

March 27, 2022
4th Sunday of Lent



*Rejoice
Always*



LUTHERAN CHURCH
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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #157

"There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood"

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C *♩* Amen.

P Pastor

Confession of Our Sins

C Congregation

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C *♩* **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C *♩* **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P O Almighty God, our Maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution from Our God

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given us His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He gives the power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

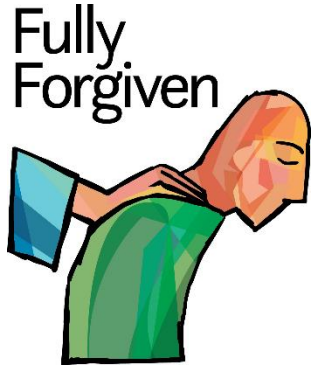
C *♩* Amen.

The Introit

Ps. 51:1-6

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- C** **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!**
- P** For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
- C** **Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.**
- P** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- C** **Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**
- P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
- C** **As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**



The Gloria Patri

WS #723:3

Latin for "Glory be to the Father."

- C** ♪ **To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing.**

Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

- P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** ♪ **Amen.**

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the

Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." ³ So he told them this parable. . . ¹¹ "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'" ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate. ²⁵ "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the

fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' ³¹ And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

James 4:7-10

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles. We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.

I BELIEVE...

in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: WS #779

"Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven"

✠ The Sermon ✠

Isaiah 12

You will say in that day: "I will give thanks to you, O Lord, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me. ² "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation." ³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴ And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds



among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵ "Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. ⁶ Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

"Do You Hear the People Sing?"

- I. Don't ask "Who?" is singing
- II. Instead ask "Why?" they are singing

The Offertory

- C** ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Sermon Hymn: TLH #324:1,5-8 "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"

Prayers, Lord's Prayer, and Benediction Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- C** ♪ Amen, amen, a – men.

Hymn: TLH #47 "Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise"

Announcements

Welcome! We pray that God's Word and our worship today will help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior Jesus. We ask our visitors to please sign our guest book in the back of the church. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you've found it with us. Ask our Pastor about a free Bible study he offers to explain what we believe and teach.

Thank you! Jess and I want to thank you all for the wonderful baby shower earlier this month. Thank you so much for all the gifts and boxes of diapers and for taking the time to celebrate with us in the anticipation of the newest member of our family! We're so grateful to be a part of the church family here at Faith, and your open-armed welcome to our family is a big part of that. Thank you again!

CLC Call News: Teacher Debra Mayhew **has accepted** the call to teach grades K- 4th at Grace Lutheran School, Sleepy Eye, MN.+ Teacher Rebecca Lillo of St. Stephen's Lutheran School, Mountain View, CA, **has accepted** the call to teach the upper grade classes at Faith Lutheran School. Markesan, WI. + Mr. Luke Willitz **has accepted** the call to be the pastor of Living Savior Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, MN. + Pastor Mark Tiefel of Redemption Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, WA, **is still considering** the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI. + Allison Brown, a member of Faith Lutheran Church, Markesan, WI, **is still considering** call to teach preschool part time at Faith Lutheran School, Markesan, WI. + Pastor Tom Naumann of Mount Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI, **has returned** the call to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL.

3/30 – Bible Class 9a / Lent 7p | **3/31** – Garden View 10:30a

<u>March 20th Offerings:</u>	\$ 1,802.25
Weekly Offerings needed for budget	\$ 1,607.69
General Fund Balance	\$23,904.00
Faith-Blue Springs Balance	\$24,767.95
Total Cash All Funds	\$64,710.33

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; March 28-April 2, '22

Mon Isaiah 12 is a short chapter loaded with encouragement and admonition, which follows ch. 11—God’s promise of Jesus’ arrival *on that day* when He would change everything. Children of God turn their faces and hearts to heaven and tell God how thrilled they are—both for themselves (1-2) and for others (4-6)—that God is always front and center. Praise the LORD!

Tues Luke 15:1-3,11-32 is a long parable by which Jesus hoped to edify some self-satisfied religious bigots—that God doesn’t discard wayward souls but seeks their repentance and will welcome them back home. It’s the parable of the Prodigal Father, whose love is prodigious for wayward sinners. [His steadfast love is the only hope for wayward souls today, too.]

Wed Romans 8:1-10 takes us from heaven to Earth, from Christmas to Good Friday, and then back again from Earth to heaven. Since it’s only fair/just (4) that sometime, somewhere, **someone** should straighten out what Adam messed up, the Son of God volunteered for the dirty job . . . and got it done (3). In the follow-up, Jesus pulls us along with Him, freeing us from sin-slavery (6-8) and putting some Spirit into us for godly, self-sacrificial living.

Thurs Isaiah 11 comes after the chapter of God’s Christmas Gift (ch. 9)—followed by a deluge of doom for God’s adversaries (ch. 10) before returning to *that day* when Jesus arrives on the scene (ch. 11). So that’s the setting for **ch. 12**, which resounds with praise from you and me—for *God has become our salvation* too, and we also *draw water* (spiritually) *from the wells of salvation* (God’s Word) both at home and in worship assembly.

Fri Luke 15 The Holy Spirit has loaded Luke’s Gospel with many of Jesus’ parables to illustrate God’s salvation enterprise. Three of these parables focus on God’s desire and efforts to save that which was lost. A sheep that strayed and should be rescued represents a soul that has strayed and needs rescuing. A coin lost in the shuffle of daily life represents a human soul misplaced in some dusty corner of our habitat. We hardly need a translation of the “lost son” parable, for s/he’s someone we already know.

Sat Romans 10:12-17 Good news: we don’t owe ourselves anything that the world and Satan suggest we have coming. We should trust God’s good judgment that *living according to the flesh* (satisfying carnal cravings) is deadly—which repentant children of God will stifle day by day and hour by hour (12-13). Some have found that the following slogan helps: **“God is my Father; I am His child; He loves me.”** God bless us from here to eternity!