

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
Wednesday, February 14, 2018
Ash Wednesday
Holy Communion



AS WE GATHER

“The assembly gathers in silence”

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in today's readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

NOTES ON THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR TODAY

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17 - Because of the coming Day of the Lord, the prophet Joel calls the people to a community lament. The repentant community reminds God of his gracious character and asks God to spare the people, lest the nations doubt God's power to save.

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10 - The ministry of the gospel endures many challenges and hardships. Through this ministry, God's reconciling activity in the death of Christ reaches into the depths of our lives to bring us into a right relationship with God. In this way, God accepts us into the reality of divine salvation.

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21- In this passage Matthew sets forth a vision of genuine righteousness illustrated by three basic acts of Jewish devotion: almsgiving, prayer, and fasting. Jesus does not denounce the acts—in the New Testament they are signs of singular devotion to God. Rather, he criticizes those who perform them in order to have a sense of self-satisfaction or to gain public approval. Care for the poor, intense prayer, and fasting with a joyous countenance are signs of loving dedication to God.

+ +

In the spirit of this season of quiet reflection, please refrain from applause at any time during the service.

THE PRELUDE

Musical Meditations

Various

(Please stand as you are able)

THE CONFESSION

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who brings us safely through the sea, who gives us water from the rock, who leads us into the land of milk and honey.

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

C **have mercy on us.**

P For self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness:

C **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

P For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves:

C **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

P For misuse of human relationships, and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others:

C **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

P For jealousies that divide families and nations, and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:

C **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

P For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God, and for carelessness with the fruits of creation:

C **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

P For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm:

C **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

P For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ, and for squandering the gifts of love and grace:

C **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit God cleanses us and gives us the power to proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. 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.**

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
 2 Bless so - journ-ers and pil - grims who share this wind-ing way;
 3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
 your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus-tains the day.
 We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,

The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun-tain round,
 We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
 but wait-ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.

then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
 to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
 Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

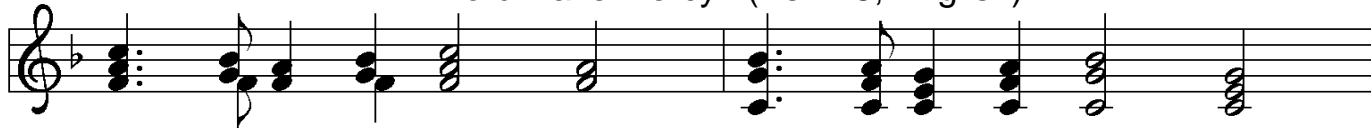
P Let us pray,

C **Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness 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.**

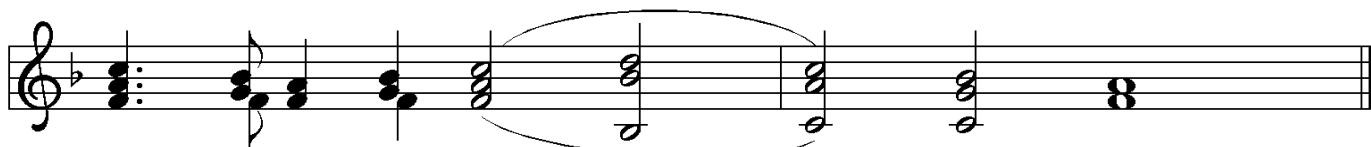
KYRIE

Lord Have Mercy (Vs. 1-3, English)

ELW 155



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.
1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, . . . have mer - cy.
Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

(Please be seated)

Psalm 51:1-17 (Responsive reading)

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

- ⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**
- ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**
- ¹³Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.
- ¹⁴**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**
- ¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- ¹⁶**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.
You are not pleased with burnt offering.**
- ¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

7:00 p.m.

“What a Savior”

Voices of Faith

SECOND READING *2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10*

A **The Second Lesson is from the fifth chapter of 2 Corinthians.**

Chapter 5

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Chapter 6

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see — we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

P The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain

Re - turn to God with all your heart, the source of grace and
mer - cy; come seek the ten - der faith - ful - ness of God.

GOSPEL *Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21*

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 6.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

² So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵ And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶ And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹ Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ralph Supper



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
 4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
 fruit-less fear un - furl our lives like spring-time bud and flow'r.
 tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
 we, when all our search-ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company.

