

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 3, 2022

8:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary



We give thanks for improving local conditions regarding Covid-19: fewer folks in our area are testing positive, being hospitalized, or dying from the virus. In light of these changes, and out of consideration for our members who remain medically vulnerable or care for those who are, we are inviting members at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday and Lenten Wednesday services to choose whether or not to wear a mask, except while singing when we ask everyone to mask. We ask that members continue to wear a mask throughout the whole 8:30 a.m. Sunday service, and we recommend the 8:30 a.m. service for those who want to attend in person but who are at higher risk. Please continue to test if you have symptoms or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, and please participate in worship from home by livestream if you feel ill, are awaiting test results, or have recently tested positive. Thank you for your continued efforts to protect and care for one another.

Everyone Is Invited to Sing All the Hymns While Remaining Masked

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. **C Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy one,

C we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. **Amen.**

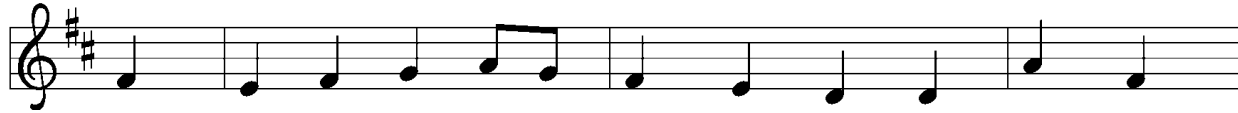
P Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In † Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **C Amen.**

Pastor

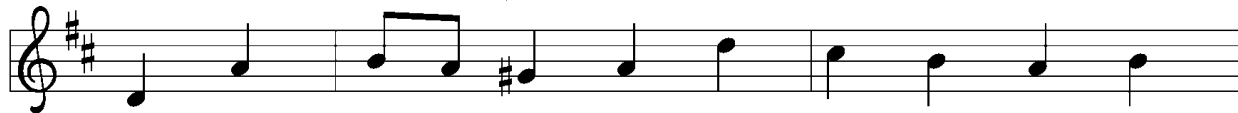


1 O God, Father in heav - en, have mer - cy up - on us.
 2 O Son of God, redeemer of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
 3 O God, Holy Spir - it, have mer - cy up - on us.

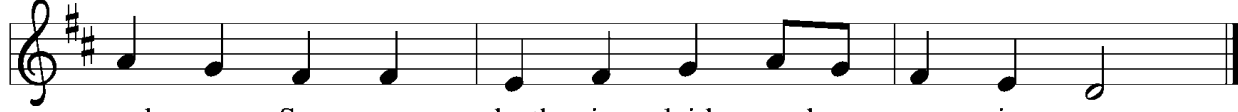
All



Your heart, O God, is grieved, we know, by ev - 'ry
 Your arms ex - tend, O Christ, to save from sting of
 O lav - ish Giv - er, come to aid the chil - dren



e - vil, ev - 'ry woe; up - on your cross - for -
 death and grasp of grave; your scars be - fore the
 that your word has made. Now make us grow and



sak - en Son our death is laid, and peace is won.
 Fa - ther move his heart to mer - cy at such love.
 help us pray; bring joy and com - fort, come to stay.

Text: Jiří Tranovský, 1591–1637; tr. Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
 Music: ZŇAME TO, PANE BOŹE NÁŠ, *Transcius*, 1636
 Tr. © 1970 Concordia Publishing House

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*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P *Let us pray* ... 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. **C Amen**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

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

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

PSALM 126 (To be read responsively.)

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.
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."**
³The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.
⁴**Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.**
⁵Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.
⁶**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised 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; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.
⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More 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 ⁹and 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. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not 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. ¹³Beloved, 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, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

***LENTEN VERSE**

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.

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***Gospel: John 12:1-8**

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary 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. ⁴But 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.) ⁷Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

P The Gospel of the Lord. **C Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY

Pastor Traci



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text: Twila Paris, b. 1958

Music: Twila Paris

Text and music © 1985 Straightway Music/Mountain Spring Music

YOUR ONLY SON

LMD

*CREED

P Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C 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

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

- P Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.
- P Do a new thing in the church. Free us from paradigms that no longer serve the gospel and bring forward leaders who imagine fresh ways of doing ministry. Give us courage in the face of change. Merciful God, **C receive our prayer.**
- P Do a new thing for creation. Reverse the trajectory of climate change and environmental catastrophe. Revive habitats already impaired by human disregard. Amplify the voices of climate scientists and researchers working to chart a new course. Merciful God, **C receive our prayer.**
- P Do a new thing in our world. Break barriers that prevent political enemies from working together for the well-being of all. Make a way for peace and collaboration among the nations. Merciful God, **C receive our prayer.**
- P Do a new thing for those who suffer. Reveal a path for any who are unemployed or underemployed, for those experiencing homelessness, and for all who struggle with money. Comfort those who grieve and restore those who are sick. Merciful God, **C receive our prayer.**
- P Do a new thing within us. Direct us into encounters that broaden our understanding of the human experience. Amplify voices that are ignored or devalued. Deliver us especially from the scourge of racism. Merciful God, **C receive our prayer.**
- P Do a new thing in our death. Fill us with the knowledge of Christ and the power of his resurrection as we give thanks for all the saints who have attained the prize of their heavenly call. Merciful God, **C receive our prayer.**
- P Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **C Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

