



Arlington Hills Lutheran Church
Sunday, April 6, 2025
Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, April 6, 2025

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Introduction

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" arr. Robert J. Powell

GATHERING

Greeting

Phil. 3:13-14

P: Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

All: Amen

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

All: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

P: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we

have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. 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.

All: Amen.

Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Gathering Hymn

Gathering Hymn **“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”** **ELW# 324**
 Verses 1, 2, 3 and 4 – Large print words found on page 18



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872
 Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

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

All: **And also, with you.**

Please be seated

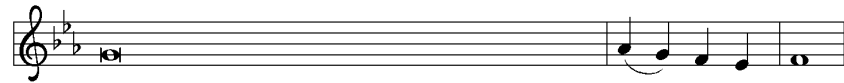
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



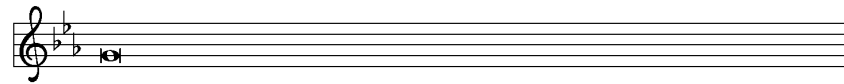
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



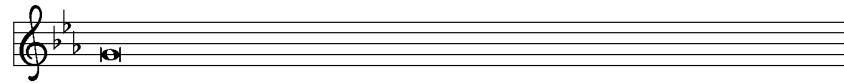
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

Prayer of the Day

P: 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

All: **Amen.**

WORD

First Reading:

Isaiah 43:16-21

Assisting Minister

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.

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ 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, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

AM: Word of God, Word of Life

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 126

Read responsively by whole verse

Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. (Ps. 126:5)

AM: ¹ When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

All: ² **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."**

AM: ³ The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

All: ⁴ **Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

AM: ⁵ Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

All: ⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

Second Reading: 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:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ 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; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ 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 ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

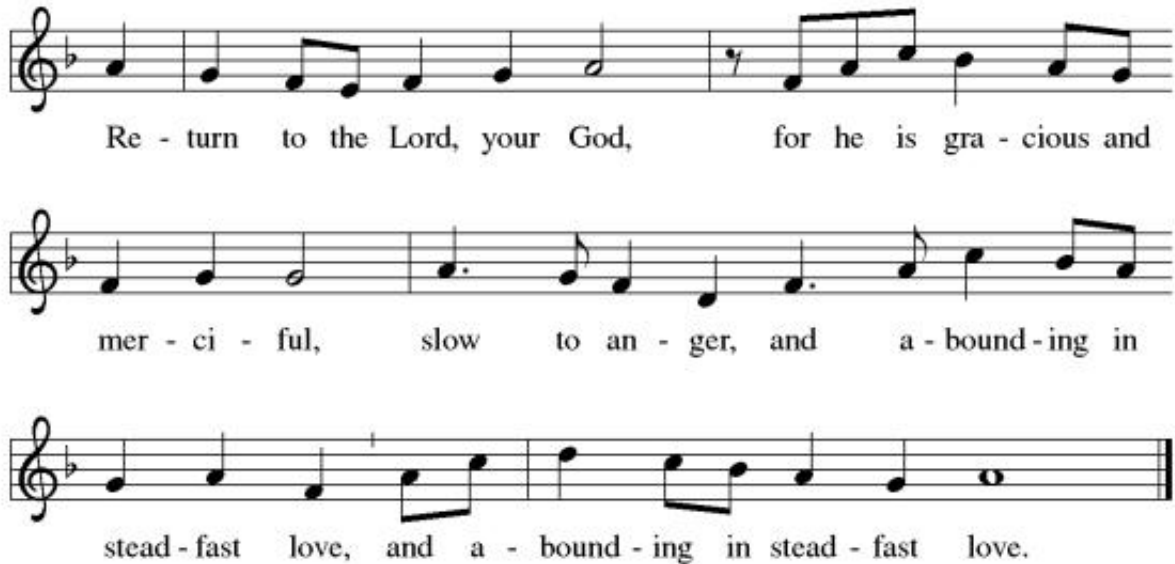
¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,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

AM: Word of God, Word of Life

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Gospel reading

Gospel Acclamation



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

P: The holy gospel according to John the 12th chapter.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord**

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.

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ 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. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (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.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone.

