



fifth sunday in lent

March 17, 2024
11:00 A.M.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Plain text indicates a part of the liturgy led by a worship leader.
Bold text indicates the congregational response.

Hymn numbers refer to their corresponding pages in the back of the
cranberry-colored *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal.

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Prelude

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

Healey Willan

LENTEN CONFESSION

The confession is from the Baptismal Font during Lent as a reminder of our baptism.

P In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

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

C Amen

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Most merciful God,

C 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

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God for gives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

Hymn 321

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

Greeting

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

C **And also with you.**

The Kyrie (from the Greek Kyrie eleison, "Lord, have mercy") is a prayer seeking the mercy of God in Jesus Christ. It includes intercessions for ourselves, for the world, and for the church.

Kyrie

The Kyrie is sung responsively between cantor and congregation.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer-cy.

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



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer-cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men

The Prayer of the Day is tied to the overall theme of the scripture lessons or, sometimes, to the theme of day if it is a special occasion in the church calendar.

The tradition of reading sacred scripture in worship is a tie to our roots in Judaism. 1 Timothy 4:13 reminds us of the importance of this practice.

The first lesson is normally from the Old Testament.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in 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

We are seated.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Sermon

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34

L A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

A psalm is spoken or sung in response to the first reading.

Psalm 51:1-4, 9-12

*We chant the Psalm responsively, with the congregation singing the **bold** verses..*

- ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your ¹steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out ¹my offenses.
- ²**Wash me through and through ¹from my wickedness,
and cleanse me ¹from my sin.**
- ³For I know ¹my offenses,
and my sin is ev- ¹er before me.
- ⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil ¹in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right ¹in your judgment.**
- ⁹Hide your face ¹from my sins,
and blot out ¹all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰**Create in me a clean ¹heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- ¹it within me.**
- ¹¹Cast me not away ¹from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- ¹it from me.
- ¹²**Restore to me the joy of ¹your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- ¹tiful Spirit.**

The second reading, usually from the New Testament letters, bears the witness of the early church.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 2:1-10

L A reading from Ephesians.

- ⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,
“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;
- ⁶as he says also in another place,
“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”
- ⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

The Gospel Acclamation gives special focus to the Gospel, the principal and climactic biblical reading in the liturgy.

Gospel Acclamation

The choir sings the Gospel Acclamation, and we all repeat it.

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.

The Liturgy of the Word culminates in the reading of the gospel and the sermon by which Christ comes among his people and speaks to us in our own context. Because of this we stand to listen to the good news of our Lord.

The Gospel: John 12:20-33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

Sermon

Pastor James Armentrout

This hymn complements the day's scripture readings and sermon.

We stand as we are able and sing the hymn.

Hymn

Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of
 liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing
 and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
 2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
 3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
 goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
 friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
 deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
 day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

We join our hearts in prayer as we pray for the Church, for the well-being of creation, for peace and justice, for those in need. 1 Timothy 2:1-2

The Prayers



Each petition concludes:

P Lord, in your mercy,
 C hear our prayer.

*Much more than
a pleasant greet-
ing—we do this
to proclaim
God’s promise
of peace.
2 Corinthians
13:11*

*Our gifts are
received and
dedicated to our
Lord’s service.
These offerings
support the min-
istries of this
congregation,
the Virginia Syn-
od, ELCA, and
our global mis-
sion partners.*

*As our gifts of
offerings and
tithes are
brought forward
we sing a canti-
cle of thankgiv-
ing for God’s
generous good-
ness.*

*Our prayer is
modeled after
the Jewish pray-
er of thankgiv-
ing and dedi-
cates the giver to
a stewardship of
all life.*

THE EUCHARISTIC LITURGY



The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

We greet one another from our pews, saying “Peace be with you.”

Offertory Anthem

Seed That in Earth Is Dying

Bradley Ellingboe

For text, see Hymn 330.

We stand as we are able and sing the offertory.

Offertory

God of de - sert, God of prom - ise, you have bid us jour - ney on
through the days of dust and dark - ness to the ris - ing of the dawn.
Let us cross out of the wil - der - ness to the ris - ing of the dawn.

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray.

C **Jesus, you are the bread of life
and the host of this meal.**

**Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.**

**Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.**

We pray this in your name.

Amen

The Thanksgiving Dialogue begins the part of our worship called the Great Thanksgiving.

