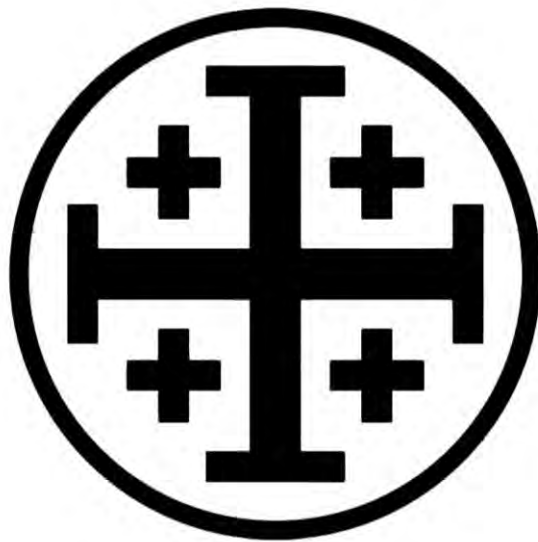


*Fifth Weekend of Lent*  
*Saturday, March 28, 2020 5:00 pm*  
*Sunday, March 29, 2020, 9:00 am*

*To Help Us See More Clearly*



**Why, Jesus, did you let my loved one die?**

*Welcome to Our Savior's Lutheran Church!*

We are “a worshiping and caring Christian community,  
sharing God's compassion and grace  
with all people in need of love and acceptance  
within this congregation, the community, and the world!”

## PRELUDE

### INTRODUCTION

*In today's gospel, Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.*

## *Gathering*

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us return to our gracious and merciful God, confessing our need for healing.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Let us pray together in the words of Martin Luther.

**Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether. O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you. In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have. I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright. With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness. Therefore I will remain with you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen.**

Through God's mercy we have been joined to the saving death of Jesus Christ. 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.**

## GATHERING HYMN

### “Christ, the Life of All the Living”



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,  
3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:  
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;  
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.  
for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.  
thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



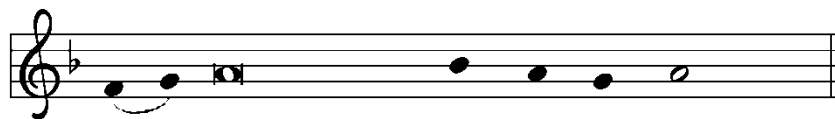
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.  
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

## GREETING

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

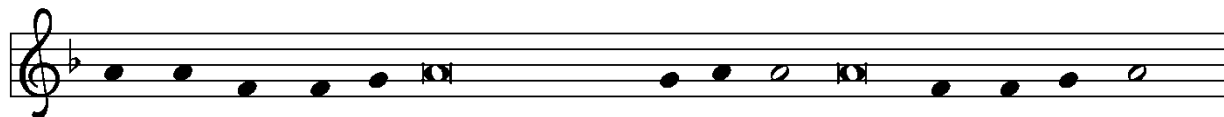
# KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



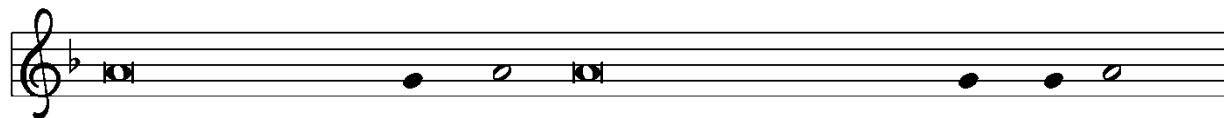
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. 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. **Amen.**

## Word

### FIRST READING

### 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.*

<sup>1</sup>The 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. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know."

<sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I 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.” <sup>7</sup>So 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. <sup>8</sup>I 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. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, 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.” <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. <sup>11</sup>Then 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.’ <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophecy, 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. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I 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.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

## Psalm 130

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

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

<sup>4</sup>Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.

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

<sup>6</sup>My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.

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

<sup>8</sup>For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

## SECOND READING

(Sunday only)

**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.*

<sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For 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, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup>But 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. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL

**John 11:1-45**

*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.*

- 1: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to the eleventh chapter of St. John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.** Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it, he said,
- 2: “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.”
- 1: <sup>5</sup>Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup>after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples,
- 2: “Let us go to Judea again.”
- 1: <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him,

**All: “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?”**

1: <sup>9</sup> Jesus answered,

2: “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.”