INVITATION TO LENT

P Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy and healing. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, reconciliation and forgiveness, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days. By God's grace, may we be moved from Reconciliation to Resurrection.

(Those who wish to may come forward to receive the ashes. After receiving the imposition of ashes, you may return to your seat for a time of prayerful reflection)

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

P Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

SONG

"Dust and Ashes"

Shirley Murray

PRAYER

P Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

C that we may show forth your glory in the world.

P By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

C bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

P Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

C Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(After each petition concludes with **“Lord, in your mercy,”** the congregation responds, **“hear our prayer”**)

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

(During the solemn time of Lent, the pastor will greet the congregation, and the congregation will respond, but there will be no “passing of the peace” among the congregation members.)

GIFTS OF OFFERING

“The Gift of Love”

Arr. Carter

(Please sign the red welcome roster and pass it on as a ritual of friendship. Then pass it back noting the names of those you’re worshipping with today.)

OFFERING PRAYER

P Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right and good that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, Holy God, mighty and immortal, through Christ, our Lord. You bid us return to you and be renewed, that your justice may shine like the sun and the poor of the earth be lifted up. And so with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P 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.

P 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 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.

P LORD, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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**



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

Once We Sang and Danced



- 1 Once we sang and danced with glad - ness, once de - light filled ev - 'ry breath;
- 2 All the wil - lows bow in weep - ing, all the riv - ers rage and moan,
- 3 God, who came to dwell a - mong us, God, who suf - fered our dis - grace,
- 4 Come, O Christ, a - mong the ash - es, come to wipe our tears a - way,



now we sit a - mong the ash - es, all our dreams de - stroyed by death.
as cre - a - tion joins our plead - ing: "God, do not leave us a - lone."
from your own heart, grieved and wound - ed, come the rich - es of your grace.
death de - stroy and sor - row ban - ish; now and al - ways, come and stay.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952, based on Psalm 137

