



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 8:45 & 11:15 AM

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Trio Sonata no. 3 in D minor, BWV 527
I. Andante
II. Adagio e dolce

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.
Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life.
Amen.

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, ✠ forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN • ELW 776

What God Ordains Is Good Indeed



- 1 What God or - dains is good in - deed, for all life well pro - vid - ing.
- 2 What God or - dains is good in - deed: my light, my life, my Sav - ior!
- 3 What God or - dains is good in - deed. When hope seems like de - lu - sion,
- 4 What God or - dains is good in - deed. My Lord will nev - er fail me



The will of God is best for me, the ground of my con - fid - ing.
No ill can get the best of me; God's care will nev - er wa - ver.
I taste the bit - ter cup and plead, "Lord, quench my fear, con - fu - sion."
on dan - ger's path, in deep - est need, when death in grief shall veil me.



My faith - ful God, on ev - 'ry road you know the way un -
Through joy and pain I shall at - tain the dawn dis - clos - ing
God ends the night, re - stores de - light; by faith I face to -
My God so dear will draw me near, in lov - ing arms will



fold - ing and my hand you are hold - ing.
clear - ly that God has loved me dear - ly.
mor - row and yield to God all sor - row.
hold me, at last in light en - fold me.

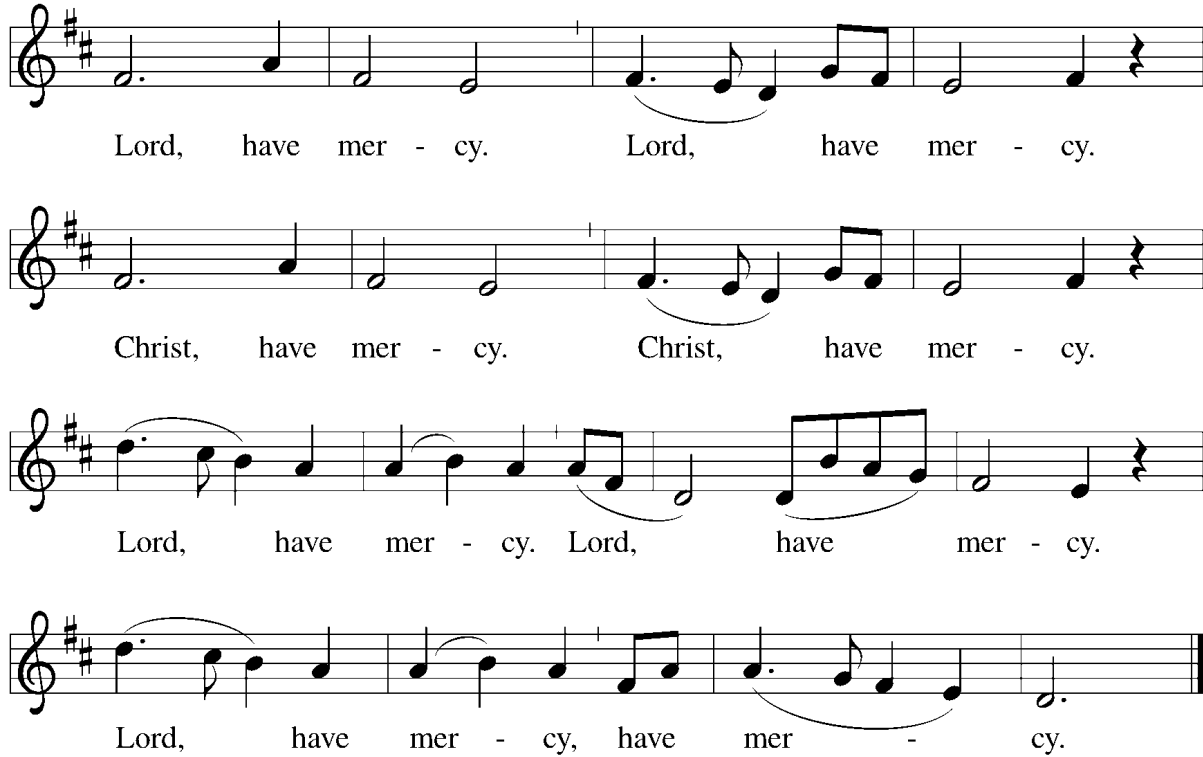
Text: Samuel Rodigast, 1649–1708; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

Music: WAS GOTT TUT, Severus Gastorius, 1646–1682

Text © 2000 Augsburg Fortress

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.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the Lord, designating David as the Lord's chosen successor to Saul.

