

welcome to worship

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 17, 2024 ♦ 10:00 am



*The assembly's responses are in bold print.*

GATHERING MUSIC

*Unto Him*

*All sing refrain:*

♫ **Christ has died, we are forgiven.**

**And Christ alive, we are the risen.**

**And he shall come again: Praise the King, praise the King.**

*Band:* Upon a hill a perfect Savior, upon that day the greatest love.  
The punishment that should have fallen on us, upon him, upon him.  
Upon his head a crown of thorns, upon his heart a broken world.  
The wage of sin, the weight of our transgressions, upon him, upon him. **Refrain**

Upon our hearts his name is written, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.  
We're pouring out a song of praise together, upon him, upon him. **Refrain**

One name upon our lips: Jesus. No greater name than this: Jesus.  
And every knee will bow, every heart confess: Jesus, Jesus. **Refrain**

"Upon Him," words and music by Matt Redman, Andi Rozier, and Jon Guerra. ©2020 Jaguerra Songs | Shatteredmusic | Integrity Worship Music | Said and Done Music. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI License #2779230.

WELCOME

Pastor Katie

*The assembly stands.*

PSALM 51

*Have Mercy on Me*

*All sing refrain:*

♫ **Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;  
According to your great compassion, blot out my transgressions.  
Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.**

*Band:* Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy, the joy of your salvation. **Refrain**

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. (3x) **Refrain**

"Psalm 51," words and music by Graham Kendrick. ©2004 Make Way Music. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI License #2779230.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.**

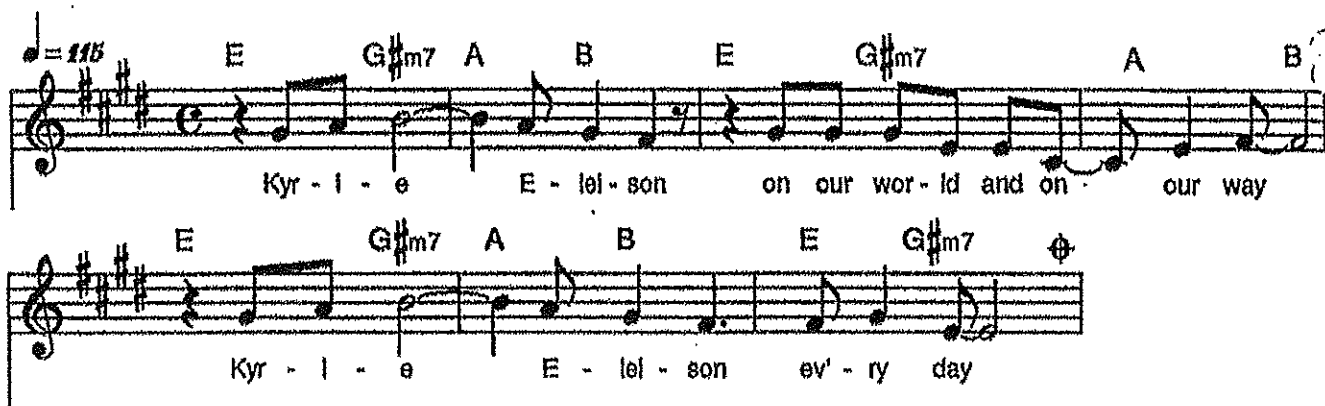
**We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up.**

**We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred.**

**For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## KYRIE ELEISON – *All sing refrain:*



*Band:* For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all.  
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,  
Let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! ***All repeat refrain***

"Kyrie Eleison," words and music by Larry Olson. ©1989 Dakota Road Music. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI License #2779230.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## READING

*Jeremiah 31:31-34*

*The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.*

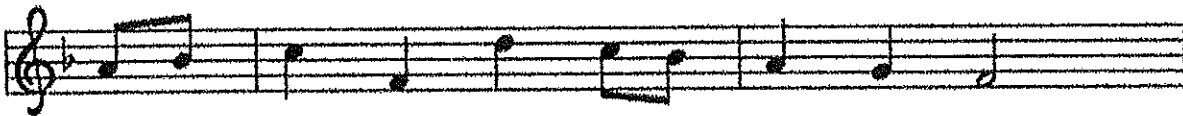
31-32 "That's right. The time is coming when I will make a brand-new covenant with Israel and Judah. It won't be a repeat of the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took their hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant even though I did my part as their Master."

