

# Welcome to Tree of Life Lutheran Church



March 3, 2024 ~ Third Sunday in Lent

Leader in regular type, **congregation in bold type**

↑ means stand as you are able

Restrooms are located by the kitchen, in the nursery or at the end of the piano wing of the sanctuary.

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## We Gather as God's People

### PRELUDE

*You can use this time for quiet reflection, prayer and preparation for worship.*

### ↑ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity – Father, +Son, and Spirit, one God – who writes the Law on our hearts and saves us by the Gospel of Jesus. **Amen.**

Trusting 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. Our thoughts are on the ways of the world, rather than turning to your will. Our words hurt others, rather than speaking your love. Our deeds center on ourselves, rather than caring for our neighbor. For all this and for the sins only you know, forgive us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us. By the death and resurrection of Jesus, God has broken every snare of sin, washed away our wrongs, and restored us to life. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### ↑ HYMN

**“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”**

**RED HYMNAL #324**

## ↑ APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## ↑ KYRIE

*Refrain*



Ky-ri-e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the

2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for

4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for

hun - gry and the poor; that

friends and fam - i - ly; for

wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,

we may live out . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,

life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



*Refrain*

let us pray to the Lord,

let us pray to the Lord.

## ↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Let us pray: Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## We Hear God's Word

### **FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17**

A reading from Exodus.

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words: <sup>2</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work — you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 19

<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

<sup>2</sup>**One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

<sup>3</sup>Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,  
<sup>4</sup>**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends  
of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

<sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

<sup>6</sup>**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about  
to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

<sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

<sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

<sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

<sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

<sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." <sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

<sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### ↑ LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Composed by D. D. Dillard*

Voice

LET YOUR STEAD - FAST LOVE COME TO US O LORD \_\_\_\_\_

4  
SAVE US AS YOU PRO - MISED WE WILL TRUST YOUR WORD \_\_\_\_\_

### ↑ GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

<sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?"

<sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

<sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### SERMON

#### ↑ HYMN

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

RED HYMNAL #596

#### ↑ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the Church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Holy Lord, you alone are God. Awaken your Church around the world to the mystery of your presence, and give us glad hearts as we receive the Good News of your deliverance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You renew creation. Grant that all your handiwork might proclaim your glory, and that growth and life may come to all creatures. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You judge the nations. Keep this nation and all who guide it in your ways of justice, freedom and peace. Bring a just end to war and strife in every land. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You bring healing and hope. Be with any who are sick, suffering or sorrowful. We pray especially for Amanda, Annalise, Anya, Bill, Brian, Carolyn, Christine, Cindy, Clara, Dale, Danielle, Dallas, Debra, Elizabeth, Erica, Grace, Jack, Kenneth, Kimberly, Marilyn, Mercedes, Patrick, Richard, Sarah, and those we name with our lips or in our hearts... *Time for personal petition* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You abide with your people. Guide Tree of Life, so that this church might always be a house of prayer for all, dedicated to proclaiming your Word faithfully and serving your world lovingly. Bless our bishops, Elizabeth and William; our pastor, Robbie; St. Stephen's Lutheran Church and its pastor, Sue; and Lutheran Campus Ministries and its chaplain, Mindy. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You bring life from death. Accept our thanksgiving for loved ones who have died, and remind us always that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

↑ PEACE

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

We Share God's Holy Meal

OFFERING

↑ OFFERTORY

“We Believe”

Charles W. Platt

1. WE BE-LIEVE IN GOD THE ONE, THE GI - VER OF OUR  
2. WE BE-LIEVE IN JE - SUS CHRIST, THE ON - LY SON OF

4  
SOULS MA - KER OF THE LAND AND SEA AND SKIES.  
GOD WHO DIED AND ROSE TO SAVE US FROM OUR SIN.

9  
3. WE BE-LIEVE THE HO - LY SPIRIT GOD AND CHRIST THE

12  
LORD REIGN SU-PREME AND GIVE E-TER - NAL LIFE.

↑ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: **Jesus our Lord, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered, that all people may know your goodness. We pray this in your holy name. Amen.**

## ↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a line of lyrics. The notes are simple, with many slurs and ties, indicating a slow, reverent tempo.

*The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day. The congregation responds:*

## ↑ SANCTUS

*Composed by D.D. Dillard*

Voice HO - LY HO - LY HO - LY LORD GOD OF POWR AND  
4 MIGHT HEA - VEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLO - RY HO -  
7 SA - NA IN - THE HIGH - EST BLESS - ED IS HE - WHO

The musical score for 'Sanctus' is written for voice in B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes measure numbers 4 and 7 at the beginning of the second and third staves, respectively.



10

COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD HO - SA NA IN THE

13

HIGH - - - - - EST

↑ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

↑ LORD'S PRAYER

OUR FA - THER WHICH ART IN HEA - VEN

HAL - LOW - ED BE - THY

NAME THY KING - DOM COME THY WILL BE

DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEA -

VEN GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAI - LY

BREAD AND FOR - GIVE US OUR DEBTS AS

WE FOR - GIVE OUR DEB - TORS AND

10 LEAD US NOT IN - TO TEMP - TA - TION BUT DE -  
 LI - VER US FROM E - VIL FOR THINE IS THE  
 14 KING - DOM AND THE PO - WER AND THE GLO - RY FOR -  
 18 E - VER A - MEN

**↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness. **Thanks be to God.**

*All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Wine and white grape juice are in the individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

**COMMUNION**

*Composed by D.D. Dillard*

LAMB OF GOD YOU TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD \_\_\_\_\_ HAVE  
 5 MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US LAMB OF GOD YOU  
 10 TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD \_\_\_\_\_ HAVE MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US  
 15 MER - CY ON US LAMB OF GOD YOU TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD  
 20 GRANT US PEACE

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: **Generous God, at this table we have tasted your salvation. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one in your grace, all through Jesus, the Bread of Life and our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## God Sends Us in Mission

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ↑ BENEDICTION

May Almighty God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and give you peace. In the name of the Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

#### ↑ HYMN

**“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”**

**RED HYMNAL #803**

#### ↑ MISSION STATEMENT

What is our Mission? **To be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the World.**

#### ↑ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*You may listen to the music or depart to do God's work.*

*Please join us for refreshments in the fellowship room after the service.*

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# Lent at Tree of Life 2024

## **Midweek Soup & Study: “Holy Lament”**

Noon on Wednesdays

**March 6** at St. Paul’s

**March 13** at St. Paul’s

**March 20** at St. Paul’s

## **Palm Sunday Holy Communion and Palm Processional**

10:30 a.m. March 24

Tree of Life

## **Maundy Thursday Holy Communion**

7 p.m. March 28

St. Paul’s, joined by Tree of Life

## **Good Friday Cross-Walk**

Noon March 29

Devotional walk from St. Paul’s to Tree of Life

## **Good Friday Solemn Worship**

7 p.m. March 29

Tree of Life, joined by St. Paul’s

## **Easter Egg Hunt**

11 a.m. March 30

Hosted by St. Paul’s

## **Easter Festive Holy Communion**

10:30 a.m. March 31

Tree of Life