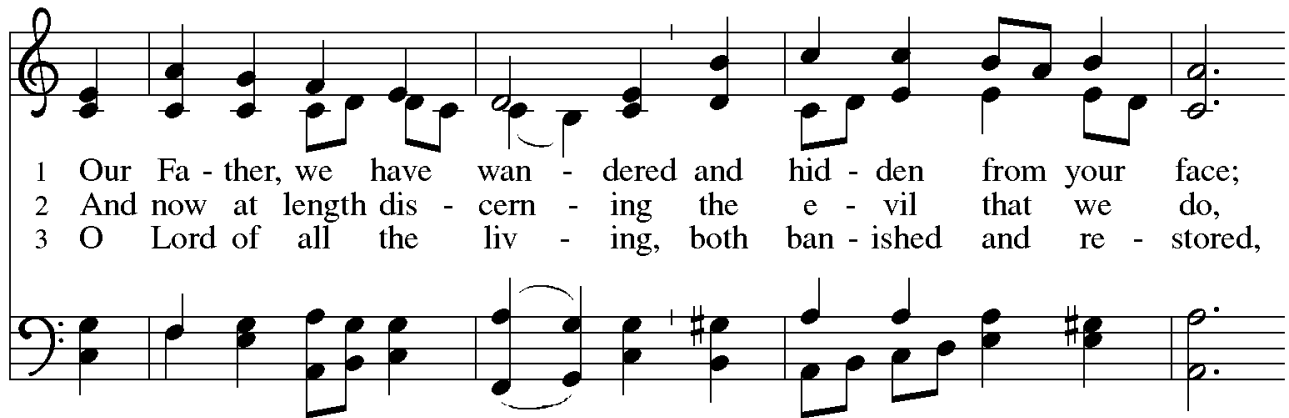
Music: KAS DZIEDAJA, Latvian folk tune

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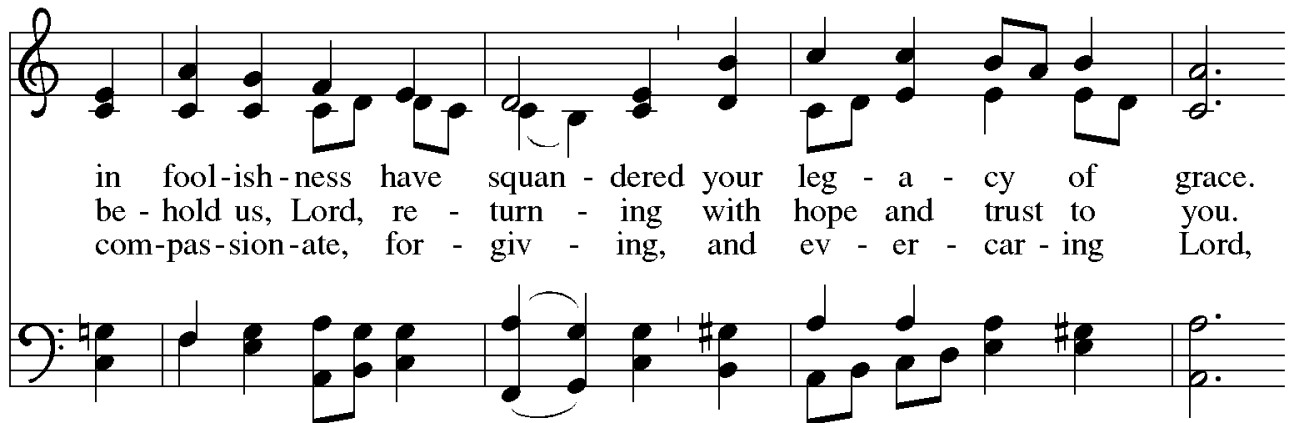
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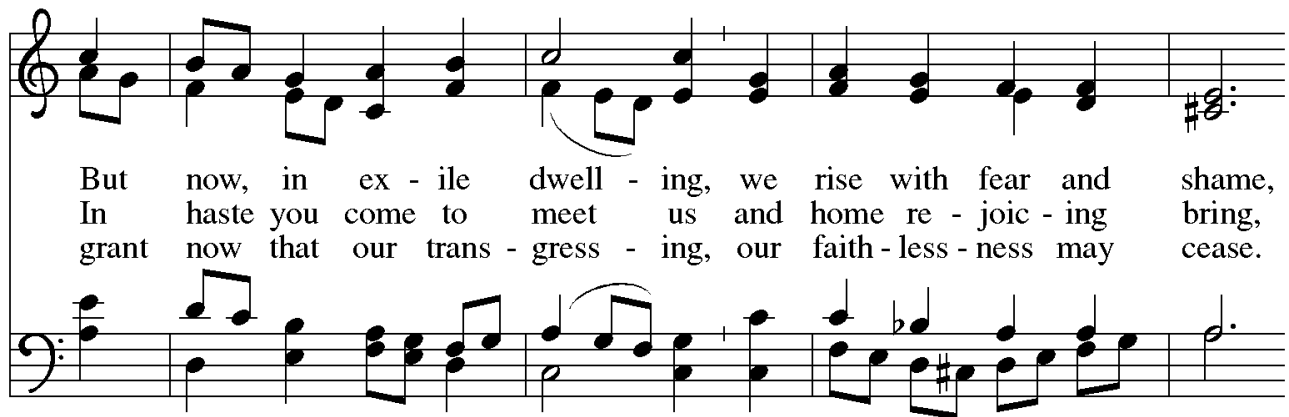
Our Father, We Have Wandered



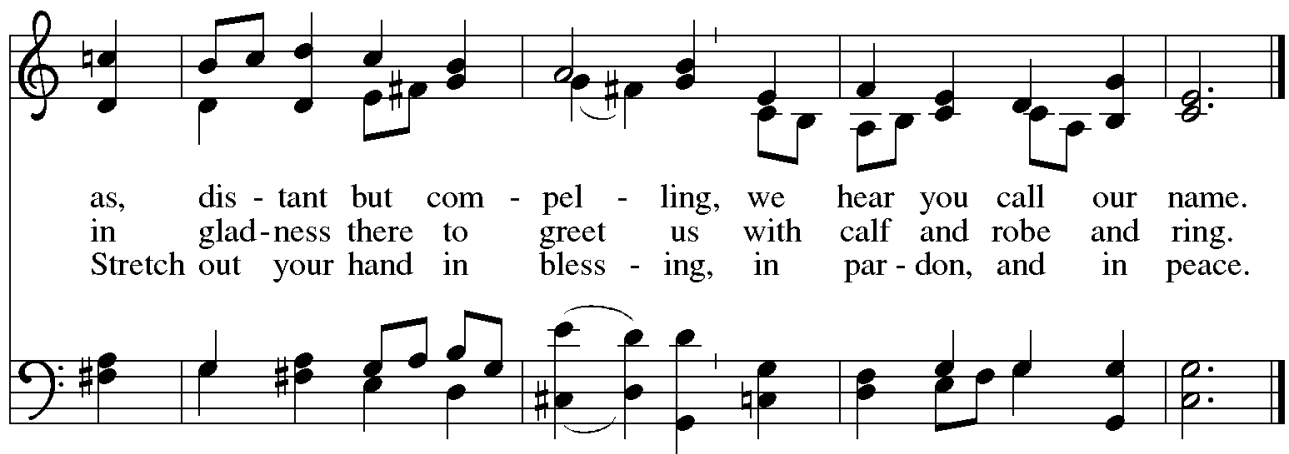
1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

P Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of 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.

BLESSING

P May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

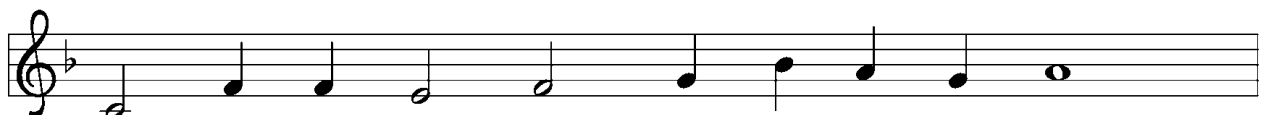
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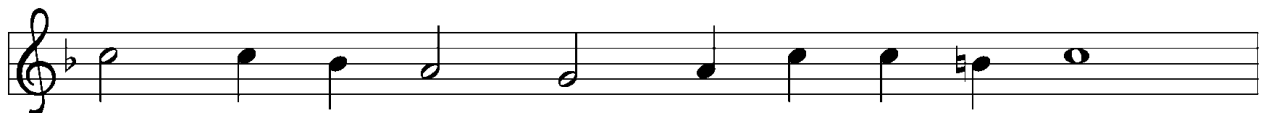
1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
so we are dead and live with you in God.
so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

DISMISSAL

P Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

S. Townsend

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

| | Noon | 7:00 p.m. |
|---------------------|--|---|
| Lector: | Pastor | Len Merkel |
| Communion: | Joanne Auerbach, Anne Merino
Linda Nugent | Donna Walker, Karen Idler,
Val Bryan
Jeff Potts |
| Ushers: | | |
| Altar Guild: | Linda Fitzgerald | Lorraine Wells |



Lenten Worship & Soup Suppers

† Please join us on Wednesdays **February 21 through March 21** in the Faith Center. Soup supper begins at **6:30 p.m.** followed by worship at **7:15 p.m.** in the Faith Center.

We will once again worship using the beautiful Holden Evening Prayer Liturgy.

Holy Week

† **Sunday, March 25, Palm Sunday - 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.**

† **Thursday, March 29, Maundy Thursday – 7:00 p.m. in the Church Sanctuary.**

† **Good Friday, March 30 – In the Church Sanctuary**

- **12:00 p.m.** Prayer & Reflection
- **7:00 p.m.** The Chancel Choir will present Dale Wood's "A Service of Darkness", with Susan Hamre at the organ. This presentation will be a somber and moving musical remembrance of our Lord's suffering on the cross.

† **Easter Sunday – April 1 – 6:30, 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.** (Easter Egg Hunt – 10:30 a.m.)

COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Cyril, monk, died 869; Methodius, bishop, died 885; missionaries to the Slavs Wednesday, February 14, 2018

These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece, were monks and were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people. In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

Martin Luther, renewer of the church, died 1546 Sunday, February 18, 2018

Though he began his adult church life as a simple Augustinian monk, Luther challenged the abuses he saw in the church, and his work eventually led to the Protestant Reformation. Luther's accomplishments included liturgical reform, translation of the Bible, and creation of the Small and Large Catechisms.

Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, martyr, died 156 Friday, February 23, 2018

Because he is said to have been known by John, the author of Revelation, as well as the important early church fathers Irenaeus and Ignatius, Polycarp serves as a vital link in church history. He was burned at the stake at age 86 for refusing to renounce his faith.

