

**Messiah Lutheran Church**

*Light in the Beartooths*

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

*Pastor Ben Cherland*

**Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church**  
Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 17, 2024

**GATHERING**

**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.**

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.**

**GATHERING SONG *My Song Is Love Unknown* (ELW 343)**

**GREETING**

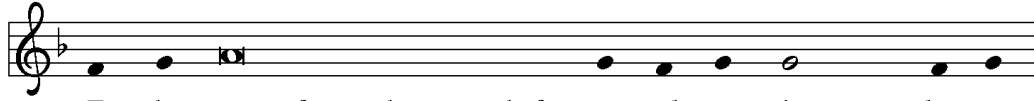
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

# KYRIE



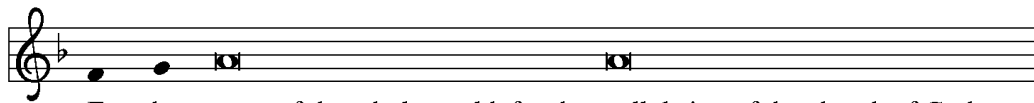
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



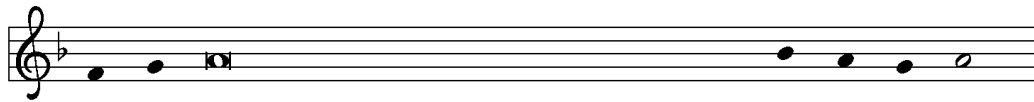
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



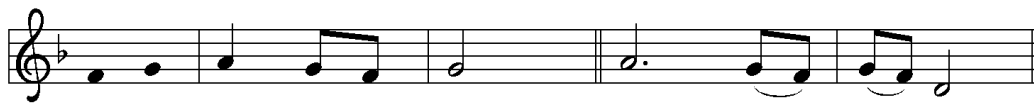
and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer 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**

**O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live 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.**

## **WORD**

### **CHILDRENS SERMON**

#### **FIRST READING JEREMIAH 31:31-34:**

A reading from Jeremiah.

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

#### **PSALM 51:1-12:**

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your <sup>1</sup>steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out <sup>1</sup>my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through <sup>1</sup>from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me <sup>1</sup>from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know <sup>1</sup>my offenses,  
and my sin is ev- <sup>1</sup>er before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil <sup>1</sup>in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right <sup>1</sup>in your judgment. R**

- <sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my | mother's womb.
- <sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**
- <sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.
- <sup>8</sup>**Let me hear | joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken | may rejoice. R**
- <sup>9</sup>Hide your face | from my sins,  
and blot out | all my wickedness.
- <sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean | heart, O God,  
and renew a right spir- | it within me.**
- <sup>11</sup>Cast me not away | from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.
- <sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of | your salvation  
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit. R**

## **SECOND READING HEBREWS 5:5-10:**

A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>5</sup>Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

<sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup>and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Now is the time of grace, now is the day of sal - va - tion.  
Turn now, and seek God's face, now be-hold God's in-vi - ta - tion.

## GOSPEL JOHN 12:20-33:

The holy gospel according to John.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.

<sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup>“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The gospel of the Lord.

### Praise to you, O Christ.

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Now the Green Blade Rises* (ELW 379)

## **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. Ame**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

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

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

# MEAL

## OFFERING

### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and  
fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a  
har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the  
bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress.

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## OFFERING PRAYER

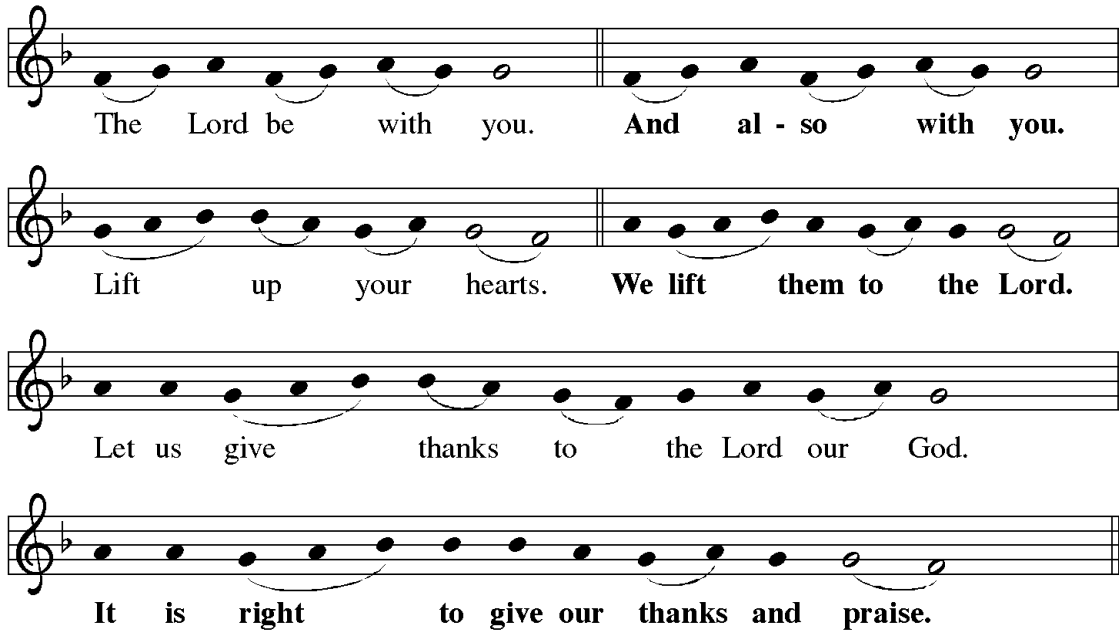
God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