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY (11:15)

Psalm 23

The choir introduces the Antiphon. Please sing the 2nd time. At the end of the psalm, sing the Antiphon once.

Though I walk through the val-ley of the sha - dow of death,
 I shall fear no e - vil; for you_ are with_ me.

The Lord is my shepherd;
 I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures
 and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul
 and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I shall fear no evil;

for you are with me;
 your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
 you have anointed my head with oil,
 and my cup is running over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
 and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. *[Antiphon]*

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

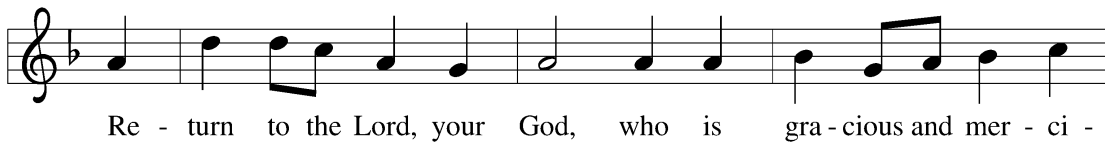
Rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

The holy gospel according to Saint John, the ninth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

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

SERMON

Pastor Miller

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY • ELW 779

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

After each portion of the prayers please sing the following response:



O Lord, hear our prayer we of-fer up to you; O Lord, hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at saintlukegive.us

You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

CHORAL ANTHEM (8:45)

My Eyes For Beauty Pine

My eyes for beauty pine,
My soul for Goddës grace:
No other care nor hope is mine,
to heaven I turn my face.

And every gentle heart,
That burns with true desire,
Is lit from eyes that mirror part
Of that celestial fire.

One splendour thence is shed
From all the stars above:
'Tis named when Goddës name is said,
'Tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.

Text: Robert Bridges (1844-1930)

Music: Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

CHORAL ANTHEM (11:15)

There is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain:

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

If you cannot sing like angels,
if you cannot preach like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus
and say, "He died for all." *Refrain*

Sometimes I feel discouraged
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again. *Refrain*

Text: African-American Spiritual
Music: African-American Spiritual, arr. Robert Lau

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

Amen.

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 him thanks and praise.

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'r and might,

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please pray in your own preferred language.

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

**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.**

**Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos,
santificado sea tu nombre,
venga a nosotros tu reino,
hagase tu voluntad,
asi en la tierra como en el cielo.**

**Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia;
perdona nuestras ofensas,
como nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden;
y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion,
mas libranos del mal.**

**Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder, y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are two stations at the foot of the chancel steps. Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ. (Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server) Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say:

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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COMMUNION HYMN • ELW 332

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;

lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;

I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889
Music: THIRD MODE MELODY, Thomas Tallis, 1505–1585

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE—ELW 542

O liv-ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest! The
gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest. O
won-drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes! My
heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank-ful song o'er- flows!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God, the giver of love,

✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth
bless you in this Lenten journey.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN • ELW 793

Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Trio Sonata no. 3 in D minor, BWV 527
III. Vivace

Johann Sebastian Bach

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTERS

The Rev. Connie A Miller, *Senior Pastor*

The Rev. Richard Zawistoski, *Confirmation Pastor*

COMMUNION SERVERS

The Rev. Eleanor Abarno, *Pastoral Liaison, Women in Community*

The Rev. Franklin Morales, *Associate Pastor*

READERS

8:45 Karen Evans
Ronan Shugert

11:15 Becky Unkenholz
Willard Unkenholz

MUSICIANS

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist*

Choristers (8:45)

Schola Cantorum (11:15)

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This week at Saint Luke Lutheran Church

SUNDAY, March 19—Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:45 AM **Holy Communion**
 10:00 AM Congregation Service Event
 10:00 AM Reception
 11:15 AM **Holy Communion**
 3:00 PM Zoom San Lucas Gospel Meditation

7:30 PM AA

THURSDAY, March 23

8:00 AM CDS Classes
 4:00 PM CARing Project
 7:30 PM Zoom Centering Prayer

MONDAY, March 20

8:00 AM CDS Classes
 4:00 PM LaSagrada Art Class
 4:30 PM Children's Choir
 6:00 PM CDS Board Meeting
 6:00 PM Yoga
 7:00 PM ESL

FRIDAY, March 24

8:00 AM CDS Classes
 11:00 AM Lundeberg Memorial Service
 7:00 PM Book and Video Discussion Group