She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

P: The gospel of the Lord,

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

On Perfume and the Poor

Pastor Mitch

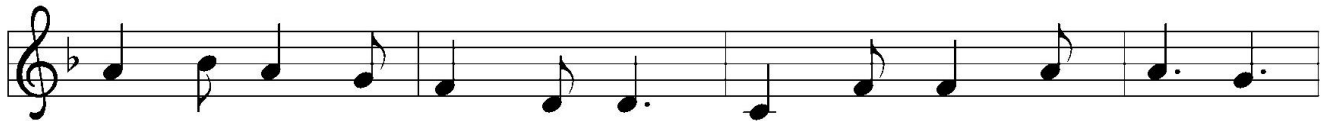
Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Hymn of the Day

Hymn of the Day

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

ELW # 335

Verses 1, 3, and 4 - Large print words found on page 19



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;

3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;

4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

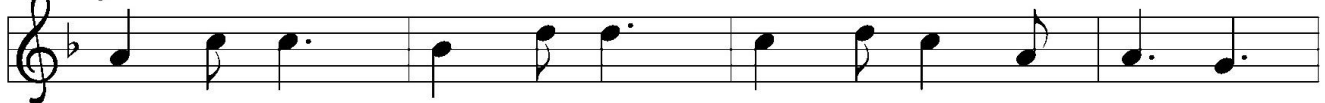


free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.

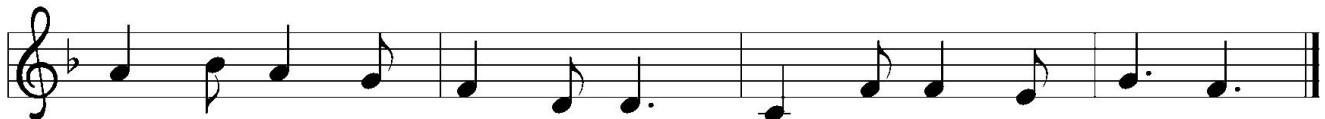
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.

till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

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.