33-34 "This is the brand-new covenant that I will make with Israel when the time comes. I will put my law within them—write it on their hearts!—and be their God. And they will be my people. They will no longer go around setting up schools to teach each other about God. They'll know me firsthand, the dull and the bright, the smart and the slow. I'll wipe the slate clean for each of them. I'll forget they ever sinned!"

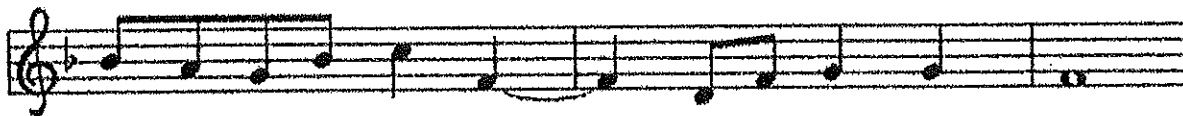
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

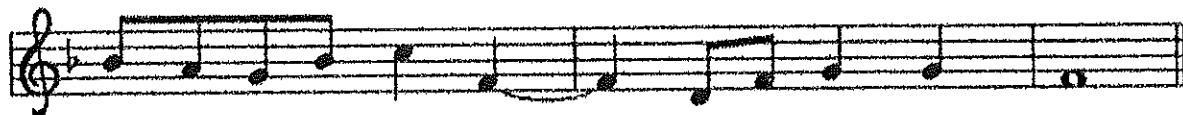
## ACCLAMATION



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 12:20-33*

*Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.*

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>20-21</sup> There were some Greeks in town who had come up to worship at the Feast. They approached Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee: "Sir, we want to see Jesus. Can you help us?"

<sup>22-23</sup> Philip went and told Andrew. Andrew and Philip together told Jesus. Jesus answered, "Time's up. The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

<sup>24-25</sup> "Listen carefully: Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and reproduces itself many times over. In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it is destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you'll have it forever, real and eternal.

<sup>26</sup> "If any of you wants to serve me, then follow me. Then you'll be where I am, ready to serve at a moment's notice. The Father will honor and reward anyone who serves me.

<sup>27-28</sup> "Right now I am shaken. And what am I going to say? 'Father, get me out of this'? No, this is why I came in the first place. I'll say, 'Father, put your glory on display.'"

A voice came out of the sky: "I have glorified it, and I'll glorify it again."

<sup>29</sup> The listening crowd said, "Thunder!"

Others said, "An angel spoke to him!"

<sup>30-33</sup> Jesus said, "The voice didn't come for me but for you. At this moment the world is in crisis. Now Satan, the ruler of this world, will be thrown out. And I, as I am lifted up from the earth, will attract everyone to me and gather them around me." He put it this way to show how he was going to be put to death.

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

## SERMON

Pastor Katie

*The assembly stands for the prayers.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each petition concludes...* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers conclude ...* through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## PEACE

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

*The assembly is seated.*

#### OFFERING

*If you brought an offering or your pledge card today, please place it in an offering plate that ushers will pass at this time. Thank you for your generous gifts! Did you know you can give using a credit card? Text to 844-768-4334 or scan the QR code to the right.*



#### OFFERING SONG

*The Spirit Lives to Set Us Free*

*Band:* The Spirit lives to set us free, *All:* **Walk, walk, in the light.**  
And binds us all in unity, **Walk, walk, in the light.**

*All sing refrain:* **Walk in the light, walk in the light,**  
**Walk in the light, walk in the light of the Lord.**

*Band:* Jesus promised life to all, *All:* **Walk, walk, in the light.**  
The dead were wakened by his call, **Walk, walk, in the light. Refrain**

He died in pain on Calvary, **Walk, walk, in the light.**  
To save the lost like you and me, **Walk, walk, in the light. Refrain**

By Jesus' love our wounds are healed, **Walk, walk, in the light.**  
The Father's kindness is revealed, **Walk, walk, in the light. Refrain**

"The Spirit Lives to Set Us Free," words and music by Damian Lundy and Christopher Tambling. ©1978, 1996 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI License #2779230.

*The assembly stands.*

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

*(All sing):*

♪ **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

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

*The assembly is seated.*

## DISTRIBUTION

*Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at Atonement. Follow the directions of the ushers to receive bread and a pre-filled cup of wine or grape juice (in purple cups) from the communion assistants. Deposit your empty cup in the basket at the end of the front pew and return to your seat by the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to receive communion with their parents' permission.*

*Please take a moment to sign and pass the attendance pads found in the pews, check in to Atonement on your favorite social media platform, share a photo with your digital community, and say something gentle in the spirit of Jesus!*

## COMMUNION SONG *Beautiful Things*

*Band:* All this pain; I wonder if I'll ever find my way.  
I wonder if my life could really change at all.

