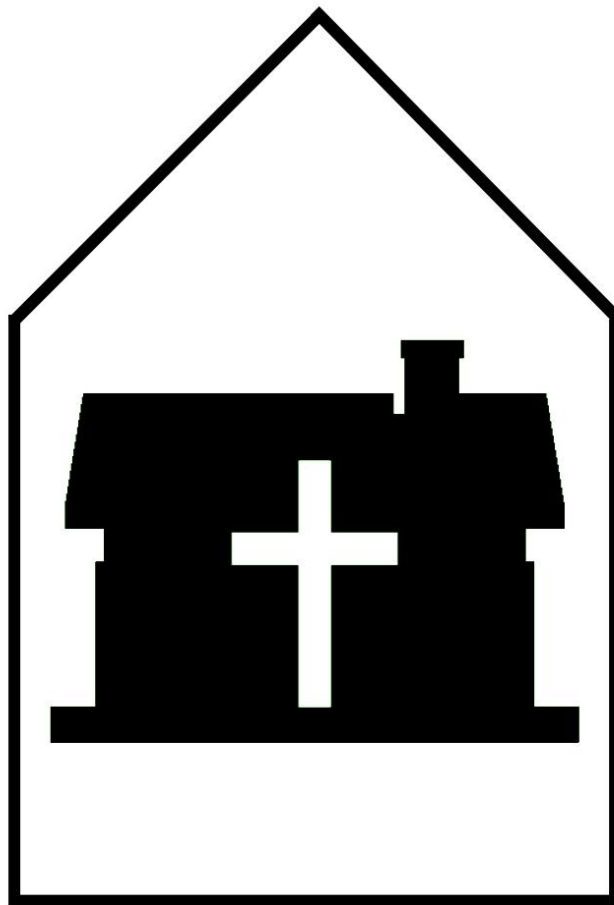


WORSHIP COMPANION

22ND EDITION

Transfiguration of Our Lord - Day of Pentecost

March 2nd - June 8th



Faith Lutheran Church
730 Collingwood Ave
Whitehall, OH 43213

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Prayers Of Intercession, Lord's Prayer, Blessing, Dismissal, Prayers of the Day, and Confession/
Confession and Forgiveness taken from Sundays & Seasons 2025.

Thanksgiving for the Word written by Rev. Daniel W. Hille.

Call To Worships written by Nate Terry.

Gospel Readings taken from the New International Version (NIV 1973).

Edited and compiled by Rev. Daniel W. Hille and Nate Terry.

Cover Art designed by Michael Leavitt (mikeleavittart.com)

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Call To Worship (Adapted from Psalm 99)

The Lord is king; let the people tremble.
The Lord is enthroned, let the earth shake.

Let all confess God's great and awesome name.
The Lord is enthroned, let the earth shake.

Proclaim the Lord's greatness to all!
The Lord is enthroned, let the earth shake.

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✙ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Gospel - Luke 9:28-36[37-43a]

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. [

³⁷On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." ⁴¹Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." ⁴²While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ^{43a}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

Sermon

Prayers of Intercession

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

(Pause for a brief silence.)

P: ...Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.

For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.

For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

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.

Blessing

May the God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,

and who calls you by name, Father, Son, ☩ Holy Spirit

bless your going out and your coming in,

today and forever.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go with Christ into a weary world.

Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

First Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 9, 2025

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 91)

All who dwell in the shelter of the most high will say,
The Lord God is my strength.

God will rescue those who are preyed upon.
The Lord God is my strength.

God's wings will cover you and shield you from all evil.
The Lord God is my strength.

Confession

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Gospel - Luke 4:1-13

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

⁵Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.'"

⁹Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,'

¹¹and

'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

¹²Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

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

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

God almighty, as we travel through these 40 days of Lent, lead us and guide us by your mercy, grace, and love. Empower us that we might continue following your call, into ventures of which we cannot see the end.

