

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT March 16, 2025 at 8:45am & 11:15am

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

CORTÈGE ET LITANIE Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

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 forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home.

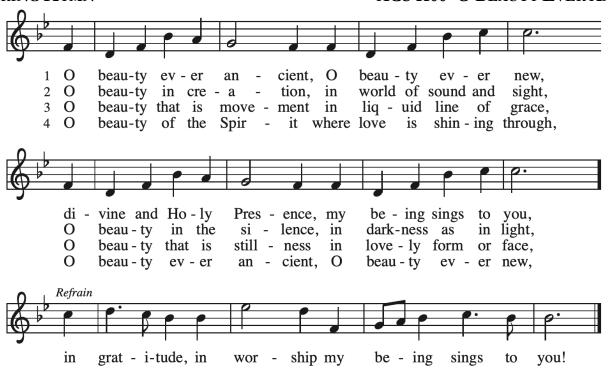
In ♣ Christ, you sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ACS 1100-O BEAUTY EVER ANCIENT



Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930 Music: A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929–2003 Tune: CONSOLATION

GREETING

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

KYRIE

SAINT LUKE MASS



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING GENESIS 15:1-12, 17-18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other, but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Horatio Parker (1863-1919)

PSALTER (11:15) PSALM 27

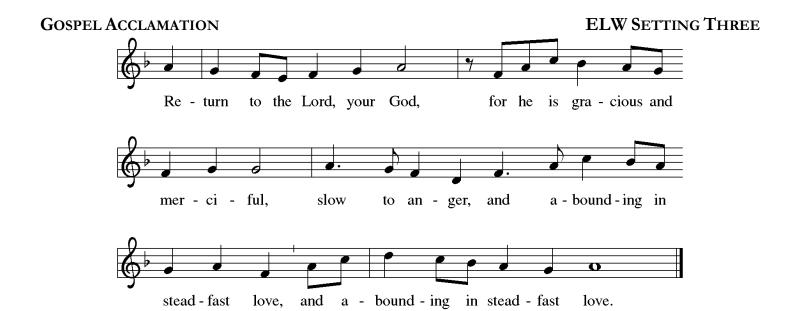
- 1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- 2 When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.
- 3 Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.
- 4 One thing I ask of the Lord; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God in the temple.
- 5 For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.
- 6 Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the Lord.
- 7 Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.
- 8 My heart speaks your message— "Seek my face." Your face, O Lord, I will seek.
- 9 Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.
- 10 Though my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord will take me in.
- 11 Teach me your way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.
- 12 Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.
- 13 This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!
- 14 Wait for the Lord and be strong. Take heart and wait for the Lord!

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL READING LUKE 13:31-35

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON BISHOP GRAHAM

Please stand as you are able.



Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite

Music: Swedish folk tune; arr. hymnal version

Tune: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR

APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

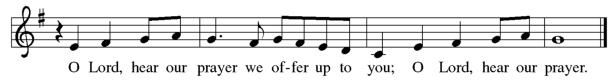
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of 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

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

After each portion of the prayers:



The prayers conclude:

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

All may share a sign of Peace. Please be seated.

THE MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at <u>saintlukegive.us</u> or place it in the offering plate, or use this QR code with your device to securely give your Offering.

You may also mail your checks to:

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



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

BERCEUSE FROM 24 PIÈCES EN STYLE LIBRE, OP. 31

Louis Vierne (1862-1897)

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

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. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

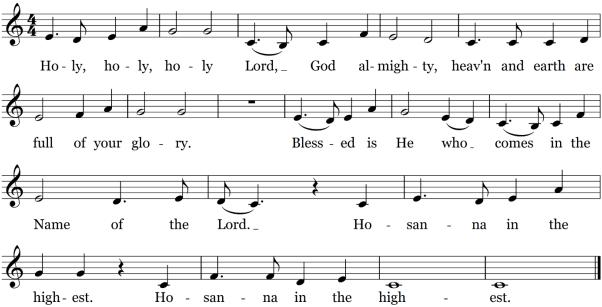
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our 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:





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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Please pray in your own preferred language.