SATURDAY, March 25

9:30 AM AA
 11:00 AM Al-Anon

TUESDAY, March 21

8:00 AM CDS Classes
 1:30 PM Program Staff Meeting
 4:30 PM Piano Lessons
 7:00 PM ESL
 7:00 PM Girl Scouts
 7:00 PM Reformation Bells

SUNDAY, March 26—Fifth Sunday in Lent

8:45 AM **Holy Communion**
 10:00 AM Special Congregation Meeting (Hybrid)
 10:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class
 10:00 AM SLSHY
 10:00 AM Sunday School
 10:00 AM Reception
 10:15 AM Up For Discussion (Hybrid)
 11:15 AM **Holy Communion**
 5:00 PM **San Lucas Misa Español**

WEDNESDAY, March 22

7:00 AM Zoom Faith Connections
 7:00 AM Lenten Devotion: Amazing Grace Online
 8:00 AM CDS Classes
 10:00 AM Women in Community
 10:00 AM CDS Chapel
 3:00 PM En Camino
 5:00 PM Choristers RSCM program
 7:00 PM **Lenten Worship**
 7:00 PM ESL
 7:30 PM Schola Cantorum Rehearsal

NB: Worship Services are in person and livestreamed

Upcoming Commemorations

Joseph, Guardian of Jesus

Sunday, March 19, 2023

Though the Bible tells us little about the husband of Jesus' mother Mary, we know that he was a carpenter or builder by trade. He is also shown as being devoted both to God and to Mary and Jesus. It is assumed that he died before Jesus became an adult.

Thomas Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury, martyr, died 1556

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Cranmer's lasting achievement is contributing to and overseeing the creation of the Book of Common Prayer, which remains (in revised form) the worship book of the Anglican Communion. He was burned at the stake under Queen Mary for his support of the Protestant Reformation.

Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to American Indians, died 1758

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

A Puritan minister in Connecticut, Edwards is remembered as being a great preacher. Though his most famous sermon talks at length about hell, he was more concerned with God's love. He

served both as missionary to the Housatonic people in Massachusetts, and as president of the future Princeton University.

Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Bishop of El Salvador, martyr, died 1980

Friday, March 24, 2023

Romero was deeply concerned with injustices evident toward the poor and powerless in El Salvador, and worked forthrightly against political repression. He was assassinated while presiding at the eucharist in a chapel near the cathedral in San Salvador.

Annunciation of Our Lord

Saturday, March 25, 2023

Nine months before Christmas we celebrate the annunciation, in which the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would give birth to the Son of God. The ancient church believed that this was also the date of the world's creation and of Jesus' death on the cross.

Saint Luke Update
3/19/2023 Edition

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN LENT

Sing With All the Saints in Glory

7:00 p.m. (In person and Online)

March 22 Striving for Justice: Joseph; Oscar Romero
(Special Guest: Pastor Rosario Hernandez)

March 29 Dying and Rising with Christ: Hans Nielsen Hauge; John Donne

We have a rich calendar of saints in the Lutheran tradition—Christians from every age who have pointed to Christ in their living and dying. In remembering these Christians who have gone before, we can find inspiration for our Christian journey.

This Lenten midweek series honors the commemorations that occur during the weeks in Lent in 2023. Commemorating these individuals is a starting point for a deeper engagement with our Christian faith.

Guaranteed to be a meaningful worship experience for our Lenten time together!

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS IN LENT

Amazing Grace – Celebrating 250 Years

7:00 a.m. Online at www.saintlukeonline.us

March 22...his word my hope secures

March 29...bright shining as the sun

This hymn was penned by English poet and Anglican clergyperson, John Newton, to accompany a sermon he preached on New Year's Day, 1773. Join Pastors Miller and Morales each Wednesday morning during Lent for brief meditations using the stanzas of this wonderful hymn. What a fine way to experience Lenten renewal and start the day. If you miss it at 7:00 a.m., watch the recording when you are able.

Saint Luke Update, Continued
3/19/2023 Edition

CONGREGATION-WIDE SERVANT PROJECT
THIS MORNING: GREAT HALL UPSTAIRS

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Assembling Care Packages for Residents in Washington Highlands

(a community hard hit from the economic fall out of the pandemic)

FAIR TRADE SALE (Coffee, Tea, Chocolate)

Treats, Prizes, Fellowship and Much More!