1: <sup>11</sup> After saying this, he told them,

2: “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.”

1: <sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him,

**All: “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.”**

1: <sup>13</sup> Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly,

2: “Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup> For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”

1: <sup>16</sup> Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples,

3: “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

1: When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother.

<sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus,

3: “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.”

1: <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her,

2: “Your brother will rise again.”

1: <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him,

3: “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”

1: <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her,

2: “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

1: <sup>27</sup> She said to him,

3: “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”



1: When 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.” <sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> The 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. <sup>32</sup> When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him,

3: “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

1: <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup> He said,

2: “Where have you laid him?”

1: They said to him,

2, 3: “Lord, come and see.”

1: <sup>35</sup> Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup> So the Jews said,

**All: “See how he loved him!”**

1: <sup>37</sup> But some of them said,

**All: “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”**

1: Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said,

2: “Take away the stone.”

1: Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him,

3: “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”

1: <sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her,

2: “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?”

1: <sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said,

2: “Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup> I 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.”

1: <sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice,

2: “Lazarus, come out!”

1: <sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them,

2: “Unbind him, and let him go.”

1: Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Throughout this Lenten season, we have been asking lots of questions, guided by the gospels we've been sharing. And all of those questions have been intended to represent our confusion, our times of misunderstanding, our struggle to make sense of some of the most basic things that we say we believe in. But it's our question for today that is, I believe, the most personal, the most heartfelt of them all.

Why, Jesus, did you let my loved one die?

It's a question that comes out of great loss, out of a time when nothing seems to make any sense. The tragedy, the unfairness of it all seems to cut us so deeply, and we don't always know what to do with all the pain. In the gospel reading that we just heard, it's found in the statements made by Martha and Mary when they first see Jesus after their brother's death. "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

And even if you personally have never said anything remotely like this, I'm sure you can understand where it's coming from. In fact, it's not difficult at all to reformulate that statement for a countless number of situations. As in...Lord, if you had been here...I would never have felt so abandoned as a child...my husband would never have become an alcoholic...my son would never have lost his eyesight in an accident...that corporation would never have dumped toxic chemicals in our water supply...the Coronavirus never would have even got started in the first place...and on and on and on. So many things that could have turned out differently—and maybe for the better, if only the Lord had intervened.

As I'm sure you can imagine, I've been able to see a fair amount of tragedy over the years. And some of it has been so unexplainable, so heart-rending, that I didn't really know what to say when I was with the people who were going through it. I remember the day after I was ordained—thirty years ago this year—at a reception when, amid all the joy, a man I didn't even know came up to me and said that he pitied me. Because he thought I was going to have a hard life. Because I was going to see things, and experience things, and walk along roads with people that I might not necessarily always want to walk. And I remember how I bristled inside at his talk. This was not something that I wanted to hear—on this weekend above any other weekend. How dare he come into my celebration with these words of doom? So I put him out of my mind.

But thirty years later, I realize that there was truth in what he said. Life is hard sometimes. But not just for me. And not just for pastors in general. Everybody has to go through stuff. And it seems to me that when we do, there are often two questions that keep coming up, over and over again: Why did this happen? And, can God still be trusted?

That first one can be so urgent that it dominates everything. Why, O Lord? What did I do wrong? Did I do something to deserve this? Am I being punished for something? If only I could go back and do things differently next time. Why did you let my loved one die?

But there are no easy explanations for these things. Because we're human, it's only natural that we're going to want to know why. And because we are only human, we can't always know why. I believe that the day will come—when we're with God in his eternal kingdom—when we will know why, when every question that we've ever had will be answered. And that is truly wonderful to think about.

But we're not there yet.

And as many times as there may be when we're sure that we could use some answers, there are many more times when what we really need is faith.

And that leads us right into the second question. Can God still be trusted?

And the answer to that one can be found when we start to realize that the God in whom we believe doesn't come around only when the sun is shining and all is right with the world. And we can know that because there's a cross up there. And over the next couple of weeks, you and I are going to have the opportunity to plunge deep once more into the mystery of our salvation. And it will be brought home again that that cross is for all of us. Jesus walks through the valley of the shadow of death, of loss and grief and pain—before we get there, so that he can get ready to catch us. We don't have to go through these things alone.