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 nosostros 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

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

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are stations at the foot of the chancel steps.

Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ.

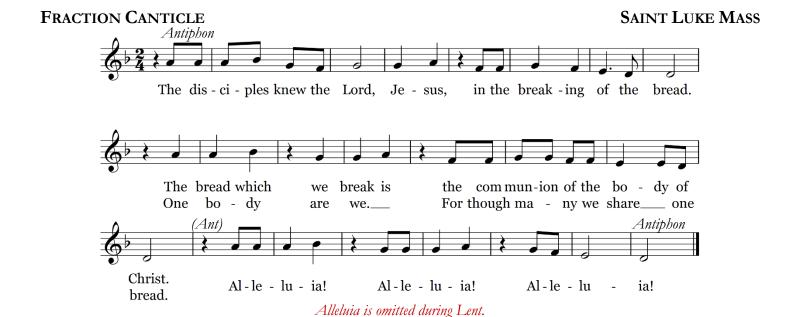
(Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server)

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.



COMMUNION HYMN

ELW 468-AROUND YOU, O LORD JESUS



Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. composite Music: H. Thomissön, *Den danske Psalmebog*, 1569

Tune: O JESU, ÄN DE DINA

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand as you are able.

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



Text: Johann Rist, 1607-1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

Tune: AURELIA

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

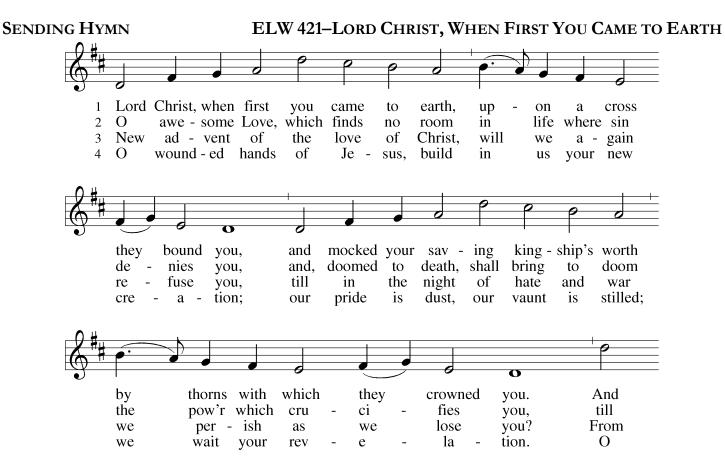
Let us pray.

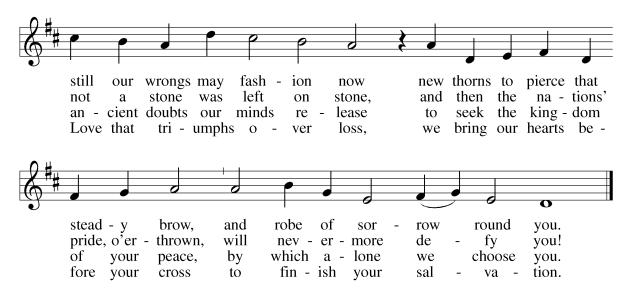
Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ▶ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**





Text: W. Russell Bowie, 1882-1969, alt.

Music: Trente quatre pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551

Tune: MIT FREUDEN ZART

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

CORTÈGE ET LITANIE Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister Readers

The Rev. Connie A. Miller

Senior Pastor

Karen Evans 8:45

Jordan Gerth 11:15

Preaching Minister Musicians

Bishop Richard Graham

Adam Scott Graham

Director of Music

Assisting Ministers

Deacon Kyle Warfield Schola Cantorum (8:45)

Director of Discipleship and High School Ministries

The Rev. Richard Zawistoski

Bethany Brookshire, Alix Evans, Douglas
Emmanuel Jones, Sean Link: *Soloists* (8:45)

Confirmation Pastor

COMMEMORATIONS

Monday, March 17–Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland, died 461: A native of Britain, Patrick was kidnapped by pirates at age sixteen and sold into slavery in Ireland. After a few years, he escaped, returned home, and entered the ministry. Returning to Ireland, he successfully served as a bishop and missionary there.