- P The Lord be with you. **C And also with you.**
- P Lift up your hearts. **C We lift them to the Lord.**
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C 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.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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:

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

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **C Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C 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

The Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, to Earth You Come

OLS # 7



1 O Lamb of God, to earth you came to
2 O Lamb of God, the on - ly Son, to



save us all from grief and shame. Shorn of your life, up -
us show mer - cy, Ho - ly One. You save the world from



on the tree you hung in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
all its sin. Lord, give to us your peace. A - men.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Agnus Dei

Music: THE SUFFOLK MIRACLE, Appalachian traditional

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P Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

P Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. **C Amen.**

Blessing

P You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✠ bless you this day and always. **C Amen.**

Refrain - All

Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a
 wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a
 wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

Leader or All

1 No one can do like Je - sus, not a
 2 When Je - sus was on earth, the . .
 3 Yon - der comes my Sav - ior, him . .

mum-bling word he said; he went walk - ing down to Laz -
 flesh was ver - y weak; . . he took a towel and gird -
 whom I love so well; . . he has the palm of vic -

Refrain

- a - rus' grave, and he raised him from the dead.
 ed him - self and he washed his dis - ci - ples' feet.
 - to - ry and the keys of death and hell.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: WEARY LAND, African American spiritual

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **C Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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**Please be advised that worship services are recorded and/or
live-streamed on social media.**

Church Messenger

The April 2022 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** (stmatthewlc.com), and on your recent **Email** message from St. Matthew by using the link listed in the body of the message. A paper copy of the *Messenger* is available in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office at (814-793-2413), you can request a paper copy to be sent by mail to your home. Do not hesitate to call the church office if you need help in securing a copy of the *Messenger*. Your readership, and articles are always appreciated.

Martinsburg Food Pantry

Volunteers from Clover Creek Church of the Brethren will be assisting with the regular volunteers to distribute items on Thursdays, April 7 and April 21. The pantry will be open from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m., and other times by appointment.

Following is the “Wish List” for April: Sunny D (medium size) bottles, Ravioli, Pineapple, Pasta Sides and Cleaning Supplies.

These or any other donations can be placed in the box at the church marked “Food Pantry”. Thank You!

Linda Smith

Prayer Vigil

Scheduled at St. Matthew Lutheran Church on Friday, April 15th, from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Members are asked to commit one half hour to pray for any concerns of a personal, church, or worldwide nature. We hope to have enough participation to fill a twelve-hour time period with continuous prayer. The sign-up sheet is located on the **bulletin board in the Narthex**. This is an excellent way for you to enrich your spiritual and prayer life. If you would like to participate and can’t come to the church to sign up please call the church office at 793-2413.

Adult Choir

The adult choir will sing on Easter – actually they will lead the congregation in a three part canon. For the remainder of the spring, rehearsals will be immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service beginning **today**. These rehearsals will always conclude by noon. Special face masks, known as “singer’s masks,” have been purchased. Choir members should see Pastor Ed for theirs.

Office Hours This Week:

Pastor Traci – No office hours this week.

Office Hours – Mon. - Fri. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Lori Tremmel

This Week Events

- Today –** Worship in Sanctuary 8:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.
 Adult Choir Rehearsal 11:30 a.m.
- Monday –** Christian Ed. Meeting via Zoom 6:30 p.m.
 Boy Scouts 6:30 p.m. FH
- Tuesday -** Stewardship Meeting via Zoom 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday** Yoga, Nursery 4:45 p.m.
 Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall 6:00 p.m.
 Lenten Service, Sanctuary 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday –** Worship in Sanctuary 8:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.
 Evangelism Meeting, Fellowship Hall 11:30 a.m.
 Adult Choir Rehearsal 11:30 a.m.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Organist – Mary Nelson

Our Missionary Family – On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Acolyte – Gavin Kuster

Our Lector – Andrea Paul

Our Altar Guild – Tina Harclerode, Tonya Walter

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Second Quarter Ventures in Faith to “Youth & Camping”

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Carl & Dawn Alexy, John Aljets, Vivian Beach, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Clyde Claycomb, Mary Creps, Betty Helsel, Jere Hess, Audrey Hite, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Bill Stahl, Norm Tremmel, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Diane Cappel, Greg Comer, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Betty Helsel, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Darren Kreutzer, Carrie Lively, Mike Lovell, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Nathan, Aunt Mica, Elaine Ormsby, Pastor Drahus Oslikova, Deb Peters, Linda Piper, Jensine Reese, Paul Ruth, Barbara Smith, Don Smith, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, Jean White, Pete Williams, Jim & Ginny Zeek, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jacob Orczeck.

Those Serving in the Army Overseas: Nathan Smith (Germany)

The Knotty Ladies are back!!

For those who may have forgotten our mission, or for new members not familiar with this group of ladies, we are St. Matthew's blanket group. We make knotted blankets that we send to New Windsor, MD. From there they are distributed around the world.

We meet in the basement (Quilt Room) from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday and the fifth Tuesday if there is one starting on April 26. During that time we knot the blankets. There is also opportunity at other times to help with preparations of materials used in the blankets and final binding.

Come join us for this time of service and fellowship. **All are welcome!**