Thank you for holding us as we wander.

Holy One, the words of your promises have been handed down from age to age. The Israelis found comfort in the Psalms during exile. The Apostles found support in the gospels throughout persecution. As we continue to find strength through the challenges our days.

Thank you for holding us as we cry.

We thank you Almighty Lord, that you hold us in the cradle of faith; you hold us in your faithfulness; and you hold us with the promise of your coming again.

Thank you for holding us as we wait.

God of all time and space, in this act of worship we join together as persistent petitioners of your grace, love, & salvation. We remain thankful for the promises you have made that were captured in the words of scripture, and thankful that you have taught us to pray...

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.

Blessing

May the God of hope fill you
with all the joy and peace of believing.
Go in peace, make peace wherever you go.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 16, 2025

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 27)

The Lord is our light and my salvation.
We shall not fear!

The Lord lifts us up above all enemies of the Kingdom.
We shall not fear!

The Lord hears our voices asking for mercy, and shows us His beauty.
We shall not fear!

Confession

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

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.

Gospel - Luke 13:31-35

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²He 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. ³³Yet 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.’ ³⁴Jerusalem, 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! ³⁵See, 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.’”

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

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

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

God almighty, as we travel through these 40 days of Lent, lead us and guide us by your mercy, grace, and love. Empower us that we might continue following your call, into ventures of which we cannot see the end.

Thank you for holding us as we wander.

Holy One, the words of your promises have been handed down from age to age. The Israelis found comfort in the Psalms during exile. The Apostles found support in the gospels throughout persecution. As we continue to find strength through the challenges our days.

Thank you for holding us as we cry.

We thank you Almighty Lord, that you hold us in the cradle of faith; you hold us in your faithfulness; and you hold us with the promise of your coming again.

Thank you for holding us as we wait.

God of all time and space, in this act of worship we join together as persistent petitioners of your grace, love, & salvation. We remain thankful for the promises you have made that were captured in the words of scripture, and thankful that you have taught us to pray...

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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.

Blessing

May the God of hope fill you
with all the joy and peace of believing.
Go in peace, make peace wherever you go.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 23, 2025

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 63)

Eagerly we seek you, O God.
Quench our thirst for comfort.

Let us bless you all of our days, O Lord.
Quench our thirst for peace.

We trust in your deliverance and protection, Lord.
Quench our thirst for safety.

Confession

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Gospel - Luke 13:1-9

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.²[Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?”³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

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

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

God almighty, as we travel through these 40 days of Lent, lead us and guide us by your mercy, grace, and love. Empower us that we might continue following your call, into ventures of which we cannot see the end.

Thank you for holding us as we wander.

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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.

Blessing

May the God of hope fill you
with all the joy and peace of believing.
Go in peace, make peace wherever you go.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 30, 2025

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 32)

Happy are those whose transgressions are forgiven!
Lord, you take away the burden and guilt of sin.

We need not carry the weight of our wrongdoings on our own.
Lord, you take away the burden and guilt of sin.

We rejoice in your gift of freedom and mercy.
Lord, you take away the burden and guilt of sin.

Confession

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Prayer of the Day

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Gospel - Luke 13:1-3,11b-32

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}"There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

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

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

God almighty, as we travel through these 40 days of Lent, lead us and guide us by your mercy, grace, and love. Empower us that we might continue following your call, into ventures of which we cannot see the end.

Thank you for holding us as we wander.

Holy One, the words of your promises have been handed down from age to age. The Israelis found comfort in the Psalms during exile. The Apostles found support in the gospels throughout persecution. As we continue to find strength through the challenges our days.

Thank you for holding us as we cry.

We thank you Almighty Lord, that you hold us in the cradle of faith; you hold us in your faithfulness; and you hold us with the promise of your coming again.

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God of all time and space, in this act of worship we join together as persistent petitioners of your grace, love, & salvation. We remain thankful for the promises you have made that were captured in the words of scripture, and thankful that you have taught us to pray...

