



# Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minnesota

## Holy Communion

### Gathering

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

Prelude 8:15

*Fantasia*

Giovanni Bassano

*Ricercare*

Adrian Willaert

*Fantasia*

Anriquez de Valderravano

Beverly Dretzke, Paul Schaleger, & Kimberly Allmann, recorders

10:45

*Solemn Prelude from Lenten Suite*

Charles Callahan

*Son of God, Eternal Savior*

arr. Benjamin Culli

### Entrance Hymn

*As We Gather at Your Table*

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*Stand.*

*All are welcome in the many ways we inhabit bodies, minds, and spirits. Throughout the liturgy, the assembly is encouraged to participate as needed in gesture, posture, and movement. Children are, of course, invited to be children, bringing their own joy, sound, and movement to worship.*

### Greeting

*The assembly greets the presiding minister in response. And also with you.*

### Prayer of the Day

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**You Shall Be a  
Watered Garden**

## Let the Children Come

*Sit.*

### Word

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### Prayer for Hearing God's Word

*We read texts passed down to us from our ancestors, a record of their experience of God, and we trust that their writing still speaks to us today. Lutherans consider Scripture to be one of the primary ways we experience the living voice of Jesus. Throughout Lent, we take a moment to quiet the racing mind, and the anxiety within. We breathe deeply and center ourselves in God's loving care. After singing a chant, with words from the Wendell Berry poem, The Wild Geese, we pray for the reader, the preacher, and for ourselves as listeners. **What we need is here.***

### First Lesson

Isaiah 43:16-21

*The prophet declares that long ago God performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, God is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new Exodus.*

- <sup>16</sup> Thus says the LORD,  
    who makes a way in the sea,  
    a path in the mighty waters,  
<sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse,  
    army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
    they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
<sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things,  
    or consider the things of old.  
<sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing;  
    now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
    and rivers in the desert.  
<sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honor me,  
    the jackals and the ostriches;  
for I give water in the wilderness,  
    rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
    <sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 126

*The cantor/choir sings the refrain; the assembly repeats the refrain.*



Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

<sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,  
then were we like | those who dream.

<sup>2</sup> **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.**

**Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great | things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD has done great | things for us,  
and we are | glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup> **Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses | of the Negeb. R**

<sup>5</sup> Those who | sowed with tears  
will reap with | songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup> **Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,  
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. R**

## Second Lesson

Philippians 3:4b-14

*Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.*

[Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup> If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup> Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup> More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

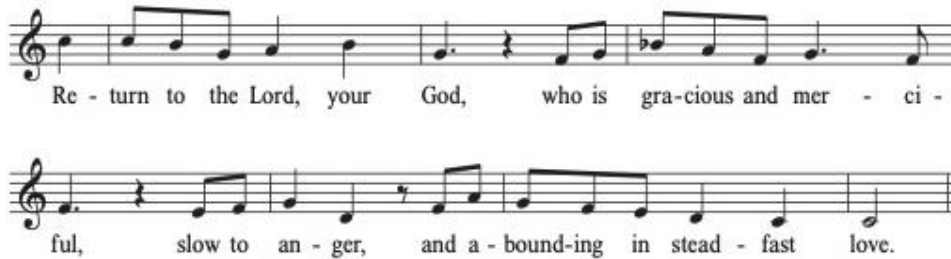
<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup> Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Stand.*



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, who is gra-cious and mer - ci -  
ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound-ing in stead - fast love.

## Gospel

John 12:1-8

*Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.*

*After the Gospel is announced the assembly responds: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

<sup>1</sup> Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup> Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup> (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup> Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

*After the Gospel has been read the assembly responds: **Praise to you, O Christ***

## Sermon

*Sit.*



1 Ho - ly wom - an, grace - ful giv - er, proph - et,  
 2 How the fra - grance filled the dwell - ing! How the  
 3 Lov - ing - ly Christ stilled the scoff - er who would  
 4 Though dis - dained or though con - test - ed, acts of



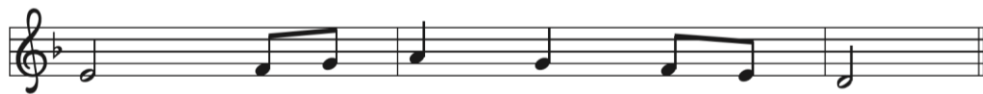
ser - vant, and be - liev - er, Mar - y with the oint - ment  
 act of beau - ty well - ing blest all those with - in the  
 grasp - ing guard the cof - fer, point - ing to a hid - den  
 love are nev - er wast - ed: beau - ty is a face of



jar, sought by Christ, by scorn un - daunt - ed, knelt in  
 place! How the act of pure de - vo - tion, whis - p'ring  
 trove: not all trea - sures gain and pro - fit, feed the  
 God. Grace - ful Mar - y, by your giv - ing, you have



love, his feet a - noint - ed for his com - ing bur - ial  
 of his com - ing pas - sion, blest the heart of Christ with  
 poor, and feed the spir - it acts of beau - ty, acts of  
 shown a way of liv - ing: acts of beau - ty, love, and



hour, for his com - ing bur - ial hour.  
 grace, blest the heart of Christ with grace!  
 love, acts of beau - ty, acts of love.  
 good, acts of beau - ty, love, and good.