RESTRICTIONS LIFTED: STAY WELL

Recently, the COVID Advisory Group met and please know now restrictions have been lifted. Please simply do what works for you. Feel free to continue wearing a mask or not, again whatever works for your personal situation. For details see the video announcement from this last week. Dr. Yao shares details and wonderful wisdom. We have moved from the pandemic phase to endemic. Please stay well.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: EASTER SUNDAY

On Easter Sunday we would like to form a young children's choir (Novices) to sing a song in glory of the risen Christ at the 11:15 a.m. service. The target grades for this choir are Kindergarten through 2nd Grade. We will rehearse for 30 minutes on Monday March 20, 27 and April 3rd at 4:30 p.m.. Pick at least two dates that are convenient for you. Please email Dr. Truche at atruche@saintluke.us to express interest.

WELCOME HOME PASTOR PLATZ

Next Sunday, March 26, we welcome back our own teaching pastor in person, Pastor Platz. She will be our preacher at both services. Come to the Fireside Room after the Special Congregation Meeting to greet her. Pastor moved to Northeast Ohio but remains part of the Saint Luke family. How wonderful to have her back in person among us.

SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 10:00 A.M.

In person and Online

If online, join at saintlukemeeting.us

- **To elect the slate of lay voting members to the synod assembly and**
- **To vote regarding extending spending authority for the solar panel system until our tax credit is realized**

TILL: THE MOVIE

Come and join the Book and Video fellowship, this Friday, March 24, 7:00 p.m. This evening the movie Till will be shown—a powerful witness to the pursuit of justice by Mamie Till Mobley or her 14 year old son, Emmett.

Today's Music

HYMN NOTES

What God ordains is good indeed

Samuel Rodigast, 1649-1708

Based on Deuteronomy 32:4 (H He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he”) the hymn has the same opening line as an older hymn by Johann Altenburg. They were written to comfort and cheer a close friend, Severus Gastorius (cantor of one of Jen’as Lutheran churches). It is a superb hymn of trust in God in every situation.—Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound

John Newton, 1725-1807

Based on King David’s review of his kingdom before the Lord (I Chronicles 17:16-17) and entitled “faith’s review and expectations,” the text is a personal testimony of a man whose early life on a slave ship was turned around by an “amazing grace” that “saved a wretch like me.” His experience has been duplicated by a host of singers who have been saved the grace of God, and find comfort in singing this hymn.—Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

I heard the voice of Jesus say

Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889

Titled “The Voice from Galilee,” the hymn centers on three of the sayings of Jesus found in John 1:16, Matthew 11:28, and John 4:14, John 8:12. The first half of each stanza gives Jesus’ invitation, and the second half gives the response of the author—and our response as well. —Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

Be Thou my vision

Irish Anon.

In a time when the “now” seems to be most important, it is helpful to sing hymns which remind us that throughout the ages the church has produced great ideas which are still valid and useful today. Written around the 8th century, the text has become popular since 1927 when it was wedded to the memorable Irish tune SLANE with its ABCD form. —Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

MUSIC NOTES

Prelude and Postlude: Trio Sonata no. 3 in D minor, BWV 527—Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Today’s prelude and postlude come from the same major work by J.S. Bach, in honor of his birthday (March 21, 1685).

Around 1727-1730, Bach introduced a new organ genre: the trio sonata. This type of sonata –with two melodic instruments and bass, or a soloist and keyboard – had long been a fixture in Baroque chamber music, but the three parts had never been heard before on one instrument. Through clever registration, it is possible to attain a wealth of sounds on the organ, but this is merely the beginning, as the six sonatas are regarded as extremely difficult. Schweitzer, for instance, says that “those who have practiced these sonatas thoroughly will not actually encounter any more problems in either the old or the modern organ literature. [...] He has achieved absolute precision in his playing – the ultimate condition of the true art of organ-playing. In this complicated trio piece, even the smallest irregularity can be heard with terrifying clarity”.

Biographer Forkel remarked that Bach wrote the collection (or transcribed it from earlier material) for the studies of Wilhelm Friedemann, whom he “thus trained to be the great organist he later became”. Maybe this context is also the reason he adds galant touches to the Italian concerto style here and there, inspired by the operas in Dresden of which Friedemann was apparently a great fan. The sonatas remained influential for a long time, also on the young Mendelssohn, for example. Notwithstanding its chamber music origins, this is out-and-out keyboard music, with a unique interaction between both hands. The almost endless variation of form makes the collection a world of its own.

Choral Anthem (8:45): Your Eyes For Beauty Pine—Herbert Howells