Some years ago, there was a pastor who learned of a terrible tragedy among the congregation she was serving. Two people had died. The first was a 31 year-old man who was suffering from deep mental illness and was refusing to take his medication. The second was his 65 year-old father, who somehow became convinced that his son had now become a danger to others, and so shot and killed his own son, and then turned the gun on himself and took his own life.

When the pastor went to visit the grieving family, she said that those two questions were everywhere. Why did this happen, and can the Lord still be trusted. And yet, during the very same visit, she was able to meet Lauren, the 3-year old granddaughter of the deceased father. Lauren was sitting on her grandmother's knee, wearing a bib with a duck on it and with a smile on her face. "Tell Joanna what you say before you have your supper," her grandmother prompted. And she did, in her little, 3-year old voice: God is great. God is good. And in that moment, the pastor realized the truth of those words, even in the midst of the trauma that had hit this family so hard.

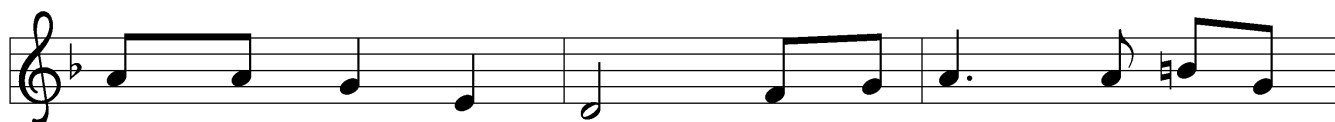
I think we all know at least something of what it's like to be hit that hard. And sometimes, when it all gets too overwhelming, we can't help but turn away. Sometimes it's so hard for us to keep trusting, and that's like being shut up in a

tomb, with a big rock in front of it. But the one who walks with us, the one who stands outside by that rock and calls to us, is the resurrection and the life. And he is calling us to life. Do you believe it? God is still great and God is still good. Amen.

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “*Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery*” with Lent 5



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your  
 2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed  
 3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of  
 on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and  
 though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you  
 bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the  
 sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn.  
 bod - y of our Lord.  
 riv - er, you the sea.

*One of the following may be sung as a final stanza at the appropriate time.*

*Lent 5*

God of all our fear and sorrow,  
 God who lives beyond our death,  
 hold us close through each tomorrow,  
 love as near as every breath.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God of life, bind your faithful people into one body. Enliven the church with your Spirit and bless the work of those who work for its renewal. Accomplish your work of salvation in us and through us, for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, you love the world you have made and you grieve when creation suffers. Restore polluted lands and waterways. Heal areas of the world ravaged by storms, floods, wildfires, droughts, or other natural disasters. Bring all things to new life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, you give us everything that is good. Hear all of the prayer requests that we are making to you through our prayer cross. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, show redemption to all who watch and wait with eager expectation: those longing for wars to cease, those waiting for immigration paperwork to finalize, those seeking election, and those in dire need of humanitarian relief. Come quickly with your hope. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, you weep with those who grieve. Unbind all who are held captive by anxiety, despair, or pain, especially those we name aloud and those who remain in the silence of our hearts. Fill us with compassion and empathy for those who struggle, and keep us faithful in prayer. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, you give us everything that is good. Hear all of the prayer requests that we are making to you through our prayer cross. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, we give thanks for opportunities for this congregation to collaborate with our community in caring for the needs of our neighbors. Strengthen our ties with other local congregations, agencies, and services. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, we pray for everyone who has been affected by COVID-19. Bless our leaders, help those who are sick, strengthen those who provide help in all forms, send gifts of patience and kindness upon your people and keep us all safe until this crisis has passed. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, you are our resurrection. We remember all those who have died and trust that, in you, they will live again. Breathe new life into our dry bones, that we, too, might live with you forever. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**PEACE**

