



Resurrection Lutheran Church

To Live & Share the Love of Christ

Melissa Pagel, Vicar

Sunday March 3rd, 2024, Third Sunday in Lent

*(Congregational responses are printed in **Bold** type.)*

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- **Note: Disposable communion with both elements is available in the narthex for those choosing not to come forward.**

Call to Worship

If you ask the sky who God is,
the sky will tell you of God's reach.

If you ask the day who God is,
the sun will tell you of God's warmth.

If you ask the night who God is,
the moon will tell you of God's comfort.

“The heavens are telling the glory of God” (Psalm 19:1). Are you listening?

We are listening!

We will sing of God's glory.

Let us worship Holy God.

GATHERING

Gathering Hymn *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* *ELW 858*

GREETING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
creator of darkness and light,
word of truth,
wind sweeping over the waters.
Amen.

Call to Confession

In our scripture for today, Jesus asks the disciples, “Who do you say that I am?”
Peter said, “You are the Messiah.”
Have you ever wondered if his voice faltered when he answered?
Did he respond loudly and with confidence,
or with a tentative whisper?
We’ll never know. The text doesn’t provide those details. But we can trust that no
matter how we speak to God, when we speak, God is listening.
So friends, join me in the prayer of confession. Whether you whisper these words
or speak to them with conviction, may you trust that our gracious and merciful
God is listening with love. Let us pray together:

Prayer of Confession

Holy God,
Some days, we are quick to declare your goodness.
Like Peter, we see you in our midst and we are confident in our faith.
Other days, we are distracted and uncertain, desperate for answers.
Forgive us for losing sight of you.

Some days we are quick to trust your blessings—
trusting that we are called, that we can make a difference.

Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in.

Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.

We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith.

But for the days when we are far from you and far from ourselves, we ask for your tender grace.

Pull us closer toward you. Remind us of the mountaintop moments of our faith. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Friends,

Whether you speak to God

in a whisper or with clear conviction,

with questions or with answers,

with hope in your heart or with doubt in your throat—

God will always listen with love and mercy.

So rest in this good news:

regardless of how loudly you live your faith—you belong to God.

You are loved. You are claimed. You are forgiven.

Speak that good news with confidence. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Holy Word,

For generations people have bowed their heads,

have prayed the Psalms,

have asked for your presence in their lives.

For generations people have whispered,

“May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart
be acceptable and pleasing to you, O God.”

For generations we have gathered here,

we have quieted our minds,

we have prayed to feel your presence in our midst.

So once again, just as the generations before,

we turn our hearts to your Word.

Still our busy minds so that we might truly comprehend what you have to say to us today.

With joy and hope we pray. **Amen.**

WORD

(Please be seated)

Psalm: Psalm 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and the firmament^[a] proclaims his handiwork.

**²Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.**

³There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;

**⁴yet their voice^[b] goes out through all the earth
and their words to the end of the world.**

In the heavens^[c] he has set a tent for the sun,
⁵which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

**⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens
and its circuit to the end of them,
and nothing is hid from its heat.**

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the simple;

**⁸the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;**

⁹the fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;

the ordinances of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.

**10 More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

**12 But who can detect one's own errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.**

13 Keep back your servant also from the insolent;^[d]
do not let them have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless
and innocent of great transgression.

**14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

Gospel Acclamation

Return to the Lord

p 151

The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew 16:13-20

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test Jesus^[a] they asked him to show them a sign from heaven. ² He answered them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' ³ And in the morning, 'It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.^[b] ⁴ An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah." Then he left them and went away.

⁵ When the disciples reached the other side, they had forgotten to bring any bread. ⁶ Jesus said to them, "Watch out, and beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees." ⁷ They said to one another, "It is because we have brought no bread." ⁸ And becoming aware of it, Jesus said, "You of little faith, why are you

talking about having no bread? ⁹ Do you still not perceive? Do you not remember the five loaves for the five thousand and how many baskets you gathered? ¹⁰ Or the seven loaves for the four thousand and how many baskets you gathered? ¹¹ How could you fail to perceive that I was not speaking about bread? Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees!” ¹² Then they understood that he had not told them to beware of the yeast of bread but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah,^[c] the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter,^[d] and on this rock^[e] I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was^[f] the Messiah.^[g]

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

Melissa Pagel, Vicar

Hymn of the Day

The Church Song

135 music next page

The Church Song

Refrain

We are the church, the bo - dy of our Lord;

we are all God's chil - dren. We have been re - stored.

- 1 The church is not a build - ing
- 2 You can go to wor - ship
- 3 The church is not a busi - ness,
- 4 The church, it is the peo - ple

where peo - ple go to pray;
but you can - not go to church;
a com - mit - tee or a board;

liv - ing out their lives,

it's not made out of sticks and stones,
you can't find a build - ing that's a - live
it's not a cor - por - a - tion for
called, en - light - ened, sanc - ti - fied

it's not made out of clay.
no mat - ter how you search.
the busi - ness of the Lord.
for the work of Je - sus Christ.

