



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 31, 2019

8:30 & 10:30 Holy Communion

Jesus is given some very sound advice: Get away, it's not safe! The powers that be, especially Herod, want to kill him. Jesus is not deterred and continues on the path he knows he must follow. He laments the hardness of heart of some that is making his work dangerous.

Sometimes faith is easy and sometimes it is dangerous. God will always provide the strength and courage we need to face the things we need to face.

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available during the service. Please see one of the ushers if you need more information.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
(For music see Hymn 803 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss
and pour contempt on all my pride.**
2. **Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.**
3. **See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e're such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?**
4. **Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Music: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13)

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

C: And also with you.

Gathering Dialog (Adapted from "Draw Me to Yourself" in Guerillas of Grace by Ted Loder, copyright 1981 Augsburg Fortress)

P: In this moment
draw me to yourself, Lord,
and make me aware

**C: not so much of what I've given
as of all I have received
and so have yet to share.**

P: Send me forth

in power and gladness
and with great courage
to live out in the world
what I pray and profess,

**C: that, in sharing
I may do justice,
make peace,
grow in love,
enjoy myself,
other people,
and your world now,
and you forever.**

Hymn of Praise Kyrie

For music turn to page 28 in the Blue Hymnal

A: Kyrie eleison:

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: Christie eleison:

C: Christ, have mercy.

A: Kyrie eleison:

C: Lord, have mercy.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

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.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Jeremiah 26:1-15

At the beginning of the reign of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah, this word came from the LORD: ²Thus says the LORD: Stand in the court of the Lord's house, and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in the house of the LORD; speak to them all the words that I command you; do not hold back a word. ³It may be that they will listen, all of them, and will turn from their evil way, that I may change my mind

about the disaster that I intend to bring on them because of their evil doings. ⁴You shall say to them: Thus says the LORD: If you will not listen to me, to walk in my law that I have set before you, ⁵and to heed the words of my servants the prophets whom I send to you urgently— though you have not heeded— ⁶then I will make this house like Shiloh, and I will make this city a curse for all the nations of the earth.

⁷The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD. ⁸And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! ⁹Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant?’” And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD. ¹⁰When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king’s house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. ¹¹Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence of death because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears.” ¹²Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, “It is the LORD who sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. ¹³Now therefore amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will change his mind about the disaster that he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴But as for me, here I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. ¹⁵Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will be bringing innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.”

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 27 (read responsively)

A: The Lord is my saving light;
whom should I fear?
God is my fortress;
what should I dread?

**C: When the violent come at me
to eat me alive,
a mob eager to kill –
they waver, they collapse.**

A: Should battalions lay siege,

I will not fear;
should war rage against me,
even then will I trust.

**C: One thing I ask the Lord,
one thing I seek:
to live in the house of God
every day of my life,
caught up in God's beauty,
at prayer in his temple.**

A: The Lord will hide me there,
hide my life from attack:
a sheltering tent above me,
a firm rock below.

**C: I am now beyond reach
of those who besiege me.
In his temple I will offer
a joyful sacrifice,
I will play and sing to God.**

A: O God, listen to me;
be gracious, answer me.

**C: Deep within me a voice says,
"Look for the face of God!"**

A: So I look for your face,
I beg you not to hide.
Do not shut me out in anger,
help me instead.

**C: Do not abandon or desert me,
my savior, my God.
If my parents rejected me,
still God would take me in.**

A: Teach me how to live,
lead me on the right road
away from my enemies.

**C: Do not leave me to their malice;
lair breathing violence
rise to swear against me.**

A: I know I will see
how good God is
while I am still alive.

**C: Trust in the Lord. Be strong.
Be brave. Trust in the Lord.**

Second Reading Philippians 3:17-4:1

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Philippians 3:20)

C: Our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading Luke 13:31-35

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “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.’”

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Thy Holy Wings
(For music see Hymn 613 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Thy holy wings, O Savior,
spread gently over me,
and let me rest securely
through good and ill in thee.
Oh, be my strength and portion,
my rock and hiding place,
and let my ev'ry moment
be lived within thy grace.**

2. **Oh, let me nestle near thee,
within thy downy breast
where I will find sweet comfort
and peace within thy nest.
Oh, close thy wings around me
and keep me safely there,
for I am but a newborn
and need thy tender care.**

3. **Oh, wash me in the waters
of Noah's cleansing flood.
Give me a willing spirit,
a heart both clean and good.
Oh, take into thy keeping
thy children great and small,
and while we sweetly slumber,
enfold us one and all.**

Text: Carolina Sandell Ber, 1832-1903, sts. 1,3; Gracia Crindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite. Text Copyright 1983 Gracia Grindal, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc. Music: Swedish folk tune; arr. hymnal version. Arr. Copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress

Nicene Creed

A: Let us confirm our faith with the Nicene Creed

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

The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,

The congregation will respond: **Hear our prayer.**

The pastor concludes the prayer:

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

C: Amen.

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

† MEAL †

Offering and Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray: Generous God,

C: you feed us with the harvest of the land, and you provide for our every need. Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor, and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all

the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

(spoken)

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, “Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

Communion Distribution

Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. You will receive bread from the communion assistant. If you need gluten free wafers please ask the assistant distributing bread. You may receive wine from either the common cup or in an individual glass. If you would like to receive in a glass please pick one up from the tray as you approach the altar rail. White grape juice is available in the individual glasses for those who do not wish to take wine. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:

Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)

735 *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth (Red Hymnal)*

25 *Messiah (Songbook Binder)*

Communion Blessing *After all have communed the pastor will say:*

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray:

O God, we thank you for gathering and feeding us as a mother hen embraces her young. Release us now to go on our way in these forty days, ready to see our work as prayer, ready to fast from complacency, and ready to share with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: God, who fills the creation with abundance,
Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness,
Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us,
bless you and bring you to life everlasting.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

(For music see Hymn 335 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. Jesus, keep me near the cross,
there's a precious fountain;
free to all, a healing stream
flows from Calv'ry's mountain.**

Refrain: **In the cross, in the cross
be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find
rest beyond the river.**

**2. Near the cross, a trembling soul,
love and mercy found me;**

**there the bright and morning star
sheds its beams around me. *Refrain***

**3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
bring its scene before me;
help me walk from day to day
with its shadow o'er me. *Refrain***

**4. Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand
just beyond the river. *Refrain***

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915. Music: William H. Doane, 1832-1915

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

Worship assistants TODAY: 8:30 Lector – Suzy Maynard

Greeters and Ushers	Mike and Cassie Ross
Acolyte	Katya Kurilovitch
Altar Care	Linda Thompson
Communion Assistants	Tim and Liz Brown
Nursery Care	Kristi Bullwinkle
Counters	Tim Brown and Bill Hagerman
Coffee Hour	Linda Thompson

Worship assistants for next Sunday, April 7, 2019

Greeters and Ushers	Burdie Gillern and Linda Flood
Acolyte	Viala Wagner
Altar Care	Sally Mansfield
Communion Assistants	Nancy and Ivan Shuler
Nursery Care	Laura Stroup
Counters	Bruce Bonke and Art Fields
Coffee Hour	1 st Communion Coffee Hour

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St. John's Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor
Heidi Griffith, Music Director