



Living the Gospel through Faith, Love, and Compassion

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Mission Partners with Usokami Parish, Iringa, Tanzania

Pastor Brent Erler and Amy Vigesaa, Intern Pastor



**March 19, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Lent
9:30 AM Worship**

PRELUDE

Ann Mikiska

WELCOME

CALL TO LENT

OPENING HYMN

“Be Thou My Vision”

ELW #793

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

L: God of Light,

C: We confess that we have gone astray and have left Your light.

We follow the dim lights of the world of success and fortune.

We follow the dim lights that call us to be more religious by following rules.

We follow the fading light of trying to do everything ourselves.

Forgive us for not seeking the true Light of Your love for all the world.

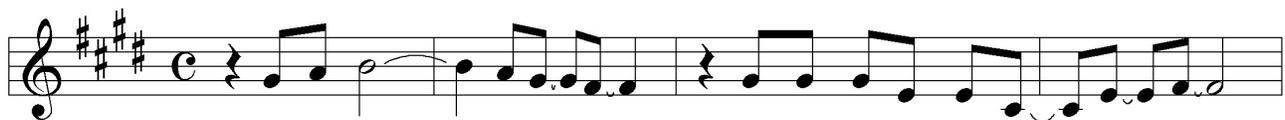
Forgive us for not following the ways of Jesus, who commanded us to love one another.

Call us to be light-bearers of love, compassion and justice, in which the Mystery of Your Love is revealed. In the name of Jesus the Savior, we pray. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Kyrie Eleison”

Larry Olson



Kyr-i - e E-lei - son on our wor-ld and on our way.



Kyr-i - e E-lei - son ev - 'ry day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, We don't always understand how deeply you love us. Help us to trust that you will be generous and compassionate to us, to seek your kingdom and justice first, and to look at our own lives before looking at others. Amen

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST READING

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
 He leads me beside still waters;
³ He restores my soul
 He leads me in right paths
 for his name's sake.
⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
 I fear no evil,
 for you are with me;
 your rod and your staff,
 they comfort me.
⁵ You prepare a table before me
 in the presence of my enemies;
 you anoint my head with oil;
 my cup overflows.
⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
 all the days of my life,
 and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
 my whole life long.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:25-34

Jesus said I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³² For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

L: The Gospel of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

Pastor Brent Erler

HYMN OF THE DAY

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"

ELW #774

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**

PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord, in Your Mercy

C: Hear our prayer

Romans 8:26

THE SPIRIT INTERCEDES FOR US

Larry Olson



The Spir- it in-ter-cedes for us with sighs too deep for words to ex-press oh, oh, oh.

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OFFERING/NOISY OFFERING

The Drawer

HOLY COMMUNION

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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good
courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your
love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

CLOSING HYMN

“Forever”

Chris Tomlin

*Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King
His love endures forever For He is good, He is above all things
His love endures forever Sing praise, sing praise Sing praise, sing praise*

*REFRAIN: Forever, God is faithful
Forever, God is strong Forever, God is with us Forever*

*With a mighty hand and outstretched arm
His love endures forever For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever Sing praise, sing praise Sing praise, sing praise
REFRAIN*

*From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever By the grace of God we will carry on
His love endures forever Sing praise, sing praise Sing praise, sing praise
REFRAIN x 2*

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POSTLUDE

Welcome to Family of Christ

You are welcome to participate in worship this morning the way you feel comfortable. This includes the invitation to join us for Holy Communion.

All Are Welcome, No Exceptions!

Everybody Is Somebody Here

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FAMILY OF CHRIST?

Information is available from the ushers and in the literature stand outside the church office at the West entrance. If you are looking for a faith community, please fill out the insert or visit our website at www.familyofchrist.com.

KID ACTIVITY BAGS filled with coloring materials and other resources are available in the back of the worship space for those that would like them.

WELCOME FAMILIES!

We are glad that you are worshipping with your children and want you to feel welcome. There is a **"Pray Ground"** for quiet play in the front right of the sanctuary. We ask that families stay with their little ones and try to keep noise to a minimum.

If you or your little one needs "a break" or "louder play", there is a **"Listening Room"** on the West side of the sanctuary. You can see and hear the service from this room



Palm Sunday, April 2nd 9:30 AM

Maundy Thursday, April 6th 7:00 PM

Good Friday, April 7th 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday, April 9th 9:30 AM



"Everybody is Someone Here"

Worship 9:30am Sundays

Sunday School 10:45am Sundays

Confirmation and Youth Group

7:15 pm Wednesday Nights

*Worship Online at www.familyofchrist.com