*All sing refrain:*    ♪ **You make beautiful things, you make beautiful things out of the dust.  
You make beautiful things, you make beautiful things out of us.**

*Band:* All this earth; could all that is lost ever be found?  
Could a garden come up from the ground at all? **Refrain**

All around, hope is springing up from this old ground.  
Out of chaos, life is being found in you. **Refrain**

"Beautiful Things," words and music by Michael and Lisa Gungor. ©worshiptogether.com Songs, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI License #2779230.

## COMMUNION SONG *Lead Me to the Cross*

<i>Band:</i> How can I be free from sin? From the guilt, the power, the pain? There's no other way, no price that I could pay, Simply to the cross I cling. This is all I need, this is all I plead, That his blood was shed for me.	<i>All:</i> <b>Lead me to the cross of Jesus. Lead me to the cross of Jesus.</b>
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How can I know peace within? Sing a song of joy again? Flowing from above, all forgiving love, From the Father's heart to me. What a gift of grace, God's own righteousness, Clothing me in purity.	<b>Lead me to the cross of Jesus. Lead me to the cross of Jesus.</b>
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How can I live day by day? Following God's narrow way?	<b>Lead me to the cross of Jesus. Lead me to the cross of Jesus.</b>
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"Lead Me to the Cross," words and music by Graham Kendrick and Steve Thompson. ©1991 Make Way Music, admin. Integrity's Hosanna Music. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI License #2779230.

*The assembly stands.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

## BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

We Rejoice in the Grace of God

*All sing refrain:*     $\text{♪}$  We rejoice in the grace of God, poured upon our lives.  
Lovingkindness has come to us because of Jesus Christ.  
We rejoice in the grace of God, our hearts overflow,  
What a joy to know the grace of God.

*Band:* God has clothed us with God's righteousness, covered us with God's great love.  
God has showered us with mercy, and we delight to know the  
Glorious favor, wondrous favor of God. *Refrain*

God brought us into God's family, made us heirs with God's own Son.  
All good things God freely gives us, and we cannot conceive what  
God's preparing, God's preparing for us. *Refrain*

"We Rejoice in the Grace of God," words and music by Steve and Vikki Cook. © 1990 Integrity's Hosanna Music | Sovereign Grace Worship. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI License #2779230.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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### Assisting with Worship

Susan Beam, greeter ♦ Bryan Wang, head usher  
April Mulvey, assisting minister ♦ Joanne Gabel, lector  
Susan Beam, C. Louise Fair, Tyler Good, Sally Youngcourt, communion assistants  
Tom Endy, Thomas Gentry, audio/visual  
Doris Fraser, Susan Kauffman, nursery  
Karen Sandloop, altar captain ♦ Sofia Arana Lyon, sexton ♦ Atonement Praise Band

### The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement

5 Wyomissing Boulevard  
Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610-2081  
phone: 610-375-3512 ♦ [www.atonementwyo.org](http://www.atonementwyo.org)  
The Rev. Katie Lyon ♦ Deacon Tom Yenser, director of music

WARMEST WELCOME to this congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America! We are a Lutheran church, but we're not just for Lutherans—we belong to our community! Together we are on the journey of discipleship with Jesus, who guides us from worship to formation, from formation to fellowship, and from fellowship to Christ-like servanthood.

CHILDREN are very welcome at Atonement! Activity bags and children's bulletins are available at the entrance to the worship space. Children from 3 years of age to 2nd grade are invited to experience worship geared just for them—follow the CHILDREN'S CHAPEL leader to the privacy room after the Children's Message. Children will return to their families for communion.

FAITH FORMATION for all ages continues Sunday mornings, 8:45-9:45am. Children meet in the nave, adults meet in room F122.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION is currently participating in a Lenten Book Study: *40-Day Journey with Dietrich Bonhoeffer*. Anyone can join at any time!

PEACE: HOPE AND HEALING FOR THE ANXIOUS MOM'S HEART Book Group will also meet Sundays March 3, 10, and 17 during the Faith Formation hour, 8:45-9:45 in the Parlor. Contact Jen Dauber at [jdauber@atonementwyo.org](mailto:jdauber@atonementwyo.org) for more information.

