

Sunday, March 30, 2025

Fourth Sunday in Lent, Year C



Ring of Bell

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy
endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the
assurance of God's abiding love.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate One,

**C: you are slow to anger and abounding in
steadfast love, but our lives do not always
reflect you and your love for the world. We
do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us. We do not welcome
others with the radical hospitality you grant
to all people. We oppress others, even
though you have set us free again and
again. We squander the abundant gifts of
the earth. Transform our lives and guide us
again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always
stretched open wide to welcome the wandering
ones home. In ☩ Christ your sins are forgiven.
You have a place in God's house forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* No. 807
Accompanied by Tom Ersland & Guitar

**1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my
heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never
ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. While the
hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and
love, teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy
goodness prove.**

**2 Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help
I've come"; and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a
stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God; he, to
rescue me from danger, interposed his precious
blood.**

**3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm
constrained to be; let that grace now like a fetter
bind my wand'ring heart to thee. Prone to wander,
Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love. Here's
my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts
above.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY *We pray together*

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward,
and you embrace us all with your mercy.

**C: By our baptism clothe us with garments of
your grace, and feed us at the table of your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings

FIRST READING: JOSHUA 5:9-12

Israel eats the produce of the promised land

⁹The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled
away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that
place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal, they
kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth
day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the
day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate
the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and
roasted grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they
ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no
longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of
Canaan that year.

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

PSALM 32

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are
forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

**²Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no
guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

**⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and
night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat
of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not
conceal my guilt. > >

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers

to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸ **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.**

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

¹⁰ **Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21

The mystery and ministry of reconciliation

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

◆ THE HOLY GOSPEL: LUKE 15:1-3, 11B-32

C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

The parable of the prodigal.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.' So he divided his assets between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to his

senses he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD. **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S WORD

SERMON Pastor D.J. Chatelaine

HYMN OF THE DAY: Come Ye Disconsolate No. 607

**1 Come, ye disconsolate, where'er you languish;
come to the mercy-seat, fervently kneel. Here bring
your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish; earth
has no sorrow that heav'n cannot heal.**

**2 Joy of the desolate, light of the straying, hope
of the penitent, fadeless and pure; Here speaks the
Comforter, tenderly saying, "Earth has no sorrow
that heav'n cannot cure."**

**3 Here see the Bread of life; see waters flowing
forth from the throne of God, pure from above.
Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing
earth has no sorrow but heav'n can remove.**

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

God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

SHARING OF PEACE

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

OFFERTORY—OFFERING—'NOISY' OFFERING

◆ OFFERING PRAYER

P: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world.

C: As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *Spoken*

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*All who are hungry, come!
The feast of grace is spread.*

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION AND HYMN

Amazing Grace No. 779

1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come; 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures; he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new.

C: Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

◆ SENDING SONG v. 1,2,& 4 No. 763
My Life Flows on in Endless Song

1 My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation, I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

Refrain

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

2 Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing! All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

Ring of Bell

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Live in hope.
Care for others as God cares for you.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

PARTICIPANTS

PASTOR—D.J. Chatelaine
WORSHIP ASSISTANT—Dave Kolsrud
ORGANIST—Tammy Hanson
GUITARIST—Tom Erslund
ACOLYTE—Avery Tupa
COMMUNION SET-UP—Heidi Haugen
GREETERS—Cora Lee Monroe
COMMUNION SERVERS— Harris & Heidi Haugen, Erica Aronson
COFFEE SERVER—Haugens
TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Barb Groth, Steve Johnson, Holly Aldorfer, Jack Aronson, Luke Cordes.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jennifer Lerfald, Lavon Underdahl, Kevin Hildebrandt, Jim Fountaine, Brent Ashland, Dick Overby, Dax Eggert, Hannah Michelsen, Larry Walker, Ken Wold.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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LENT SOUP SUPPERS - Sign up to provide food or help serve at our Lenten Soup Suppers on Wednesday Nights at 5:30 pm. Followed by worship at 6:30
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CHRIST IN OUR HOME DEVOTION BOOKS for Apr/May/Jun are available now.
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THRIVENT MEMBERS: If you have a \$250 Action Team Grant available, please contact Bryana Lothert to discuss how this money could be used to support children and youth ministry here at First Lutheran.

CALENDAR

Sun 3-30	9 AM WORSHIP 'NOISY' Offering 10 AM Sun. School 10 AM Coffee with Adult Form on Blended Worship'
Tue 4-1	12 Noon – 1 Open Prayer Time
We 4-2	5:30 PM Soup Supper 6:30 PM Worship
Thu 4-3	7 PM AA
Su 4-6	9 AM WORSHIP *Palm Sun Singers Practice after Worship 10 AM Coffee -&- Sun. School 11:30 – 1:30 KAIC Benefit: Soup Cook Off & Cake Auction at Gol

PASTOR—D.J. CHATELAINE
Phone 507-213-0708
Email firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com
CHURCH OFS: Phone: 507-789-5261
Email: firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com
KAIC INTERN—Yvonne Godfrey-Roesel
Phone 708-846-9138 Email: intern.kaic@gmail.com
YOUTH DIRECTOR—BRYANA LOTHERT
Phone 507-210-0814 Email: flcyouth45@gmail.com
WEBSITE flickenyon.org
FACEBOOK **First Evangelical Lutheran Kenyon MN**
YOUTUBE CHANNEL:
<https://www.youtube.com/@flickenyon>