

# First Lutheran Church ELCA



## The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday ☩ April 6, 2025 ☩ 10:30 am

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### The Season of Lent

*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.*

### Gathering

**PRELUDE**

*"Andante"*

*Alexandre Guilmant*

**OPENING HYMN**

*"As We Gather at Your Table"*

ELW 522

1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
 There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
 may we still be - hold your im-age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944  
 Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932  
 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.*

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.

**Amen.**

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

## GREETING

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together:

**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. Amen.**

## WELCOME

## God's Word for Us

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:16-21

*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.*

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

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 32

<sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup> **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."**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup> **Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

<sup>5</sup> Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup> **Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

Philippians 3:7-14

*Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul writes that the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls him to a new set of values.*

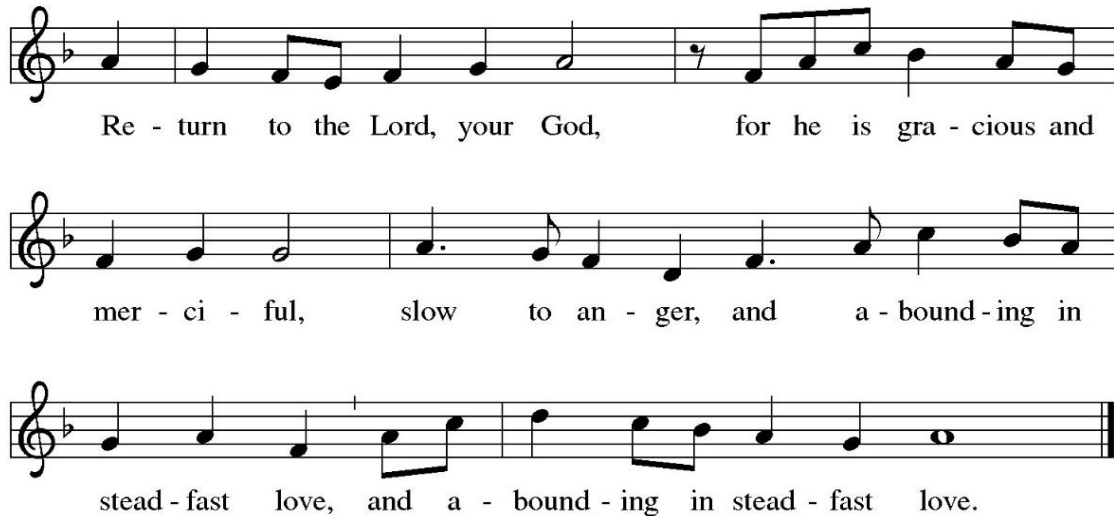
[Paul writes:] <sup>7</sup> Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup> More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*We stand to hear the Gospel*



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.

## HOLY 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.*

The Holy Gospel, according to John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup> (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.) <sup>7</sup> Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

# SERMON

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

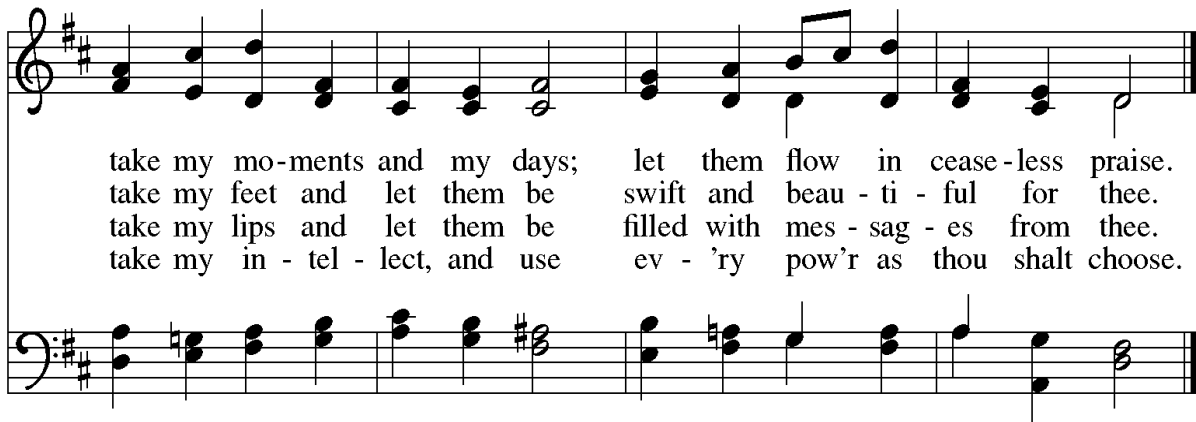
## HYMN OF THE DAY

*"Take My Life, That I May Be"*

ELW 685



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;  
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

Let us confess our faith in the words of the 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**

*Following each prayer, we respond...*

God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

## **Welcome to God's table**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*Greet one another with a gesture of peace.*

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**



## OFFERTORY SONG

“Loaves were broken”

ACS 966 (verse 1)

*Offerings are shared in the basket at the entry before or after worship.*

*Thanks to those who give on a regular basis through “direct deposit” giving.*

Loaves were broken, words were spoken by the Galilean shore.  
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven, was their food forevermore.  
By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,  
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

“When Jesus Left His Father’s Throne”

organ, Yvonne Hazlet

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

*Let us pray.*

God of grace,

bless what we offer to your service:

our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

May our lives overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

**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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts,  
that renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so we praise your name, and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

setting eight, page 191



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

## Communion Prayers / Words of Institution

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

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.**

**Lord's Prayer**

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

**Invitation to the Table**

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God!  
 All are welcome to God's table!

