eat this bread, and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

P Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death, and his glorious resurrection and ascension, we pray for his coming again even as we cry: Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.

C Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creation. Empower us by that same Spirit, to love and forgive, that our lives may anticipate that day when you will make all things new. Amen! Come, Holy Spirit.

C Amen! Come, Holy Spirit.

**C Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, O God, now and forever. Amen.**

P The risen Christ is in our midst, so with Christ we pray.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION

“ON EAGLE’S WINGS”

Leader or All

Refrain
All

All



The Rose Tree

And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

Leader or All



2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



fear; un-der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.

Leader or All



3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by



day; though thou-sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.

Leader or All



4 For to the an-gels God's giv-en a com-mand to



guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will



bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

Final refrain

All



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

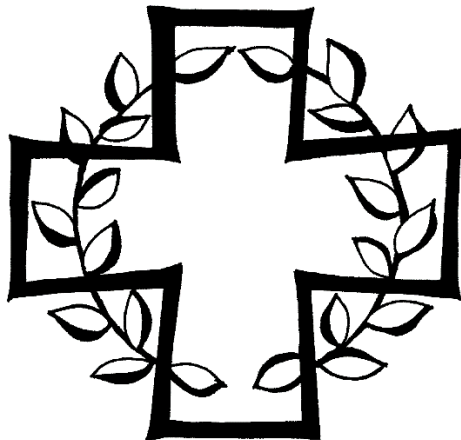


And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

GOD'S BLESSING

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

C **Amen.**



ALL THINGS NEW

4

No - thing can se - pa - rate us from the love of God.____
 No - thing can se - pa - rate us from the love of Christ.____

No - thing can se - pa - rate us from the love of God.____
 No - thing can se - pa - rate us from the love of Christ.____

Go in strength,____ live for - give - ness.____
 Go in glad - ness, live com - pas - sion.____

God____ makes____ all things new.____ God____

makes____ all things new. Go in strength, live for -
 new.____ Sing new

give - ness. Go in glad - ness, live com - pas - sion. All things
 songs.____ All things new.____ Sing new songs.____ All things new.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. (*Brief silence is kept*) 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.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P And now may the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make face shine upon you and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor, and grant you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN “OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING”



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



- the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.



- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

C Thanks be to God.