

March 26, 2023 Fifth Sunday of Lent



WORSHIP BOOKLET

Pastor Brian

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Mary Stein-Webber

Order for 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 makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. Amen. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin. Silence is kept for reflection. Holy One, source of our renewal, we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen. Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of + Christ our Savior. Amen.

GATHERING

Charity

Kenn Gullickson

Although I speak with tongues of humans and angels, and though I prophesy and understand all, although I have all faith so mountains may be removed, and though I feed the poor and give up my life,

CHORUS:

If I have not charity, if love does not flow from me, I am nothing. Jesus reduce me to love.

Love is patient and kind and love is not envious, not proud but gentle and meek, seeks not its own way. Love sings when Jesus prevails, believes and endures all things. Love hopes and bears every wrong, and love never fails **CHORUS**

One season I was a child, I spoke and I thought as a child. But when I became an adult, such ways put aside. Though now we see through a glass, yet then we shall see face to face. Though now abide faith, hope and love, the greatest is love. **CHORUS**

GREETING

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

KYRIE #157

(red hymnal, rear section)

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

For your people here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, and defend us, O God. **A---men.**

NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION

REFRAIN Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy to the God of life and love and freedom; praise and glory forevermore!

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God. REFRAIN

Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ, forever. REFRAIN

For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God; to make all things new. REFRAIN

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you! And also with you!

Let us pray together.

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. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 37:1-14 [Ezekiel wrote:] The hand of God came upon me, and God brought me out by the spirit and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bone. God led me all around them: there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. God said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then God said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." So I prophesied as I had been commanded: and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then God said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as God commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then God said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.

Therefore prophesy, and say to them,

Thus says the Lord God:

I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am God, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live,

and I will place you on your own soil;

then you shall know that I, God, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 130 (the congregation responds with the bold words)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;

O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

If you were to keep watch | over sins, O God, who could stand?

Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.

I wait for you, O God; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

My soul waits for God more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.

O Israel, wait for God, for with God there is steadfast love;

with God there is plenteous redemption.

For God shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to God. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the One who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

Gospel Lesson: John 11:1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saving this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus. "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him."

Jesus said to her,

"Your brother will rise again."

Martha said to him,

"I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus said to her,

"I am the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,

and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?"

She said to him,

"Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately,

"The Teacher is here and is calling for you."

And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.

Now Jesus had not yet come to the village,

but was still at the place where Martha had met him.

The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her,

saw Mary get up quickly and go out.

They followed her

because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him,

she knelt at his feet and said to him,

"Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping,

he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.

He said,

"Where have you laid him?"

They said to him,

"Lord, come and see."

Jesus began to weep.

So the Jews said,

"See how he loved him!"

But some of them said,

"Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man

have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb.

It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.

Jesus said,

"Take away the stone."

Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him,

"Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her,

"Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone.

And Jesus looked upward and said,

"Father, I thank you for having heard me.

I knew that you always hear me,

but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here,

so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

This is the gospel indeed. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

DISCUSSION OF GOSPEL LESSON

Everybody

SERMON HYMN Thy Holy Wings #613 (red hymnal, rear section)

Thy holy wings, O Savior, spread gently over me, and let me rest securely through good and ill in thee. Oh, be my strength and portion, my rock and hiding place, and let my ev'ry moment be lived within thy grace.

Oh, let me nestle near thee, within thy downy breast where I will find sweet comfort and peace within thy nest. Oh, close thy wings around me and keep me safely there, for I am but a newborn and need thy tender care.

Oh, wash me in the waters of Noah's cleansing flood. Give me a willing spirit, a heart both clean and good. Oh, take into thy keeping thy children great and small, and while we sweetly slumber, enfold us one and all.

APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's 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 dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

You have breathed into us the breath of life. Enliven your church. Deepen our partnerships with our companion churches around the globe, and bless the work of missionaries who accompany them. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Your spirit brings life to creation. Enliven the natural world and restore ecosystems in need of healing. Uplift prophetic voices that turn us to the needs of the soil beneath our feet and the air all around. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You redeem the world and its peoples. Free us from systems of oppression. Unbind nations and societies from the sins of racism, sexism, and homophobia. Raise up leaders at all levels of government who work to promote the dignity of every human life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You weep when we weep. Be present with those who grieve or who are troubled by illness, especially,

