

Grace Lutheran Church

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025

Pastor Jim Helgren

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG - ELW #522 - "As We Gather at Your Table"

CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS - ELW p. 94 *Please stand in body or spirit to receive forgiveness.*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the [†]Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

P: 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.

A: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

A: 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.

P: 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.

A: Amen. Assembly sits.

GREETING - p. 203

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

A: And also with you.

KYRIE - p. 203

PRAYER OF THE DAY - Please see insert. Response after the prayer: **Amen.**

FIRST READING – Isaiah 43:16-21 Please see insert. Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 126 - Please see insert and read responsively

SECOND READING – Philippians 3:4b-14 Please see insert. Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

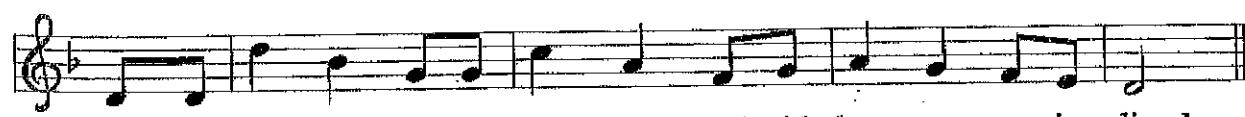
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – for Lent p. 205b

During Lent:



S 205b

We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mor - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clinied.

Please stand in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

P: The holy gospel according to

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL – John 12:1-8 Please see insert.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ. The assembly sits.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY - ELW #802 – “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

NICENE CREED - p. 104

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our
salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin
Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he
suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He
will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no
end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and
the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken
through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We
acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the
dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - p.206 Response after each portion of the prayer:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

A: hear our prayer.

PEACE - p. 206

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY - “Cultivating Love through Creation” hymn - ELW #879

“For the Beauty of the Earth” - verses 1 and 2

GREAT THANKSGIVING - p. 206

LORD'S PRAYER - p. 208

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.

LAMB OF GOD - p. 208

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION FOLLOWED by READING - p. 113

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:
A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.
Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace.

BLESSING - p. 209 - Response after the blessing:

A: Amen.

DISMISSAL - p. 209 - Response after the dismissal:

A: Thanks be to God. *The assembly sits.*

SENDING SONG - ELW #834 – “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Postlude

Announcements

TODAY 4/6/25 *Fifth Sunday in Lent*

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

If you would like to bring an Easter Lily to share with us, there is a signup sheet on the back table and in the SE office.

WEDNESDAY 4/9/25

Kids for Christ – 4:00 p.m.

Lenten Worship @ Hope Lutheran Church – 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY 4/10/25

Thursday Lenten Luncheon Gathering @ Grace Lutheran - 11:30 a.m.

NEXT SUNDAY 4/13/25 *Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday*

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

We pray always for . . .

*Pastor Steve Billington, Linda Daniels, Char Helgren, Becky Knake,
Axl Walters, Joan Wellensiek, Andy Wellensiek & Haleigh Werner*

We also remember in our prayers . . .

Winfrida, Juliana, Hassan & Evance, orphans we are sponsoring in Tanzania

Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's box in the south office.

You may email the church office grace68329@gmail.com

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

Please join us for fellowship in the basement following worship ☺

Candles for Mosaic

Mosaic in Beatrice is requesting candles, new or used, stick, pillar or glass-contained for an employment opportunity for their residents. The residents will melt the candles down and then add saw dust. Finally, the mixture is poured into small cups to cool and be sold as fire starters. The fire starters can be used in both fireplaces and fire pits. The price is \$5.00 for 20 cups.

There is a box on the bench in the basement for collection of these candles.



Today's Readings

Fifth Sunday in Lent
April 6, 2025

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.**

First Reading

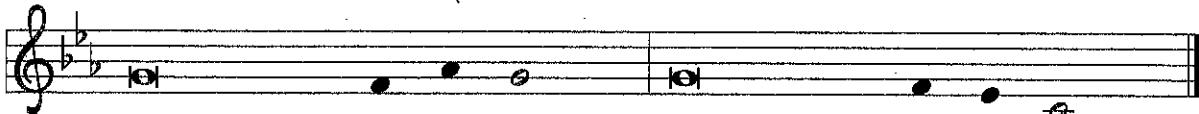
Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the **LORD**,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
 they are extinguished, quenched
 like a wick:
¹⁸Do not remember the former
 things,
or consider the things of old.

¹⁹I am about to do a new thing;
 now it springs forth, do you not
 perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
 and rivers in the desert.
²⁰The wild animals will honor me,
 the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
 rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹the people whom I formed for
 myself
so that they might declare my
 praise.

Psalm

Psalm 126; tone 9



When the **LORD** restored
the for-¹ tunes of Zion,
 then were we
 like ¹ those who dream.
²Then was our mouth
filled with laughter,
and our tongue with ¹ shouts of joy.
 Then they said among
the nations,
 “**The LORD** has done
great ¹ things for them.”

³The **LORD** has done great
things for us,
 and we are ¹ glad indeed.
⁴Restore our for-¹ tunes, **O LORD**,
 like the watercourses
 of the Negeb.
⁵Those who ¹ sowed with tears
 will reap with ¹ songs of joy.
⁶Those who go out weeping,
carry-¹ ing the seed,
 will come again with joy,
shoulder-¹ ing their sheaves.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law,

but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel

John 12:1-8

Six 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."