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
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on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
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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.

Blessing

May the God of hope fill you
with all the joy and peace of believing.
Go in peace, make peace wherever you go.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, April 6, 2022

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 126)

Shout with joy to the Lord!

The Lord has done great things for us!

The Lord restores our fortunes and our spirits.

The Lord has done great things for us!

Those who are hurting and suffering will be lifted up and restored.

The Lord has done great things for us!

Confession

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✝ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel - John 12:1-8

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

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

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

God almighty, as we travel through these 40 days of Lent, lead us and guide us by your mercy, grace, and love. Empower us that we might continue following your call, into ventures of which we cannot see the end.

Thank you for holding us as we wander.

Holy One, the words of your promises have been handed down from age to age. The Israelis found comfort in the Psalms during exile. The Apostles found support in the gospels throughout persecution. As we continue to find strength through the challenges our days.

Thank you for holding us as we cry.

We thank you Almighty Lord, that you hold us in the cradle of faith; you hold us in your faithfulness; and you hold us with the promise of your coming again.

Thank you for holding us as we wait.

God of all time and space, in this act of worship we join together as persistent petitioners of your grace, love, & salvation. We remain thankful for the promises you have made that were captured in the words of scripture, and thankful that you have taught us to pray...

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.

Blessing

May the God of hope fill you
with all the joy and peace of believing.
Go in peace, make peace wherever you go.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

Passion Sunday

Sunday, April 13, 2025

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

A reading from Luke's Gospel - 19:28-40

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁸ After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ³⁰ "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say, 'The Lord needs it.'"

³² Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

³⁴ They replied, "The Lord needs it."

³⁵ They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

³⁷ When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

³⁸ "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

⁴⁰ "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

Praise to you, O Christ.

[Light Candles at Home]

Prayer of the Day

We praise you, O God,
for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ.
Today he entered the holy city in triumph
and was proclaimed messiah and king
by those who spread garments and branches along his way.
Bless these branches and those who carry them.
Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross,
so that, joined to his death and resurrection,
we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Gospel - Luke 23:1-49

¹Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. ²They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." ³Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." ⁵But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. ⁹He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. ¹²That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. ¹⁶I will therefore have him flogged and release him."

¹⁷Then they all shouted out together, "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!" ¹⁸(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) ¹⁹Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; ²⁰but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" ²¹A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." ²²But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. ²³So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. ²⁴He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

²⁵As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁶A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁷But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁸For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' ²⁹Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³⁰For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³¹Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³²When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³³Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁴And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁵The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁶and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁷There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁸One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ³⁹But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴⁰And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴¹Then he

said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

⁴⁴It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. ⁴⁷When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." ⁴⁸And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

As we enter into the center of time on this Holy Week, let us pray for all people and all places that yearn for God's presence.

*...let us pray,
have mercy, O God.*

God of new life, lead us through the week ahead; through death, and beyond. Receive those prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Son of God, and Son of Man, you came into the world as a babe in Bethlehem to love it. You rode into Jerusalem as a king coronated on a donkey with branches and palms, to show the world the way to new life through you.

Lead us, guide us, and hold us.

In the face of persecution, political turmoil, and social unrest, you remained calm, faithfully trusting the power of the Father, and inspiring us to do the same.

Lead us, guide us, and hold us.

Until your dying breath, you found time to forgive, and welcome others into the kingdom of God. You told criminals hanging on the cross that they too would be with you in paradise, giving a sign to all who watch that the path you have traveled is a path for all people.

Lead us, guide us, and hold us.

The darkness has now come over our land, and with all the acquaintances, including the women who followed him from Galilee, we have stood at a distance, watching these things.

Lead us, guide us, and hold us.

Hold us as we wait for a miracle, with bated breath and shanking folded hands.

Hold us as darkness settles in our land and we cling to your promise that it will not overcome.