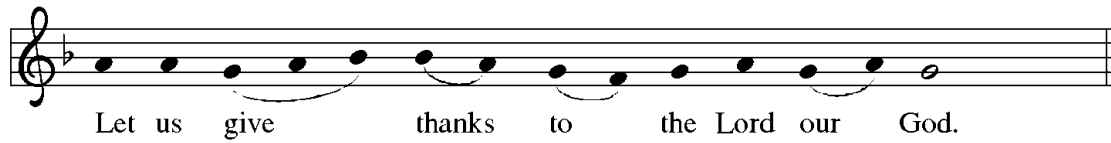
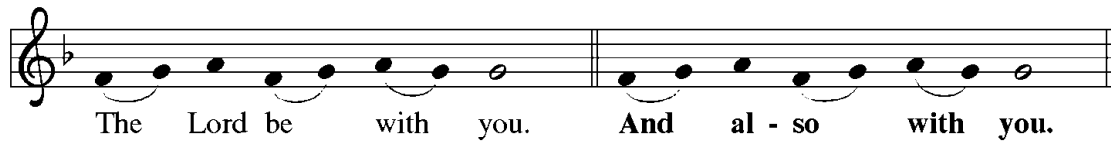
*Meal*

**OFFERING**

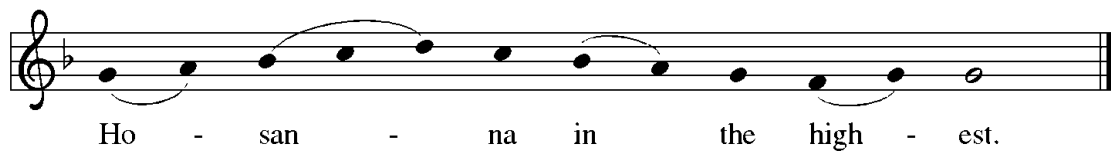
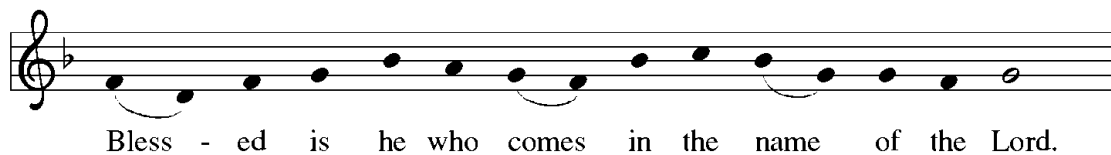
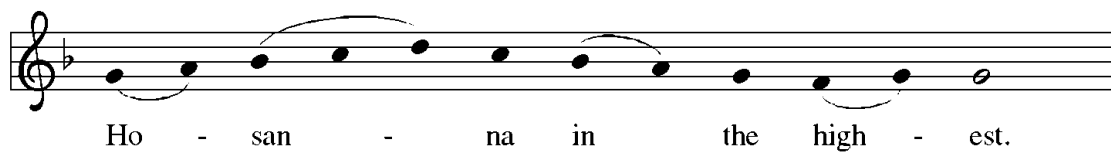
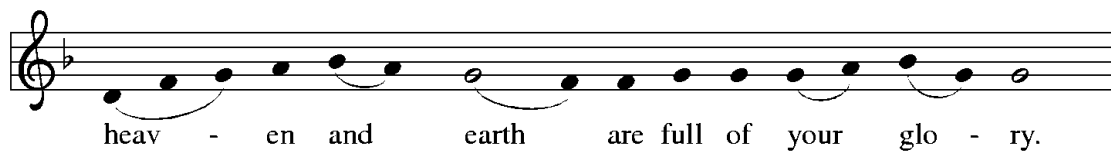
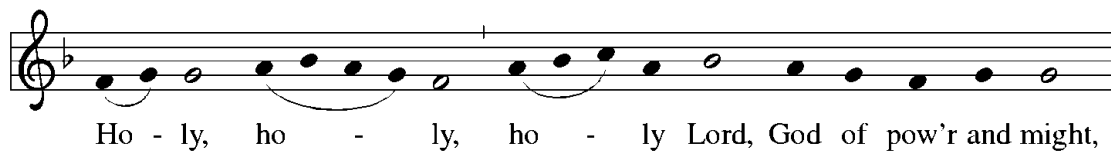
**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Holy God, **you provide us with every gift of creation, and you quench our thirst with living water. Receive these expressions of your goodness to us. May our lives be bread for the hungry and streams in the wilderness, signs of the abundance of your grace in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



## LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to Christ, broken and poured out for you.

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*"Lamb of God"*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy

on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.