*Stand.*

## Prayers of Intercession

*The assembly faces the cross as it moves to the baptismal font, with the prayer response:*

**We pray: May your mercy be like cleansing water.**

*In the prayers for intercession, we pray for all those who cry out for healing and justice. During Lent, these prayers include confession for the ways we have not lived into the baptismal life of love for God, others, and self. Placed before the sharing of the peace and the offering of gifts, we are reminded of Jesus' words to reconcile with one another first before coming to the table of grace.*

## Meal

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## Peace

*The assembly may greet one another in the peace of the risen Christ.*

*We practice living a life that offers its hand in healing peace. People may say, "Peace be with you," as well as shake hands, or place two hands together over the heart, or bow, or by sitting and praying for peace. We recognize that the people of God carry different stories about touch, medical risk, or mental and physical vulnerability. This one, holy body has many gestures. Take care of one another.*

## Offering

*Sit.*

*The offering is an act of worship, responding with our gifts of talent, time, and money in thanksgiving for God's love made known in Christ. All have gifts that build up the body of Christ. Passing the plate is a sign of sharing in ministry together. The green papers in the bulletin are a way of participating if you give electronically.*

Website

Text

Venmo

833-608-0559



8:15

*Aria Con Variazione*

George Frideric Handel

Beverly Dretzke, Paul Schaleger, & Kimberly Allmann, recorders

10:45

*Said Judas to Mary*  
Chancel Choir

Sydney Carter/arr. David Sims

## Setting the Table

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

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*The assembly stands as gifts of bread, wine, and money are brought forward.*



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## 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 our thanks and praise.**

Holy God,

Creator of clean water and abundant life,

You led your people through the sea,

over the Jordan,

and beside still waters.

We praise you for Christ, the Living Water,

nourishing us in the wilderness of fear and suffering.

After Mary anointed Jesus,  
in the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food  
and on all the baptized assembled in these forty days.  
Nourish us to be a community of witness,  
embodying the peace, mercy, and compassion of Christ.

In the Crucified One, we glimpse your glory,  
glory that is in, with, and under all things.  
With praise and thanksgiving, let the church say, **Amen**

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

**Our Mother,  
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

At this table of mercy, all are welcome.  
Come, taste the forgiveness of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Sit.*

## Communion

*Lutherans trust that the love of Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of holy communion. Welcome.*

*To receive communion:*

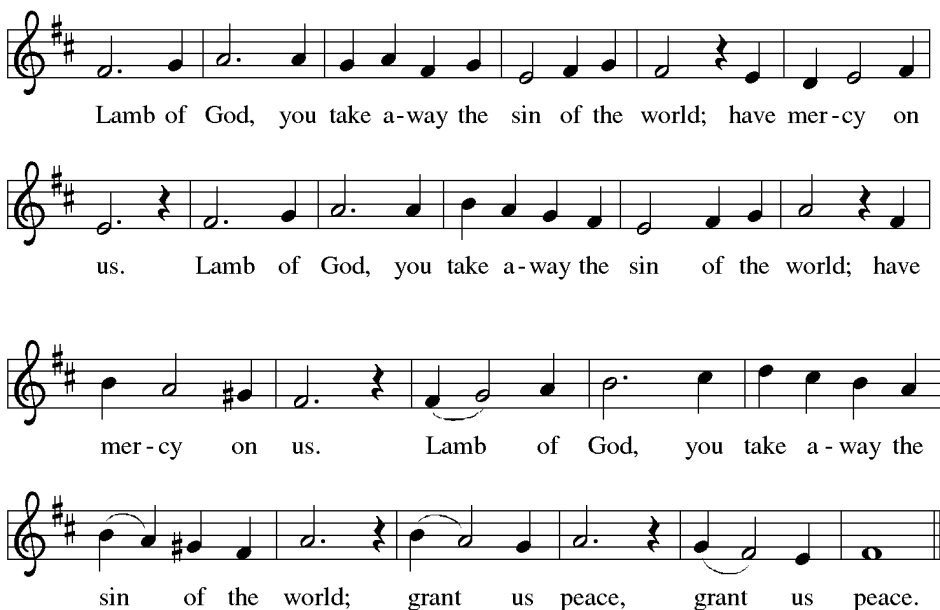
*Receive a cup from the usher.*

*Come first to the bread station. If you need gluten free bread, please tell the server.*