Hold us as we remember the words you taught us to pray...

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.

Extinguishing of Candles

God of Hope, we pray asking for hope, for patience, and for more... something beyond Jesus last breath. Lead us, guide us, and hold us, as we wait clinging to the promises that are woven into our faith, our minds, and our souls.

Lord Hear Our Prayer.

(candles are extinguished)

Resurrection of Our Lord

Sunday, April 20, 2025

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.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, we remember that most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life. We gather with the church throughout the world in prayer. This is the Passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lighting of the Candles

The light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

Rejoice, now, all heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!

Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus Christ is risen!

Celebrate the divine mysteries with exultation;

and for so great a victory, sound the trumpet of salvation.

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your king!

Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever.

Rejoice, O holy church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you!

Prayer of the Day

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel - Luke 24:1-12

¹On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

As your people of Easter, O God, You gather us in like a hen gathers her brood. From the safety and security of your wings, O God, we pray for the church, the world, and all that is in it.

*...Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

Gathered in your great cloud of witness, we raise before you these prayers, and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Easter Proclamation

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that with full devotion of heart and mind and voice we should praise the invisible God, and the only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; who, by his precious blood, redeemed us from bondage to the ancient sin. For this indeed is the Paschal Feast in which the true Lamb is slain, by whose blood the doorposts of the faithful are made holy.

This is the time

in which, in ancient times,
you delivered our forebears, the children of Israel,
and led them, dry-shod, through the sea.

This is the time

in which the darkness of sin has been purged away by the rising brightness.

This is the time

in which all who believe in Christ are rescued from evil and the gloom of sin,
are renewed in grace and are restored to holiness.

This is the time

in which, breaking the chains of death, Christ arises from hell in triumph.
O night truly blessed which alone was worthy to know
the time and hour in which Christ arose again from hell!

Therefore, in this time of grace,
receive, O God, our praise and thanksgiving
for the light of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ,
reflected in the burning of this candle.
We sing the glories of this pillar of fire,
the brightness of which is not diminished
even when its light is divided and borrowed.
For it is fed by the melting wax which the bees, your servants,
have made for the substance of this candle.

This is the time

in which heaven and earth are joined- things human and things divine.

We pray to you, O God,
that this candle, burning to the honor of your name,
will continue to vanquish the darkness,
and be mingled with the lights of heaven.
May Christ the Morning Star find it burning,
that Morning Star who never sets,
that Morning Star who, rising from the grave,
faithfully sheds light on the whole human race.

And we pray, O God, rule, govern, and preserve
with your continual protection your whole church,
giving us peace in this time of our paschal rejoicing;
through the same Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

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.

Blessing

May the God of hope fill you
with all the joy and peace of believing.
Go in peace, make peace wherever you go.
Amen.

Dismissal

Alleluia, Christ is Risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 27, 2025

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 118)

Give thanks to the Lord!

God's Mercy endures forever!

Let all peoples on earth declare;

God's Mercy endures forever!

God opens the gates of righteousness for all of us.

God's Mercy endures forever!

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✙ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel - John 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

As your people of Easter, O God, You gather us in like a hen gathers her brood. From the safety and security of your wings, O God, we pray for the church, the world, and all that is in it.

*...Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

Gathered in your great cloud of witness, we raise before you these prayers, and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

God of all time and space, you sent your son Jesus Christ to be the light that shines in the darkness, to close the chasm of fear, and remove the sting of death. In his life, death, and resurrection, hell was crushed under foot and all of time and space were pulled into your holy presence.

We praise you for defeating death.

Jesus our Christ, as we celebrate this Easter season with the women who gathered at the empty tomb that faithful morning, we offer our thanks and praise that not only have you saved us from the tyranny of death, but also from the obstacles when find in the world: doubt, fear, pain, and even ourselves.

We thank you for saving us.