# "I Am the Bread of Life"

## Verses



1. \_\_\_\_\_ I am the Bread of life. You who
2. The bread that \_\_\_\_\_ I will give is my
3. Un - less \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ eat of the
4. \_\_\_\_\_ I am the Res - ur - rec - tion, \_\_\_\_\_
5. Yes, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ I be - lieve that \_\_\_\_\_



come to me shall not hun - ger; and who be -  
flesh for the life of the world, \_\_\_\_\_ and if you  
flesh of the Son of Man \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
I \_\_\_\_\_ am the life. \_\_\_\_\_ If you be -  
vou \_\_\_\_\_ are the Christ. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_



lieve in me shall not thirst. \_\_\_\_\_ No one can come to  
eat \_\_\_\_\_ of this bread, \_\_\_\_\_ you shall \_\_\_\_\_ live for  
drink \_\_\_\_\_ of his blood, \_\_\_\_\_ and drink \_\_\_\_\_ of his  
lieve \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ me, \_\_\_\_\_ e - ven \_\_\_\_\_ though you  
Son \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ God, \_\_\_\_\_ Who \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_



me un - less the \_\_\_\_\_ Fa - ther \_\_\_\_\_ beck-ons.  
ev - er, \_\_\_\_\_ you shall \_\_\_\_\_ live for \_\_\_\_\_ ev - er.  
blood, \_\_\_\_\_ you shall not have life with - in you.  
die, \_\_\_\_\_ you shall \_\_\_\_\_ live for \_\_\_\_\_ ev - er.  
come in - to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ world. \_\_\_\_\_

## Refrain



And I will raise you up, and I will raise you



up, and I will raise you up on the last day.

## "Be Thou My Vision"



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,  
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,  
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931  
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

*“What Wondrous Love is This, O My Soul”*



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

# Sending

## BLESSING

May God restore in you the joy of salvation, strengthen your love for your neighbor, and grant you to live in harmony with all creation; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, ☩ the Son, and the Holy Spirit; be among you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*“Restore in Us, O God”*



- 1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
- 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
- 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
- 4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.  
fruit-less fear un - furl our lives like spring-time bud and flow'r.  
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.  
we, when all our search-ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company.

Music © 1985 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## DISMISSAL

Goodness and mercy shall follow you all the days of your life. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS002168. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Music and words reprinted by permission under OneLicense.Net, annual license A-711838. All rights reserved. Lenten Gospel Acclamation—©St. James Music Press and Thomas Pavlechko, 2017. [sjmp.com](http://sjmp.com). Licensed permission to photocopy granted.

**Due to the concern of the Corona virus (COVID-19), the Central States Synod, our Church Council, and Pastor Jim have decided that it would be best to cancel all worship activities at the church through the end of April. That date may be extended, but at this time, we just don't know. All individual committee meetings and church related activities are cancelled. Outside groups will meet at the discretion of the group's leader. Please check with them regarding if you are meeting.**

### **This week at Our Saviors**

**Sun., 3/29**      **Fifth Weekend in Lent**  
**Worship and Sunday School cancelled**

**Mon., 3/30**  
7 pm                      Alanon                      A

**Sat., 4/4**      **Passion Weekend**  
**Worship cancelled**

**Sun., 4/5**      **Passion Sunday**  
**Worship and Sunday School cancelled**

WC-Worship Center; FH-Fellowship Hall; N-Nursery; L-Library; Ga-Gathering  
C-Conference Room; A, B, E, G, H, and I — Education Wing

### **What's Happening at OSLC**

- Pastor Jim and Vickie will have **regular office hours during this time**. The office will be open for you to call, email, or stop by from **9 am to 4 pm, Monday through Thursday**. We are here to help, just ask.
- **Barb Keil, RN is the Parish Nurse for OSLC**. She can be reached at 408-4114, at [bkeil4514@gmail.com](mailto:bkeil4514@gmail.com), or you may leave a message with the church office or her mailbox in the Fellowship Hall. Blood pressure checks are every fourth weekend of the month or on as needed basis.
- **Prayer Cross—During Lent, you will have the opportunity to make use of our Lenten Prayer Cross!** Look for it in the worship center. This special cross will provide you the opportunity to make prayer requests. To make a prayer request, simply take a paper cross from the basket at the foot of the cross, write your prayer request on the back, then stick your cross on one of the nails in the prayer cross. Each week at church we will be praying for all the prayer requests on the cross and they will be remembered by Pastor Jim in his personal prayer as well. You may call and give your requests to Pastor Jim, and he will put them on the cross for you, if you don't want to come into the church.