*Receive the wine from the silver chalice or juice from the pottery chalice.*

*Place the cup in the basket and return to your seat.*

*If you are unable to come forward to for communion, please inform an usher. Communion may be brought to your seat.*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

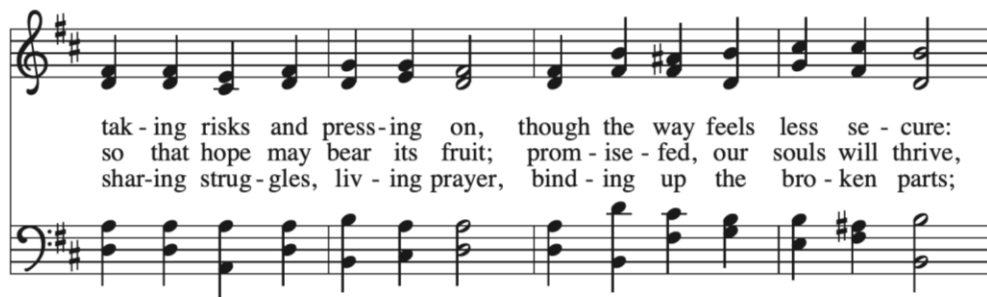
## Hymn

*Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

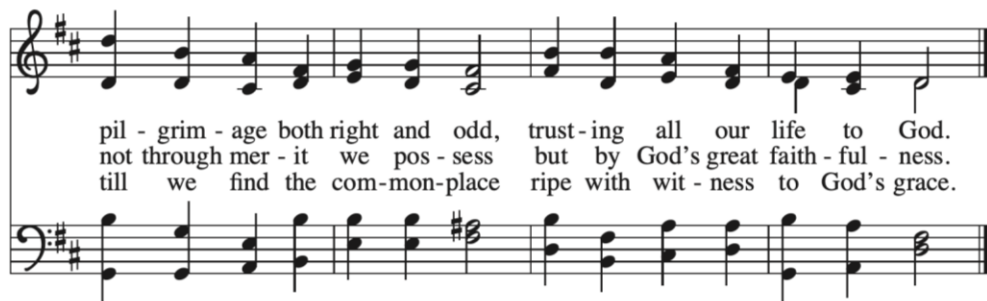
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1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,  
 2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - 'ry's roots a - live  
 3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:  
 so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,  
 shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.  
 not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.  
 till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Prayer after Communion

*Stand.*

Sending

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

Blessing

## Sending Hymn

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

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*The assembly faces the cross as it is sent into the world.*

## Dismissal

*A few announcements for serving the church and our neighbors precede the dismissal.*

Go in peace. Welcome all.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

arr. Charles Callahan

## Worship Leaders

*Thank you to all those who serve today.*

*If you would like to participate in worship leadership, speak with any of the pastors.*

	8:15 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
Presiding Minister	Lois Pallmeyer	Lois Pallmeyer
Preaching Minister	Bradley E. Schmeling	Bradley E. Schmeling
Assisting Minister	Tracy Sherbert	Katherine Johnson
Lector	Kaisa Nodland	Miguel Lindgren
Communion Assistants	Maria Conley, Annetta Gardner, John Henrich, Sarah Henrich, Shirley Maier, Larry Nelson, Mary Ann Teske	Sharon Ingersoll Dunbar, Kathryn Ostlie, Kate Ostrem, Jenni Raeder- Devens, Ellen Whitted, Anita Young, Jon Young
Acolytes	Ingrid Nodland, Jameson Karli	Ruby Peterson, Alex Orman
Ushers	Sonja Nodland, Leatrice Cox, Tom Giorgi, Brad Nodland, Eddie Snider	John Barnicle, Greta Erkkinen, Karen Lansing, Camila Lindgren. Terry Timm
Sacristan	Mark Christianson	Mark Christianson
Altar Preparation	Peter Hinrichs, Mary Ann Teske	Charlie Knutson, Liz Knutson
Livestream		Thor Carlson, Peter Ostrem
Sound	John Teipel	Steve Teipel
Organ	Timothy Strand	Timothy Strand
Piano	Dennis Friesen-Carper	Dennis Friesen-Carper
Alb Washing		Angela Gallant
Library	Judith Erdmann, Diane Nelson	Judith Erdmann, Diane Nelson

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