Praise and thanks to you Master of the Universe, for your love knows no bounds. You created existence out of love, sent your son to love the world, and then redeemed that creation by his holy and precious blood.

We worship you for creating, redeeming, and sanctifying all of existence.

We thank you for our place in this great story of creation, love, and life. It is a story that begun in the beginning, was handed down by the prophets and the apostles, and now we get to write the chapters of our lives, sharing with the world the words you taught us to pray...

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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 4, 2025

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 30)

Let us exalt the Lord.

The Lord's joy shines through His light.

Though darkness may appear,

The Lord's joy shines through His light.

My heart sings of your wonders, Lord.

The Lord's joy shines through His light.

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✝ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel - John 21:1-19

¹After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

As your people of Easter, O God, You gather us in like a hen gathers her brood. From the safety and security of your wings, O God, we pray for the church, the world, and all that is in it.

*...Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

Gathered in your great cloud of witness, we raise before you these prayers, and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

God of all time and space, you sent your son Jesus Christ to be the light that shines in the darkness, to close the chasm of fear, and remove the sting of death. In his life, death, and resurrection, hell was crushed under foot and all of time and space were pulled into your holy presence.

We praise you for defeating death.

Jesus our Christ, as we celebrate this Easter season with the women who gathered at the empty tomb that faithful morning, we offer our thanks and praise that not only have you saved us from the tyranny of death, but also from the obstacles when find in the world: doubt, fear, pain, and even ourselves.

We thank you for saving us.

Praise and thanks to you Master of the Universe, for your love knows no bounds. You created existence out of love, sent your son to love the world, and then redeemed that creation by his holy and precious blood.

We worship you for creating, redeeming, and sanctifying all of existence.

We thank you for our place in this great story of creation, love, and life. It is a story that begun in the beginning, was handed down by the prophets and the apostles, and now we get to write the chapters of our lives, sharing with the world the words you taught us to pray...

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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 11, 2025

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 23)

The Lord is my rock and my salvation.
The Lord provides all that I need.

Though I encounter hardship and trial,
The Lord provides all that I need.

Through it all, the Lord shows goodness and mercy.
The Lord provides all that I need.

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Prayer of the Day

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel - John 10:22-30

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

As your people of Easter, O God, You gather us in like a hen gathers her brood. From the safety and security of your wings, O God, we pray for the church, the world, and all that is in it.

...Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Gathered in your great cloud of witness, we raise before you these prayers, and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

God of all time and space, you sent your son Jesus Christ to be the light that shines in the darkness, to close the chasm of fear, and remove the sting of death. In his life, death, and resurrection, hell was crushed under foot and all of time and space were pulled into your holy presence.

We praise you for defeating death.

Jesus our Christ, as we celebrate this Easter season with the women who gathered at the empty tomb that faithful morning, we offer our thanks and praise that not only have you saved us from the tyranny of death, but also from the obstacles when find in the world: doubt, fear, pain, and even ourselves.

We thank you for saving us.

Praise and thanks to you Master of the Universe, for your love knows no bounds. You created existence out of love, sent your son to love the world, and then redeemed that creation by his holy and precious blood.

We worship you for creating, redeeming, and sanctifying all of existence.

We thank you for our place in this great story of creation, love, and life. It is a story that begun in the beginning, was handed down by the prophets and the apostles, and now we get to write the chapters of our lives, sharing with the world the words you taught us to pray...

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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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 18, 2025

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 148)

Let the earth rejoice in God's glory!

Let everything that has breath praise The Lord!

Let those made strong in The Lord sing praise!

Let everything that has breath praise The Lord!

Let all those raised up by The Lord shout praise!

Let everything that has breath praise The Lord!

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✙ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel - John 13:31-35

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

As your people of Easter, O God, You gather us in like a hen gathers her brood. From the safety and security of your wings, O God, we pray for the church, the world, and all that is in it.