Please be seated for the Prayers of Intercession

Prayers of Intercession

AM: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

AM: *Each prayer will end with:* God in your mercy,

All: **Receive our prayer.**

Please stand for the Sharing of the Peace

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

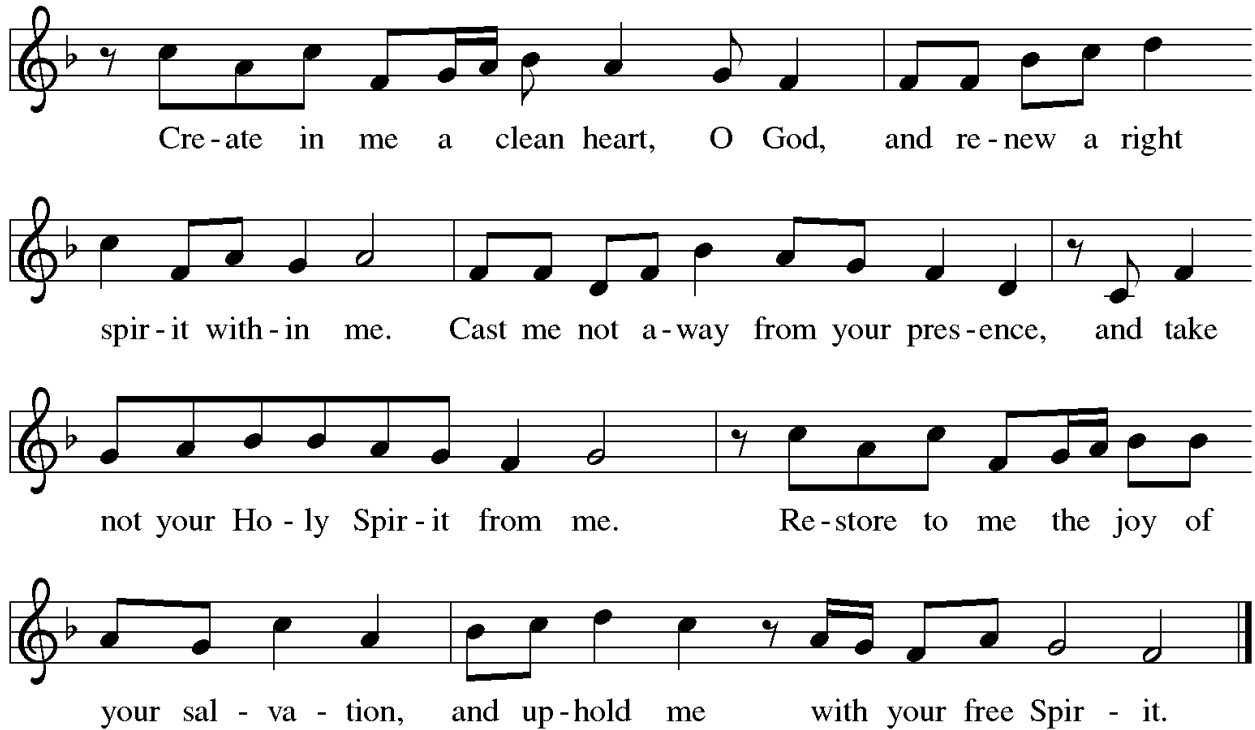
Please be seated

MEAL

Offering Music **"What Wonderful Love is This"** arr. Paul J. Christiansen
Sunday Morning Choir

Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Offering Song

Offering Song – Create in Me a Clean Heart



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.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Offertory Prayer

P: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

Invitation to Communion

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and 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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lord's Prayer

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

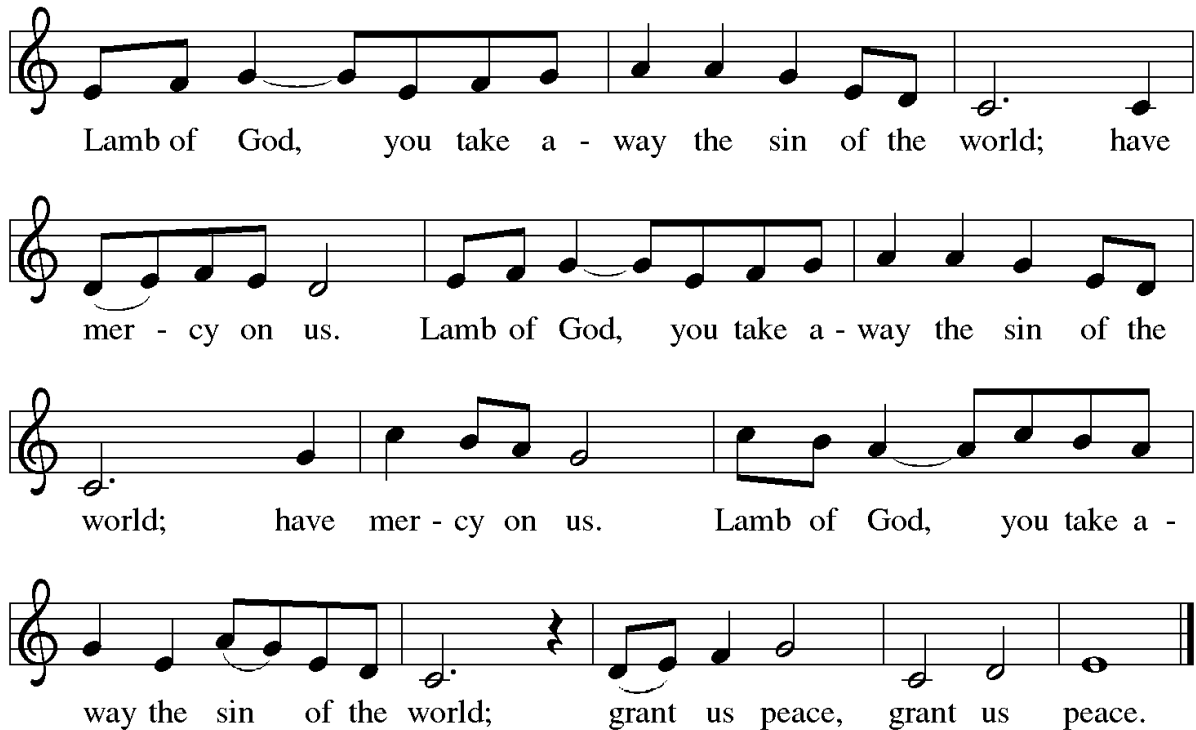
All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.**

P: Come for all things are now ready. The gifts of God for the people of God.

