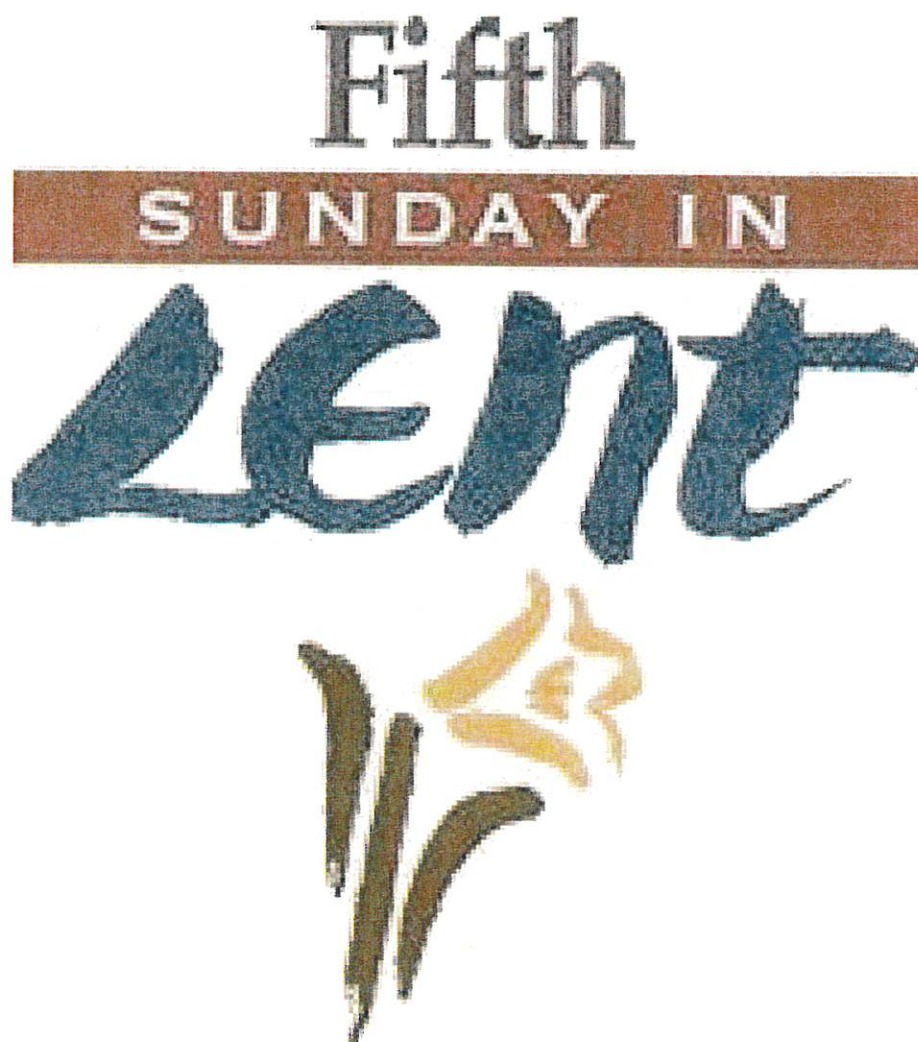


*Grace Lutheran Church  
Welcomes You!*



*By Grace you have been saved!*

*"We have decided to follow Jesus and  
There's no turning back!"*

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

\*\*\*\*\*

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 26, 2023

Pastor Jim Helgren

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Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn

LBW Hymn # 559

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Greeting

WOV Page 46

Scripture Song

WOV Page 47

Prayer of the Day

See Insert

The First Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Not Printed

Psalms 130

See Insert

The Second Lesson: Romans 8:6-11

Not Printed

The Gospel: John 11:1-45

See Insert

Gospel Acclamation

WOV Page 48

Children's message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"Blessed Assurance"