- **Please remember to continue giving towards your pledge and regular offering during this time.** You may mail your donation in to the church, or drop it by during office hours. You may also take advantage of our on-line giving available on our webpage at [www.oslctopeka.org](http://www.oslctopeka.org). We appreciate your help. You may also scan this QR code and link directly to the online giving location. Thank you in advance for your continued support of Our Savior's Lutheran Church.



- The April, May, and June issue of *“Christ in Your Home”* are available at the Welcome Center. Please stop by and pick one up during regular office hours. If you would prefer that we mail you a copy, we can do that during this time. Also, a newer version of the *“Lutheran Prayer Book”* is also available at the Welcome Center.
- During this time, many nursing homes are limiting visitations and contact with those outside the facility. A special message, a drawing from a child, or a card telling the person that you are thinking about them is much appreciated. As part of our ongoing work with **Oak Creek Senior Living**, we will be **sending notes, cards, drawings, etc. to the residents**. A basket for the collection, along with blank note cards will be available at church for your use, or you may send your items directly to Oak Creek at Oak Creek Senior Living Center, 3224 SW 29 Street, Topeka, Kansas 66614.
- **From the Parish Nurse COVID-19 (Corona Virus) - Simple everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses.** These include • Avoid close contact with people who are sick, stay home if you are sick. • Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. • Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available. OSLC has conveniently located hand sanitizer. I also have fact sheets about the virus from CDC available upon request.
- In response to COVID-19, **Doorstep's building will not be open for client services or donations until Monday, April 6.** We feel a commitment to keeping our volunteers safe, and still serve the most vulnerable in our community. Services at Doorstep will be as follows: We will continue to offer food orders by phone intake only, with client pick-up. Food must be picked up by 2 pm. This is of course subject to change, and we will play it by ear from week to week. We are accepting food donations Monday – Friday from 9 am – 2 pm. We are not accepting clothing/household donations at this time.

## **In Our Prayers**

**Those who need healing**...Virginia Mendez; Sheila Gutierrez; Carol Brown; Avis Cowhick; Sue Henke; Kay Dobbs; R.B. Cowhick; Dick Rohlf; Sharon Rumpel; Ron Willis

**Those who are homebound**...Dean Olson; Melissa Smith

**Those in our families and community**...**Dwight**—friend of Carol Hunt; **Keith**—brother of Lila McClafin; **Janet**—cousin of Sue Henke; **Ralph**—brother of Betsy Hawkins; **Craig**—friend of Eric Pedersen; **Paula**—niece of Betsy Hawkins; **Marcia**—cousin of Betsy Hawkins; **Joe**—uncle of Pat Koenig; **Ray**—friend of Betsy Hawkins; **Hayley**—daughter of co-worker of Eric Pedersen; **Sharon**—mother of Matt Ledell; **Cheryl**—sister of JoLana Pinon; **Nicole**—niece of Jodi Ledell; **Gary**—husband of Betsy Hawkins; **Steve**—friend of Eric Pedersen; **Mavis**—friend of Sue Henke; **Jolene**—sister-in-law of Jim Oestreich and Janet Bolton; **PJ**—grandson of Virginia Mendez; **Fred**—uncle of Clay & Katie Davis; **Linda**—cousin of Myron Dunavan; **Claudia**—friend of Trisch Stender and Pat Koenig; **Clark**—brother of Betsy Hawkins; **Spencer**—nephew of Carol Hunt; **Ashley**—friend of Katie Davis; **Cari**—daughter of Dawn Bradley; **Wyatt**—cousin of Dawn Bradley; **Paul**—friend of Donnita and Sarah Thomas; **Juanita**—friend of Trisch Stender and Pat Koenig; **Don**—friend of Trisch Stender and Pat Koenig; **Ray**—brother of Dwight Rumpel; **Marilyn**—aunt of Jodi Ledell; **Daxton**—grandbaby of friend of Sue Rohleder; **Ann**—aunt of Pat Koenig; **Dora**—friend of Pat Koenig and Trish Stender; **Mary**—friend of Myron Dunavan; **Larry**—friend of Eric Pedersen; **Skip**—uncle of Clay Davis; **Dave**—friend of Marj Odell; **Jim**—friend and co-worker of Eric Pedersen; **Joanne**—friend and sorority sister of Pat Dunavan and Avis Cowhick; **Richard**—brother of Pam Haar; **Craig**—brother of Betsy Hawkins; **Shannon**—cousin of Carol Hunt; **Bob**—brother-in-law of Sue Henke; **Liam**—son of a co-worker of Eric Pedersen