Lamb of God



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.

Communion

*As pastor comes down to serve communion you may come forward.
Please form a single line to receive the bread from him by holding out your palms to
receive the wafer. Once you receive the bread, you may go to the
communion assistant on the side closest to where you were seated to
receive the wine.*

*If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know, and we
will bring communion to you.*

Please feel free to say "Amen" after you receive each element if you wish.

Communion Anthem

**"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus
With Ave Verum Corpus"**

arr. Nancy M. Raabe

Table Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you
in his grace.

All: Amen

Prayer after Communion

P: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Sending

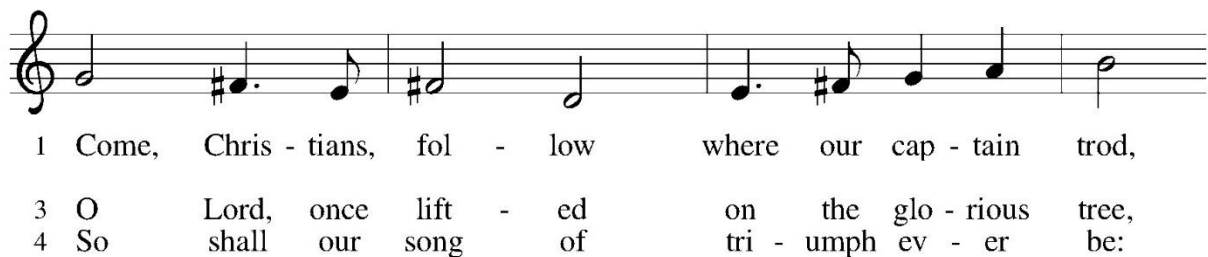
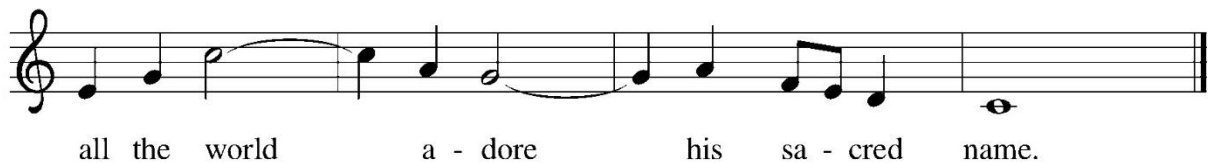
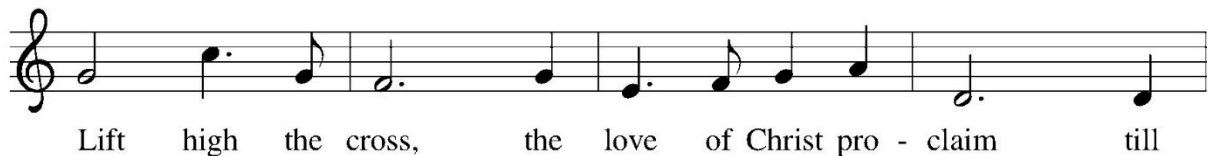
Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Sending Hymn.

Sending Hymn

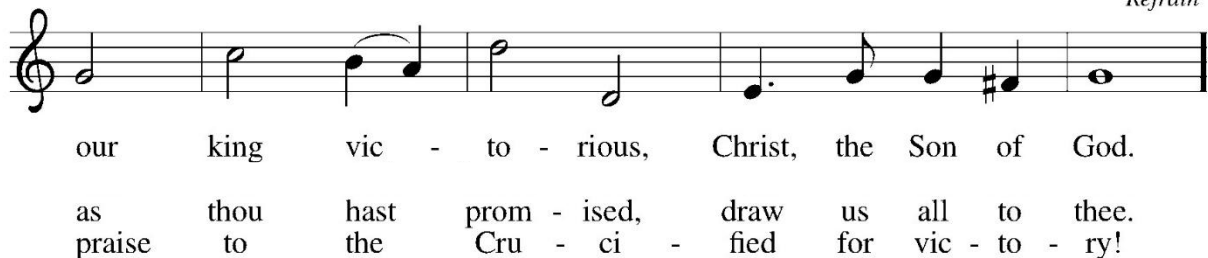
“Lift High the Cross”

ELW# 660

Verses 1, 3 and 4 - Large printed words found on page 20



Refrain



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. "May God give you the grace never to sell yourself short; Grace to risk something big for something good; and Grace to remember the world is now too dangerous for anything but the truth and too small for anything but love."