Text: Jay Beech
Music: THE CHURCH SONG, Jay Beech

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Affirmation of Faith

Jesus asked the disciples, “But what about you? Who do you say that I am?”
Church, what do you say?

**Jesus is a hand reaching out in the storm,
the voice of truth spoken over us,
and love without walls.**

**Jesus is justice for the weary,
healing for the hurt,
and welcome for the stranger.**

**Jesus is teacher, Messiah, and friend—
with me on the mountain
and beside me in the valley.**

**Jesus is a star in the night,
and the love that knows my name.**

Jesus asked, “Who do you say that I am?”

Like Peter, we say,

“Jesus, you are the Messiah, son of the Living God.”

Prayers of Intercession

Each Petition ends: Hear Us, O God.

Congregation responds: **Your mercy is great.**

The Peace

(Please be seated for the offering)

Please offer a word of peace to your neighbor from your seat to maintain safety.

The Offering

Offering Prayer

(Please stand)

Blessed are you, Holy One,
for all good things come from you.
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.

Meet us at this table,
that we receive what we seek
and follow your Son, Jesus,
in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy

ELW 144

Words of Institution

On the night in which he was betrayed Which is to say, on the night *before* he was sentenced to death by those who would plot against him for challenging their power and disturbing their comfortable life,
Which is to say, on the night *before* he was subjected to a mockery of a trial, tortured and humiliated,
On *that* night, with the heart of God on full display, as feet were washed, a meal was shared and commands to love one another were given,
On that night, Jesus took bread and gave thanks. He broke it and shared it among them saying:

Take, eat; this is my body given for you. Do this and remember me.

In the same way after supper,
In the *same way*, which is to say, with those same *incredibly imperfect and fallible people* there, His closest friends, the ones who knew him the best, the ones who had watched him heal, heard him teach and yet would doubt, deny and betray him,
In the *same way*, among people just like us, among people *flawed and forgiven*, In the *same way*, after supper, Jesus took the cup and he gave thanks. He gave it to his friends, (his deeply loved, fully human friends), each of them in turn, saying:

Drink. This cup is poured out for you and for all people. It is the promise of God. Drink it and remember me.

We remember Jesus' death and resurrection, our hope and our life. We break the bread and share the one cup. **Thanks be to God.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

**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**

Invitation to Communion

Bread for the journey.
A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

Communion Hymn

One Bread, One Body

ELW 496

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

Amen

Prayer after Communion

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Announcements

SENDING

Benediction

Beloved wanderer, as you leave this place, may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve.

May you look for God in every face.

May you find the courage to get out of the boat,
to run to the tomb,
and to speak of your faith.

And when the world falls apart,
may you hear God's voice deep within,
saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid."

You are called.

You are blessed.

In both your ups and your downs,
you always belong to God.

Go now in peace.

Go trusting that good news.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

How Great Thou Art

ELW 856

Dismissal

Go in peace to live and share the love of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

This Week at a Glance

Monday- Thursday Office Hours 9:00am-2:00pm

Tuesday- 9:00am Quilters

Wednesday- 5:00pm Confirmation Lent Worship 6:30pm here

Thursday- Food Pantry 9:00am-11am

Friday- Office Closed

Sunday- 8:00am Bible Study

Upcoming Events

Lent Schedule

March 6, 6:30 pm Resurrection

March 13, 6:30 pm Bethel

March 20, 6:30 pm Resurrection

March 28, Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm , Resurrection

March 29, Good Friday, 6:30 pm Resurrection

March 31, EASTER SUNDAY 9:30 am Worship

Noisy Offering for February **\$118.69**. Recipient: **Feeding America**

In an abundance of caution, please consider wearing a mask.

Also, please let Jean know in the office if you are able to be an intermittent volunteer at the Pantry. This means we will call you when we need you.

Assisting us this week, March 3rd

Usher: Jim Gatske

Communion Deacon: John Koch

Counters: John & Jodi Koch

Lector: Jim Gatske

Altar Guild: Sandy Krakow

Fellowship: Judy Gatske

Assisting us next week, March 10th

Usher: Jim Gatske

Communion Deacon: Bill Hartung

Counters: John & Jodi Koch

Lector: Cathy Morgans

Altar Guild: Sandy Krakow

Fellowship: Sandy Krakow

Church Council Members

Council President: Carol Borremans

Vice President: Bill Hartung

Secretary: Jodi Koch

Treasurer: Debbie LaPlante

Vicar: Melissa Pagel

Secretary: Jean Kaster

Organist: Adria Cary

Choir Director: Beth Krepline

Financial Secretary: Chris Peterson

Committees

Resource & Finance: Jim Gatske

Education: Debbie LaPlante

Worship & Church Choir: Carol Borremans

Food Pantry: Jodi Koch

Celebration: Craig/Christina Marcin

Church Support & Property: Bill Hartung

Outreach & Wiener Wednesday: Sandy Krakow

Personnel: Carol Borremans Call Committee: John Koch

Resurrection Lutheran Church

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Wandering Heart

Figuring out faith
with Peter

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