**Those serving overseas**...**Ben**—friend of JoLana Pinon; **Imanee**—granddaughter of Dawn Bradley

**In celebration of**...the marriage of Kenny Jones & Bernadette Gates on March 26.

### **Our Savior's Lutheran Church**

**Jim Peters**, Pastor ([pastorjim@oslctopeka.org](mailto:pastorjim@oslctopeka.org))

**Vickie Edwards**, Admin. Asst. ([churchoffice@oslctopeka.org](mailto:churchoffice@oslctopeka.org))

2021 SW 29th Street, Topeka, Kansas 66611-1907

785-266-5313; 785-266-5395 (fax)

[www.oslctopeka.org](http://www.oslctopeka.org)

**MARCH 29, 2020**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*I Heard the Voice of  
Jesus Say*



**WEEKLY MILESTONES**



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Tell or think about something you are looking forward to doing in the future.
- How does thinking about a future moment impact your life today?
- Both Ezekiel 37 and Jesus in John 11 talk about God's power to give life. How does the promise of the resurrection and God's power to give life influence you today?

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* John 11:1-45.

With the story of the raising of Lazarus we have Jesus making clear that Jesus is not only the source of "the resurrection on the last day" (v. 24), but the source of life now. Jesus does not just say he is the resurrection. He says, "I am the resurrection and the life" (v. 25). In this story we gain understanding of what it means that Jesus is the "Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world" (v. 27). The future hope of the resurrections is so important and so real that it changes our life in the present. Even though Jesus weeps with his friends (v. 35), grief does not control his—or our—life. Our lives are to be freed from the daily powers of sin and death. "Unbind him and let him go" (v. 44) is the message for us, too. Jesus comes to us when our burdens are great to unbind us and set us free. Jesus says, "[E]veryone who lives and believes in me will never die" (v. 26). How does Jesus' resurrection make a difference in your life today? How does faith in Jesus impact your priorities, your values, your relationships?

*Pray:* **God of resurrection promise, remind us of the new life we are given each day through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**SERVICE**



Knowing one is nearing the end of their life is difficult for the person and for family and loved ones. As one draws closer to death we can be comforted to know of the resurrection and new life. This does not mean it will be easy. Jesus gives all who believe in him the promise of eternal life. Do you know of someone who has a loved one in the final stages of life? Is there a way you can support them through listening, prayer, meals, or household help?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



During the fifth week in Lent, light five of the six purple candles on your Lenten Candle Cross. The acronym **ACTS** (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication) has been introduced as a way to pray. This week use this acronym as a guide for prayer.

*Pray:* **Dear God, I praise you for . . . , Forgive me for . . . , I thank you for. . . , I pray for (name of people or situations) . . . , in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)



**MARCH 29, 2020  
FIFTH SUNDAY  
IN LENT**



*The resurrection means new life now.*

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 11:1-45</b>	<b>The raising of Lazarus</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Ezekiel 37:1-14</b>	<b>Valley of dry bones</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Romans 8:6-11</b>	<b>Life in the Spirit</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Romans 8:12-27</b>	<b>Wonderful future of God's people</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>2 Corinthians 4:1-15</b>	<b>Treasure in clay jars</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Colossians 3:12-17</b>	<b>New life in Christ</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 130</b>	<b>Trusting the Lord in times of trouble</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Matthew 21:1-11</b>	<b>Jesus enters Jerusalem</b>

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

Jesus said to her [Martha], "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

**John 11:25-26 (NRSV)**

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Dear God of life and hope, we thank you for the promise of the resurrection and the power it brings to us each day through Jesus Christ, the Messiah, the Son of God. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, with this meal we are strengthened to wait for you with faith and hope through Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the God of life free you from all burdens and give you peace.