WOV Hymn # 699

Apostles' Creed

WOV Page 49

Offering

Offertory

WOV Page 50

Prayers of the Church

WOV Page 52

The Lord's Prayer

WOV Page 52

Benediction & Dismissal

Closing Hymn

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

WOV Hymn # 771

Postlude

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*Noisy coin offering will be collected Today.  
All loose change will be designated for  
Oaks Indian Center.*

***We pray always for . . .***

*Bill Bohling, Luetta Bruns, Carolyn Cropp, Linda Daniels, Eric Fass,  
Eugene Rosenthal & Haleigh Werner*

***We also remember in our prayers . . .***

*Anna, Vanessa, Meshack & Evance, orphans we are sponsoring  
in Tanzania.*

***You may contact Pastor Helgren by calling 402-864-4201 (church)  
402-864-2113 (home) or 402-826-0613(cell)***

*Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's box in the  
south office. Church office email [grace68329@gmail.com](mailto:grace68329@gmail.com)*

**Today 3/26/23**

*Worship – 8:30 a.m.*

*Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.*

**Tuesday 3/28/23**

**Piecemakers Blanket Making – All Day**

**Wednesday 3/29/23**

*Confirmation – 4:00 p.m.*

*Midweek Lenten Worship – Pastor Ken*

*Service at Hope Lutheran – 7:00 p.m.*

**Next Sunday 4/2/23**

*Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.*

*Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.*

Please be sure to sign up for a couple of Sundays of  
Worship Duty – sign up sheet is at the back of the church.





# Today's Readings

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

## Prayer of the Day

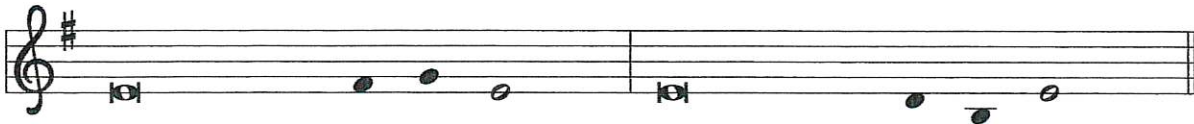
Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,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

## First Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14 [not printed]

## Psalm

Psalm 130; tone 8



Out <sup>1</sup> of the depths

I cry to <sup>1</sup> you, O LORD;

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, <sup>1</sup> hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my <sup>1</sup> supplication.

<sup>3</sup>If you were to keep watch <sup>1</sup> over sins,

O LORD, <sup>1</sup> who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>Yet with you <sup>1</sup> is forgiveness,

in order that you <sup>1</sup> may be feared.

<sup>5</sup>I wait for you, O LORD; <sup>1</sup> my soul waits;

in your word <sup>1</sup> is my hope.

<sup>6</sup>My soul waits for the Lord

more than those who keep watch

<sup>1</sup> for the morning,

more than those who keep watch

<sup>1</sup> for the morning.

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, wait for the LORD,

for with the LORD there is <sup>1</sup> steadfast love;

with the LORD

there is plen- <sup>1</sup> teous redemption.

<sup>8</sup>For the LORD shall <sup>1</sup> redeem Israel

from <sup>1</sup> all their sins.

## Second Reading

Romans 8:6-11 [not printed]

## Gospel

John 11:1-45

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, "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." <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, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble,

*continued*



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.” <sup>11</sup>After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” <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, “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.” <sup>16</sup>Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

<sup>17</sup>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, “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.” <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, “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?” <sup>27</sup>She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

<sup>28</sup>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, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <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, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup>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, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “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.” <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” <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, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

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



Ezekiel 37:1–14 (NRSV): 37 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. 2 He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. 3 He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” 4 Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. 5 Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6 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.”

7 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. 8 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. 9 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.” 10 I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

11 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.’ 12 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. 13 And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 14 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.

## **Romans 8:6-11**

<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.



Jesus  
teaches  
me to  
f♥rgive.

Be kind,  
and forgive one  
another.