

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Third Sunday in Lent



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 an “**Active Worship**” room on the West side of the sanctuary. You can see and hear the service from this room.

GATHERING



The Holy Spirit gathers us together during this time of worship

Inviting All to Live the Gospel through Faith, Love, and Compassion

Welcome to Family of Christ

You are welcome to participate in worship this morning
the way you feel comfortable.

All Are Welcome, No Exceptions!

Everybody Is Somebody Here

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

These earthly things, they push and pull, they swirl around
and cloud our sight.

You are our hope, O God.

This static is loud, drowning out your words and all you have
taught us.

You are our hope, O God.

In all of this mess we reach for something, anything to ground
us and hold us close.

**You are our hope, O God, our light through the fog, our
voice in the chaos, our roots in shifting ground.**

**You, O Lord, give us hope beyond our understanding, if
only we seek you, listen to you, and walk with you.**

Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“All Are Welcome”

ELW #641

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

P: For the well-being of all God’s children, we confess our sins
before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: God of our wandering,

**C: God of our wilderness, we confess we have strayed
from you. We put our hope in earthly powers. We expect
to find happiness around each next corner and at each
new milestone. When we are inevitably disappointed, we
grumble at you. Forgive us, Lord. Remind us of the long
story of salvation, of our place in it, and that you are its
author. Attune us to your presence in each moment. And
turn us from a narrow focus on ourselves, to a gracious
focus on our fellow travelers. In the name of Jesus.**

Amen.

HYMN OF REPENTANCE

“Blessed and Holy”

see insert

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: God of Hope

C: Your kingdom come; your will be done, we pray. God, let our words not be empty or rote. Help us to live like you are the leader of our lives and of all creation. We praise you for you lead with justice, mercy, and love. Help us to recognize when we put our hope in lesser things and by your grace, turn us back to you. Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME

All young and young at heart are invited forward during the Children’s time.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 8:1-22

When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel. ² The name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second was Abijah; they were judges in Beer-sheba. ³ Yet his sons did not follow in his ways but turned aside after gain; they took bribes and perverted justice.

⁴ Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah ⁵ and said to him, “You are old, and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations.” ⁶ But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to govern us.” Samuel prayed to the LORD, ⁷ and the LORD said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. ⁸ Just as they have done to me from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. ⁹ Now then, listen to their voice; only, you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.”

¹⁰ So Samuel reported all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹ He said, “These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots, ¹² and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. ¹³ He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. ¹⁴ He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. ¹⁵ He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. ¹⁶ He will take your male and female slaves and the best of your cattle and donkeys and put them to his work. ¹⁷ He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. ¹⁸ And on that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you on that day.”

THE WORD

God speaks to us through scripture reading, preaching, and song.



¹⁹ But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, "No! We are determined to have a king over us, ²⁰ so that we also may be like other nations and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles." ²¹ When Samuel heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the LORD. ²² The LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to their voice and set a king over them." Samuel then said to the Israelites, "Each of you return home."

L: The Word of our Lord C: **Thanks Be to God**

GOSPEL READING

Luke 13:6-9

Then Jesus told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

L: The Gospel of our Lord C: **Thanks Be to God**

MESSAGE

Pastor Brent Erler

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

ELW #623

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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOISY OFFERING

Luther Park Camp

OFFERING

"You Are My All in All"

see insert

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THE MEAL

God feeds us with the forgiveness and presence of Christ.

All are invited to receive these gifts of God.

No Exceptions!

Children are welcome to come forward and receive communion or a blessing and Goldfish Crackers.



THE SENDING

We are blessed and sent out into the world to share God's Love with all people.



Serving Today

Pastor

Brent Erler

Musicians

Ann Mikiska

Sound and Video

Jeremy Mann

*Thanks to all those who helped make worship possible.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Lord, in Your Mercy

C: Hear our prayers

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.

BLESSING

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

Lord 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

“Once Again”

see insert

POSTLUDE

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FamilyofChrist

FAITH, LOVE, and COMPASSION

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