**Communion**

*All are invited to receive these gifts of God. Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. Communion is served by intinction. Dip the bread in either the wine or the grape juice. Gluten-wafers are available, simply ask your server. If you prefer to remain in your pew, the pastor will come and serve you there. All are welcome at God's table!*

**Music during Communion**

**"Lamb of God"**

ELW page 191

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, Lamb of God.

“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

ELW 461



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.  
2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.  
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

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## **BLESSING AND PRAYER**

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

*Let us pray.*

Nourishing God,  
at this table you have refreshed us  
with holy gifts of food and drink.  
Strengthen us for service,  
and send us out to embody your good news  
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.  
In the name of Christ we pray,  
**Amen.**

## **Sending**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES**

CELEBRATION TIME!

### **BLESSING**

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.  
**Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Praise and Thanks and Adoration”

ELW 783



1 Praise and thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, Son of God, to you we give,  
2 Hold me ev - er in your keep - ing, com - fort me in pain and strife;



for you chose to serve cre - a - tion, died that sin - ers all might live.  
through my laugh - ter and my weep - ing, lift me to a no - bler life.



Dear Lord Je - sus, guide my way; faith - ful let me day by day  
Draw my fer - vent love to you; con - stant hope and faith re - new



fol - low where your steps are lead - ing, find ad - ven - ture, joys ex - ceed - ing!  
in your birth, your life and pas - sion, in your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Prayer of Faith”

Charles Sergisson

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## SERVING TODAY

Pastor David Halaas	<i>presider</i>
Lori McClaren	<i>assisting minister</i>
Yvonne Hazlet	<i>organist</i>
Ann Doellinger	<i>reader</i>
Mike VanBeest	<i>sacristan</i>
Catherine Rommel	<i>communion minister</i>
Lee Knop	<i>usher</i>
Denise Powell, Mark Viksten	<i>greeters</i>
Ben and Ellie Hertenstein	<i>sound and media technicians</i>
David and Janet Gross	<i>coffee fellowship</i>
The Schenzel Family	<i>radio broadcast and livestream</i>

## First Lutheran Church ELCA

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701-430-3393

Office Manager: Lindsey McGinty

[flc3939officemanager@gmail.com](mailto:flc3939officemanager@gmail.com)

### Welcome to worship

*You are valued and we welcome you!*

*We are grateful for God's gift of a diverse community.*

If you would like to learn more about the ELCA and the Lutheran church please ask or visit [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

**Discover the First Lutheran radio broadcast** – every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. on iHeart radio 620 am.

**Worship is also available at any time** on our Facebook livestream page  
<https://www.facebook.com/firstlutheransiouxcity/>



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

### Children always participate here!!

- Adults are encouraged to help children participate in the times we sing and pray together.
- All children are welcome at Holy Communion.  
If parents prefer, children can receive a pastoral blessing.

### About Holy Communion today

- Everyone (yes everyone!) is invited to God's table of grace!
- We believe that Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine
- Communion will be served today by intinction... dip the bread in either the wine (dark Color) or the grape juice (light color)
- If you prefer to remain seated, the pastor will come and serve you there.
- Gluten-free communion bread may be requested

### **Happening!**

- ❖ **Sunday School! at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays**
- ❖ **Coffee and treats served after worship in the Fireside Room**
- ❖ **Today following worship, a "Q & A" session about the process of 'call committee' and 'transition'**

### **This week at First Lutheran**

#### **Monday, April 7**

7:00 pm Handbells, choir room

#### **Wednesday, April 9**

9:00-11:30 am Holy Family Food Pantry, volunteers: Sue Bowers, Lori McClaren

12:30 pm AND 6:30 pm **Lenten Worship/Lutherans Together –**

**at Senior Center (4<sup>th</sup> & Hamilton) Bishop Lorna Halaas preaching**

8:00 pm Choir, choir room

#### **Thursday, April 10**

1:00 pm Bible Study – Pastor Halaas leads a 'read-through' of the Book of Acts

### **Happy Birthday this week to:**

**Mark Viksten**

**Michelle Hatting**

**Abby Maynard**

### **Lenten Tree Project**

The Congregational Life committee appreciates your participation of collecting items in support of Sleep in Heavenly Peace during this Lenten season. Today, April 6<sup>th</sup>, is the final day to bring in your items. **Thank you** for supporting this ministry!

### **Daily Devotional Books**

"Christ in Our Home" devotional books for April-May-June are available today.