- Mike Lorenzo Back pain
- Ina Davenport recent fall
- Linda Hermann mother-in-law of Katie Edson's daughter, dealing with diagnosis and treatment of leukemia
- Diane Williams recovering from intestinal issues
- John Cribb death of his father in South Carolina
- Gary & Eileen Orback whose home was damaged in the storm
- Betty Johnson recovering from infection and blood clot while undergoing chemotherapy
- Jennifer Kurrle adjusting to new medications
- Ina Davenport Healing of her arm
- Aaron Brochtrup starting physical therapy to treat lower back
- Janelle Muff -Healing after surgery and blood clot
- Joanne Kulczyk recovering from a fall
- Sally Mingo, Jennifer Kurrle's mother knee injury
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas continuing to make progress in recovery
- Linda Luke to gain weight and strength
- Jim Luke supporting Linda's recovery
- Becky Padilla- responding well to treatment for cancer
- Marcia Shep, Jennifer Kurrle's grandmother
- James Hecker- ongoing abdominal pain
- Christopher Buckles, Kate Anderson's son
- Marcia and Rick Walt, friends of Cindy Haener
- Darel and Betty Sorenson Betty remains in nursing care on Hospice
- Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mother
- Iglesia Santa Cruz, Pastor Esteban and Angie- for our support of their ministry
- For those who are contracting the new COVID-19 omicron variants
- For the people of Ukraine, for strength, healing and protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them
- Gwen Muff, who celebrates her birthday this week, and Mike and Janet Lorenzo who celebrate their wedding anniversary.

You hear us when we call to you. Deliver us from the depths of our despair, and free us from the worries that bind us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your Spirit of life dwells in our assembly. Bless the music ministry of this congregation and all who lead us in hymns of praise and thanksgiving and in songs of lament and prayer. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are our shelter and hiding place. Hear these other prayer concerns we have today. We pray for..

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

You are the resurrection and the life. Even though we die, we will live. With thanksgiving, we remember all your saints who now live in your eternal love. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

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.** Let us share that peace with one another.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.... 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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY #191

(red hymnal, rear section)

Holy, holy are you, God of power and might;heaven and earth are filled with your glory.Hosanna in the highest.Blessed is the one who comes in your name.Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you. It is the new covenant of my blood, shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.'

Let us pray the prayer that our Lord 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.

TAKING OF HOLY COMMUNION

[All who desire may come forward to take the body and blood of Christ. Gluten-free bread is available if you ask for it, and alcohol-free grape juice is in the center ring of the tray. During the distribution of Communion, you may also seek prayers of healing at the chair by the baptismal font.]

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in eternal life. Amen.

PRAISE TO YOU, O GOD OF MERCY #208 (red hymnal, rear section)

Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever! Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever! From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you forever! Truth and justice you have taught us: thanks be to you forever!

Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love, rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.

Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever! Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever! Thanks be to you forever!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: 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.

BLESSING

God, the giver of love,

SENDING HYMN Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land #333 (red hymnal, rear section)

REFRAIN

Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land; my Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in the time of storm.

No one can do like Jesus, not a mumbling word he said; he went walking down to Lazarus' grave, and he raised him from the dead. REFRAIN

When Jesus was on earth, the flesh was very weak; he took a towel and girded himself and he washed his disciples' feet. REFRAIN

Yonder comes my Savior, him whom I love so well; he has the palm of victory and the keys of death and hell. REFRAIN

DISMISSAL

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

Thank you to:

- **Joyce Bauer** for assisting in worship.
- Sandy McMillan and others for counting the offering.
- **Pastor Brian** for accompanying worship.
- **Pastor Mary** for leading worship.
- **Gary Brochtrup** for streaming worship.
- Janet Lorenzo and Gail Brochtrup for editing and assembling worship bulletins and the newsletter.
- Nancy Padilla, for setting up and welcoming.
- Gary and Mark Orback, for tending to our outside property.
- Sophia and Janet Lorenzo, for tending to our inside property.
- Ken Brocks, Dan Sperow, Andrew Jacoby, and Gary Brochtrup for their handyman work.

Events this week:

- Today we are continuing our Lent Collection for the people served by Iglesia Luterana de Santa Cruz. You may place food and other donations in the "beach bags" for the disciples to take down south at the end of the season!
- **The discussion group on The Chosen** will meet tonight, 7:00 to 8:00 pm on Zoom, to discuss Season 3, Episode 8. This group will welcome new participants and start again at Season 1, Episode 1on Sunday, April 16th at 7:00 pm.
- **Bible Study** will take place on Wednesday, March 29th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall.
- The fifth of our **Lenten soup suppers** will be this Wednesday night, March 29th, with supper starting at 5:30 pm and a brief worship at 6:15 pm.
- Holy Week services will be as follows: Palm/Passion Sunday – Sunday, April 2nd, 10:00 am Maundy Thursday – Thursday, April 6th, 6:00 pm Good Friday – Friday, April 7th, 6:00 pm Easter Sunday – Sunday, April 9th, 10:00 am
- Next Sunday, April 2nd, there will be a POT-LUCK brunch after worship. All are welcome look for a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall!
- Let Pastor Brian know if you would like to **start receiving his weekly emails**. (bsteinwebber@gmail.com)

Don't forget to check the Calendar website page for upcoming events: morrobaylutherans.org