The dialogue and the Proper Preface are ancient parts of the worship which proclaim our thanks for the gifts of God in the meal.

Thanksgiving Dialogue

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The Proper Preface

The presiding minister continues: "It is indeed right ..."

The proper preface concludes: "we praise your name and join their unending hymn."

The Sanctus ("holy") echoes the angels' cry in Isaiah 6:3 and the crowds of Mark 11:9 as Jesus entered Jerusalem. This reminds us that we are in the presence of a God identified both by holiness and humility.

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might.

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

The Eucharistic Prayer recalls God's saving acts throughout history and, particularly, the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture.

Eucharistic Prayer

P 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:

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

P 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.

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P 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.

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P With Saint Mark and your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

C **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer brings the Great Thanksgiving to a conclusion. Prayed here, this familiar and beloved prayer becomes the table-prayer of the congregation. Luke 11:1-13; Matthew 6:5-15

The Lord's Prayer

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

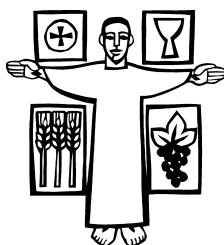
C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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

We are seated.



COMMUNION WITH OUR RISEN LORD
WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

We come forward by way of the center aisle, forming two lines to receive communion in front of the chancel steps. We return to our pews by way of the side aisles.



The Agnus Dei ("lamb of God") recalls the words of John the Baptist upon seeing Jesus (John 1:29). We make this our prayer as well, as we prepare to meet the Risen Lord in the bread and wine

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Once we have
all received
the sacrament
and returned
to our seats,
we celebrate
the personal
encounter with
the risen
Christ through
blessing, pray-
er, and sing-
ing.*

Post-Communion Blessing

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

C **Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray. Generous God,

C **at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.**

As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,

now make us one loaf to feed the world;

in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

Amen

Blessing

P May you go from this place having acknowledged yourselves as sinners in word and deed and in what has been left undone.

C **Amen.**

P May you know always that God's response to our repentance is never less than grace-filled and loving forgiveness.

C **Amen.**

P May you be given the grace to forgive others as God is forgiving you.

C **Amen**

P And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C **Amen**

Hymn 545

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

*We are dis-
missed
from worship
knowing that
our service
does not end.
Rather, having
been in the
presence of the
risen Lord, we
leave so that
our service
may truly
begin.*

Dismissal

P Go in peace loving God and loving your neighbor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

No postlude during Lent.

Flowers and Music for Easter

Easter is the greatest and grandest celebration of the Christian year. The Resurrection of our Lord is an occasion so glorious that it is only fitting we celebrate with great gusto.



You are invited to make a \$25 (or more) contribution toward the cost of flowers and special music for Easter and dedicate your contribution to the glory of God in honor or memory of anyone you would like. You can make your gift online or by check.

To give online, visit www.stmarksroanoke.org and click on the *Give* link. Choose "Flowers and Music for Easter" when making your online gift; please write in the online memo space the name(s) of those in whose honor or memory your gift is given.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Sunday, March 17 <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>	11AM 12PM	Worship with Holy Communion Annual Meeting & Potato Lunch
Monday, March 18	5PM—7PM	The Lion's Share open
Tuesday, March 19	6:30PM	Choir rehearsal (Nave)
Wednesday, March 20	7PM	Lenten Service @ St. Mark Lutheran
Thursday, March 21		
Friday, March 22	10AM—noon	The Lion's Share open
	6:30PM	NA meeting (Library)
Saturday, March 23	8PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, March 24 <i>Palm/Passion Sunday</i>	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Greeter	Sandy Anders	Connie Watkins & Harry Brewbaker
Lector	Donna Abbott	Eric Mills
Communion Assistant	Lois Ashby & Sabina Ugochukwu	Jerry McDaniel & Mary Ann Snider
Coffee Hour	Potato Lunch	

Attendance Last Sunday	64
Offering Received (Pledges/Loose)	\$2427.00
Budget (Pledges/Loose)	\$3,531.00



**St. Mark's
Lutheran Church**
Loving God, Loving Our Neighbor

Ministers and Staff

Ministers: Congregation of St. Mark's Lutheran Church
Secretary / Financial Administrator: Kathy Bryant
Organist / Choir Director: Jacob Gordon
Pastor: James Armentrout

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