# GREAT THANKSGIVING

## DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

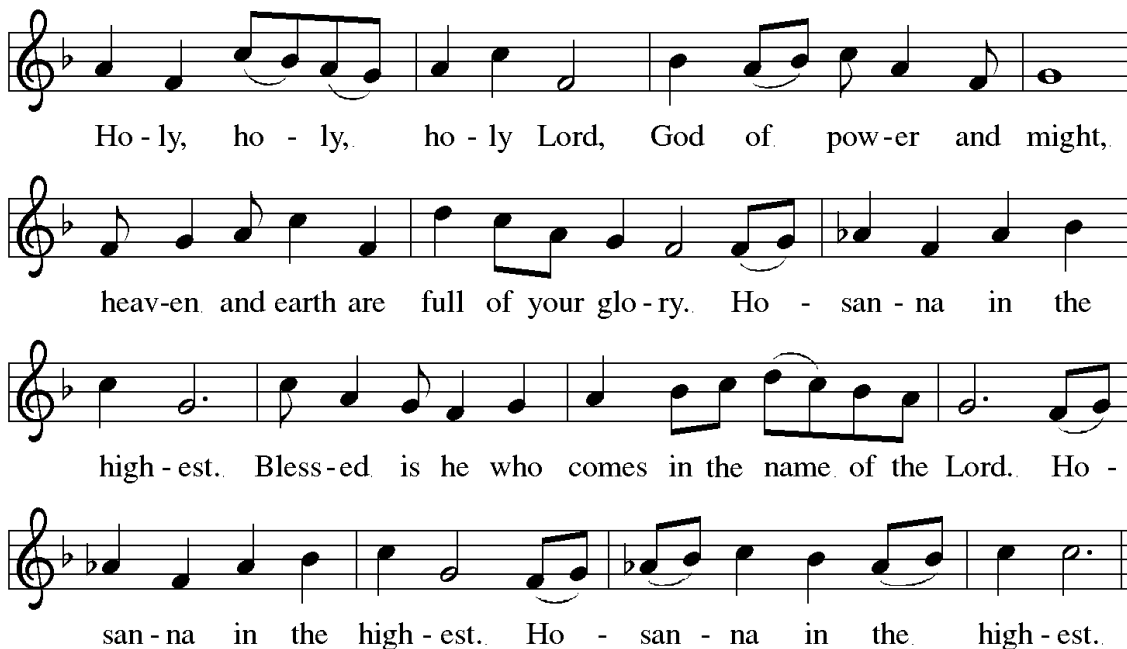
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE (*Pastor*)

*Continue with Holy, Holy, Holy at... "and join their unending hymn".*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

# THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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

## COMMUNION

## 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.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

Go forth into the world in peace;  
be of good courage;  
hold fast to that which is good ;  
render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted;  
support the weak;  
help the afflicted;  
honor everyone;  
love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit,  
and the blessing of God Almighty, +Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

**SENDING SONG** *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing* (ELW 545)

### **DISMISSAL**

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us Wednesday at 6:00 for Holden Evening Prayer and a soup and bread supper.

As a ministry to our community at Easter, please consider donating potted tulips, daffodils, hyacinths or other non-pollinating flowers to bring our Easter celebration to life. The flowers need to be at the church by Good Friday, March 29.

We are moving ahead with the photo directory. The next step is for you to review and select your picture for the directory and any pictures you would like to order. If you haven't had your photo taken yet, please call Kevin Kinsley to set up a time. We need your photos by April 30.

To request prayers, please write your prayer requests in the Prayer Request binder in the gathering space or email them to [redlodgemessiah@gmail.com](mailto:redlodgemessiah@gmail.com) or call the church office with your requests. We will start a new list at the beginning of each month and are asking you to resubmit your requests if prayers are still desired.

Today the people of Messiah are praying for  
Jackie Cordill, Brooke Feister, Dolly & Jim Koski,  
Rick & Sandy Koski, Phyllis Kreatz  
Eugene Rosekelly, and Shirley Petersen