William Sloan Coffin

All: Amen.

Please be seated for the Postlude.

Postlude

"Lift High the Cross"

arr. Roberta Rowland-Raybold

Dismissal

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SBWA005555.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Copyright 1990 by GIA Publications, Inc.
7414 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 560638

International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved. Printed, in U.S.A.

Leading Worship Today

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mitch Kinsinger

Organ/Piano: Barbara Rossow

Assisting Ministers: Dennis Rasmusson and Mary Kowitz

Communion Assistants: Kathy Brackey and Florence Rasmusson

Ushers: David Almquist and Tom Brackey

Hospitality: Cheryl Hollman

Livestream Producer: Silvester Vicic, Jim Persoon or Mary Kowitz

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK FOR AHLC MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Dean Anderson, Marjorie Anderson, Sven Anderson, Sharon Anderson, Dave Balfanz, Pamela Boldt, Carol Brockway, Carolyn Brusseau, Jerry Ekblad, Richard Edge, Jan and Wayne Frankenberg, Esther Hallgren, Adeline Hansen, Wayne Hansen, Betty Hasse, Patricia James, Jim Jaszczak, Velta Krauze, Roxanne Larsen, John Lind, Gene Linderkamp, Marilyn Nelson, Priscilla Reeve, Betty Richter, Marnie Rose, Betty Swanson, Ken Wagner, Gary Winter, and MaryAnn Wistrom.

April Birthdays:

Charles Rorhbach	April 4
Cynthia Young	April 6
Kenneth Wagner	April 9
John Ibach	April 15
Alyssa Ebert	April 15
Gary Clark	April 19
Cindie Peterson	April 20
Florence Rasmusson	April 24
Becky Grace	April 24
Michael Daley	April 28

April Anniversaries

Koreen and Richard Pedginski	April 4
Charles and Elaine Rorhbach	April 5
Marion and Sven Anderson	April 10
Mark and Amy Adams-Westin	April 22
Pat and Tom Schaber	April 26
David and Vicki O'Connor	April 29
Julie and Richard Anderson	April 30

Prayer Prompts for the Upcoming Week. Let us pray together for....

April 7	Patience and Understanding
April 8	Miracles
April 9	Pray that You walk with me Lord
April 10	That families Flourish in Your Love
April 11	Changes
April 12	The start of Passover
April 13	Palm Sunday

Easter Memorial Garden Forms are available in the office. In order to have your loved ones listed in the Easter Bulletin forms and payments are due to the church office by Sunday, April 13th.

Upcoming Events:

Bible Study – Monday, April 7 – 1:00 p.m. – Reception Room

Worship Music and the Arts Board – meeting April 8 – 10:00 a.m.
Pastor's Office

Soup and Scriptures – Wednesday, April 9

Soup and Scriptures - Wednesday, in the Reception Room. Soup at 11:30 and Scriptures starting at noon – 12:45. If you are unable to attend in person a Zoom Link is available.

FPA Meeting – April 9 – 5:00 p.m. Reception Room

Palm Sunday – April 13 – 9:30 Worship Service

Executive Committee Meeting – April 14 – 11:00 a.m. Pastor's office

Easter Morning – Service is at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Please join us!

Celebration of Pastor Mitch's Ministry with us will be held on Sunday, April 27th. Worship service and celebration following in the Reception Room.

Gathering Hymn

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo, it glows with peace and joy.

- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.

- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872

Hymn of the Day

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

1 Jesus, keep me near the cross,
there's a precious fountain;
free to all, a healing stream
flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross
be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find
rest beyond the river.

3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day
with its shadow o'er me. *Refrain*

4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand
just beyond the river. *Refrain*

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

Sending Hymn

Lift High the Cross

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*

3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*

4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt,
1874-1956

Text © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.