Wednesday, March 19–Joseph, Guardian of Jesus: 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.

Friday, March 21– Thomas Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury, martyr, died 1556: 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.

Saturday, March 22–Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to American Indians, died 1758: 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.

LET'S TALK: FAITH IN ACTION Sunday Mornings in Lent

10:10 a.m. Fireside Room Coming Highlights

THIS MORNING

Sunday, March 16

The Church At Large: Responding to Today's Societal Challenges Special Guest: Bishop Richard Graham Bishop Emeritus, Metro DC Synod, ELCA

Sunday, March 23

Lutheran World Relief Celebrating 80 Years!

Special Guest: Emma Wagner LWR Senior Advisor, Congregational Engagement

Sunday, March 30

ELCA Witness in Society
The Call to Advocacy, Fairness and Justice
Special Guest: The Rev. Amy Reumann
Senior Director, Witness in Society, ELCA

FAITH IN ACTION: The Early Church – Treasures Then for NOW Wednesday Evenings in Lent 7:00 p.m. Online

www.saintlukeonline.us

(Through Word, Music, Prayer, Meditation - Rediscovering the Vitality of the Earliest Church for Today)

Wednesday, March 12 Awe + Devotion (Reflection: Pastor Miller)

They **devoted themselves** to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. **Awe came upon everyone**, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. (Acts 2:42-43)

Wednesday, March 19 Bold Witness + Courage (Reflection: Dr. Paul Wee)

Now when they saw the **boldness of Peter and** John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus. (Acts 4:13)

Wednesday, March 26 Generosity + Gladness (Reflection: Bishop Richard Graham)

God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were **no needy persons** among them. (Acts 4:33) ... they broke bread at home and ate their food with **glad and generous hearts**, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. (Acts 2:46)

Wednesday, April 2 Unity + Different Gifts (Reflection: Pastor Beth Platz)

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (I Corinthians 12:4-7)

Wednesday, April 9 Welcoming + Growing (Relection: Pastor Franklin Morales)

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the **goodwill of all the people**. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. (Acts 2:46-47)

THIS WEEK AT SAINT LUKE

SUNDAY, March 16-Second Sunday in

Lent

7:30am Tech Rehearsal 8:00am Schola Cantorum 8:45am Worship (Hybrid)

10:00am Up for Discussion (Hybrid)

10:00am Sunday School

10:00am Affirmation of Baptism Class

10:00am Let's Talk

11:15am Worship (Hybrid)

5:00pm Worship

MONDAY, March 17

9:00am CDS Classes9:15am CDS Chapel1:30pm CDS Aftercare

4:00pm After School Art Program

6:00pm Reception 7:00pm English Class

TUESDAY, March 18

9:00am CDS Classes

1:30pm Program Staff Meeting

1:30pm CDS Aftercare6:30pm Girl Scouts7:00pm English Class7:00pm Reformation Bells

WEDNESDAY, March 19

7:00am Faith Connections (Zoom)

9:00am CDS Classes

10:00am Women in Community

1:30pm CDS Aftercare

3:00pm After School Tutoring

5:30pm RSCM Choristers

7:00pm English Class

7:00pm Lenten Worship (Online)

7:30pm Schola Cantorum

7:30pm AA

THURSDAY, March 20

9:00am CDS Classes 1:30pm CDS Aftercare 2:45pm Caring Project

7:30pm Centering Prayer (Zoom)

FRIDAY, March 21

9:00am CDS Classes 12:00pm Food Ministry 3:30pm After School Music

SATURDAY, March 22

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

SUNDAY, March 23-Third Sunday in

Lent

7:30am Tech Rehearsal 8:00am Schola Cantorum 8:45am Worship (Hybrid)

10:00am Up for Discussion (Hybrid)

10:00am Sunday School

10:00am Affirmation of Baptism Class

10:00am Let's Talk

11:15am Worship (Hybrid)