THE NURSERY is available for preschool aged children and younger in Room F126 during 10:00 am worship.

RESTROOMS are located in the hall next to the worship space.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are 10:30am-2:30pm Monday through Thursday, or by appointment.

PICKLEBALL in the Atonement gym continues Sunday afternoons, 2:30-5pm—note the new start time for beginners. All are welcome, no need to register, just show up for fun, exercise, and fellowship. Equipment is available to use. Beginner and instructional play 2:30-4, more advanced play 4-5.

A BRIEF SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING to amend the constitution will take place TODAY, March 17, in the nave following the 10:00 am worship. Please stay if you are able.

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT we are having a simple soup supper at 6pm, and Holden Evening Prayer at 7pm in Lundin Hall with Common Ground. Everyone is welcome!

ELCA MATCHING FUNDS CAMPAIGN is still underway for youth traveling to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer. Checks can be made payable to Atonement with "Youth Gathering Matching Funds" on the memo line.

ATONEMENT LENTEN WORKSHOP with RESURRECTION GARDENS and other activities will be Palm Sunday, March 24, during the Faith Formation hour. Please plan to join us!

FAMILY PROMISE needs volunteers for shopping, cooking, and more! Use the link from <https://atonementwyo.org/volunteer-1> to see how you can help! Our host dates are April 8-21.

END OF LIFE PREPAREDNESS SEMINAR runs April 7-May 19, 9-9:30 am in the nave. Details can be found in the March newsletter.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE has a table in the narthex this morning—stop by after worship to learn about upcoming opportunities to REACH OUT and grab a free shirt!

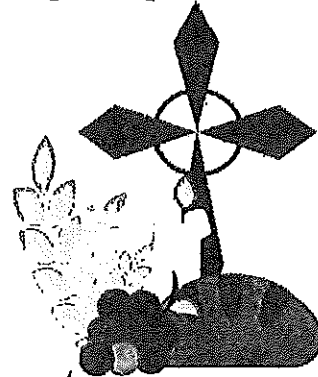


# **Lenten Event**

**March 24, Palm Sunday**

**During the Faith Formation Hour, 8:45-9:45 am**

Join us in Lundin Hall to make a Resurrection Garden and participate in additional service projects. Everyone is welcome!



## **Holy Week at Atonement**

Journey with us through the events during the last week of Jesus' life – from the gates of Jerusalem, to the Upper Room, to the foot of the cross, to the empty tomb!

**Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion ♦ March 24, 10:00 a.m.**

We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, then we follow with trepidation as his path leads to the cross.

**Maundy Thursday ♦ March 28, 7:00 p.m.**

We remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but our central focus is his commandment to give and receive love in humble service to one another, embodied by Jesus as he washed the disciples' feet.

**Good Friday ♦ March 29, 7:00 p.m.**

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday, joining the disciples at the foot of the cross.

**Easter Vigil ♦ March 30, 7:30 p.m.**

Together with Common Ground Recovery Community in Lundin Hall, we gather around fire, word, water, bread, and cup, proclaiming through story and song that ours is a God who continuously brings life out of death.

🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋 NEW TIMES! 🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋

**Easter Sunday ♦ March 31, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.**

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Festive worship at two services, both featuring Basic'ly Brass and a Festival Choir. Christ is risen indeed! Nursery available at both services.



## Easter Plants and World Hunger Donations



Donors are needed for the Easter plants which will to decorate our worship space for Easter. We are requesting \$10 per plant, but any amount is welcome. If you wish to order one or more plants, please use this form and return to the office no later than Palm Sunday, March 24.

As an alternate to (or in addition to) donating a plant, you are invited to make a donation to the World Hunger Appeal.

Donations will be listed in the Easter bulletin and may be made in memory of or in thanksgiving for loved ones. Please clearly list the names as you would like them to appear in the bulletin.

I wish to provide \_\_\_\_\_ plants for Easter (suggested donation, \$10 each)

\_\_\_\_\_ in loving memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_

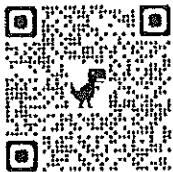
I wish to provide a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the World Hunger Appeal

\_\_\_\_\_ in loving memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_

Donation made by: \_\_\_\_\_

Three easy ways to pay: \_\_\_\_\_ Check payable to Atonement  
Easter Plants or World Hunger on the memo line



\_\_\_\_\_ Text your donation to 610-624-8412

\_\_\_\_\_ Scan the QR code