*...Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

Gathered in your great cloud of witness, we raise before you these prayers, and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

God of all time and space, you sent your son Jesus Christ to be the light that shines in the darkness, to close the chasm of fear, and remove the sting of death. In his life, death, and resurrection, hell was crushed under foot and all of time and space were pulled into your holy presence.

We praise you for defeating death.

Jesus our Christ, as we celebrate this Easter season with the women who gathered at the empty tomb that faithful morning, we offer our thanks and praise that not only have you saved us from the tyranny of death, but also from the obstacles when find in the world: doubt, fear, pain, and even ourselves.

We thank you for saving us.

Praise and thanks to you Master of the Universe, for your love knows no bounds. You created existence out of love, sent your son to love the world, and then redeemed that creation by his holy and precious blood.

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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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 25, 2025

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 67)

May God be merciful to us.

May the light of God's face shine upon us all.

Let all nations be glad in Your name.

May the light of God's face shine upon us all.

May God's blessing inspire awe to the ends of the earth/

May the light of God's face shine upon us all.

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✝ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel - John 14:23-29

²³Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

As your people of Easter, O God, You gather us in like a hen gathers her brood. From the safety and security of your wings, O God, we pray for the church, the world, and all that is in it.

*...Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

Gathered in your great cloud of witness, we raise before you these prayers, and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

God of all time and space, you sent your son Jesus Christ to be the light that shines in the darkness, to close the chasm of fear, and remove the sting of death. In his life, death, and resurrection, hell was crushed under foot and all of time and space were pulled into your holy presence.

We praise you for defeating death.

Jesus our Christ, as we celebrate this Easter season with the women who gathered at the empty tomb that faithful morning, we offer our thanks and praise that not only have you saved us from the tyranny of death, but also from the obstacles when find in the world: doubt, fear, pain, and even ourselves.

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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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, June 1, 2025

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 97)

The Lord reigns!

Let all praise the one true God!

Those who love the Lord hate evil, and God will guard you from it.

Let all praise the one true God!

Light dawns for the righteous.

Let all praise the one true God!

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✝ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel - John 17:20-26

[Jesus prayed:] ²⁰"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

As your people of Easter, O God, You gather us in like a hen gathers her brood. From the safety and security of your wings, O God, we pray for the church, the world, and all that is in it.

*...Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

Gathered in your great cloud of witness, we raise before you these prayers, and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

God of all time and space, you sent your son Jesus Christ to be the light that shines in the darkness, to close the chasm of fear, and remove the sting of death. In his life, death, and resurrection, hell was crushed under foot and all of time and space were pulled into your holy presence.

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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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Day of Pentecost

Sunday, June 8, 2025

Opening Prayer (Lighting of Candles)

Call To Worship (adapted from Psalm 104)

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live.

May the Glory of the Lord endure forever.

You open your hand with food to satisfy our hunger.

May the Glory of the Lord endure forever.

Let the fire of the Spirit always burn in our hearts.

May the Glory of the Lord endure forever.

Prayer of the Day

God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel - John 14:8-17, 25-27

⁸Philip said to [Jesus,] “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?” ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

²⁵“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

Sermon

Musical Offering

Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

...Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

Praise and thanks to you O master of the universe. Your word has been handed down from age to age in the writings of the prophets, gospels of the evangelists, and letters of Paul.

We thank you for your word that teaches us.

By your Word made flesh you redeemed all of creation, calling all of the cosmos into your grace, care, & presence.

We thank you for your Word that saved us.

You continue to speak to us in the holy conversation of prayer, speaking words of wholeness, truth, and guidance that light our paths to follow you.

We thank you for the words that you speak to us.

As your holy Spirit descended on that great day of Pentecost, ignite our hearts, open our ears, and embolden our souls that we too will continue to share your good news that has spoken to us. Help us to share with all the world the words that you taught us to pray...

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.

Blessing

May the God of hope
fill us with all the joy and peace of believing.
Go in peace, make peace wherever you go.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.