

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Third Sunday in Lent

Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA

March 23, 2025



O God,

you are my God;

eagerly I seek you; my soul  
thirsts for you; my flesh faints for  
you, as in a dry and weary land where  
there is no water.

Psalm 63:1, NRSV

## Welcome

*And thank you for worshipping with us today.*

**If you are a visitor**, we are so glad you came! We hope that you will fill out a yellow or green card in your pew and either drop it in the offering plate or leave it at the *Welcome Place* as you leave today. We hope to see you again soon!

**Children of all ages are welcome in our worship service** and will learn to participate at a young age if present. If your child needs to leave for all or part of the service, a fully staffed nursery is available at both services for infants through age five. The nursery is located in the lower level of the church. Please ask an usher if you need help locating it.

If you have a **prayer request** or would like a **pastoral visit**, please fill out a green card in your pew and place it in the offering plate.

Adults and children who receive **Holy Communion** in their home church are invited to receive the sacrament with us. All others are invited to the table to receive a blessing. We use **grape wine** and **wheat bread**. Gluten free wafers are available (please let Pastor know when you come forward if you need one). The fullness of the sacrament is available in either form: if for reasons of health or conscience, you can only receive the bread or the wine, please let Pastor know.

After each morning service we invite you to join us for **refreshments and conversation** in the gathering area adjacent to the worship area.

In order to **prepare for worship**, please:

keep **silence** for 10 minutes prior to worship for prayer and meditation.

**silence** all electronic devices.

**refrain from talking** during the **prelude**, which is the beginning of our worship service.

## Our Mission

*As followers of Jesus Christ, we embrace, reflect and proclaim God's unconditional love.*

## Our Vision

To provide an active and visible Lutheran presence in the Lexington area by:

maintaining our doctrinal, spiritual, and liturgical heritage;

creating a community of disciples committed to growing in their spiritual lives;

engaging in a vigorous lifestyle of evangelism;

working to preserve the dignity of all God's people.

**Prelude**      *Everlasting Love*      arranged by Derek K. Hakes  
Grace Notes Handbell Choir

*We stand.*

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**  
Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our  
Father, imploring him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*We kneel or stand.*

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**who made heaven and earth.**

I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

**And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Almighty God, merciful Father:

**I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which  
I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry  
for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy.**

**For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and  
merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the  
amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God  
forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to  
become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.  
 2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.  
 3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.  
 Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.  
 To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.  
 God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,  
 We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.  
 one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.  
 By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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## Greeting

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

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.**



1 As the sun with long-er jour-ney melts the win-ter's snow and ice,  
 2 Through the days of wait-ing, watch-ing, in the des-ert of our sin,  
 3 Praise be giv-en to the mak-er of the sea-sons' year-ly round:



with its slow-ly grow-ing ra-diance warms the seed be-neath the earth,  
 search-ing on the far ho-ri-zon for a sign of cloud or wind,  
 Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it—Source, Sus-tain-er, Lord of life,



may the sun of Christ's up-ris-ing gent-ly bring our hearts to life.  
 we a-wait the heal-ing wa-ters of our Sav-ior's vic-to-ry.  
 as the ev-er turn-ing a-ges roll to their e-ter-nal rest.

Text: John Patrick Earls, osb, b. 1935

Music: NAGEL, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

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Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

## Prayer of the Day

*We sit.*

## First Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9 *Everyone who thirsts, come to the water*

<sup>1</sup> Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup> Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. <sup>3</sup>

Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup> See, I made him a witness to

the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup> See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. <sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The word of the Lord or Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalmody** Psalm 63:1-8



O God, ea-ger-ly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you.



<sup>1</sup> O God, you are my God; eager- ly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

<sup>2</sup> **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.**

<sup>3</sup> For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

<sup>4</sup> **So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name. R**

<sup>5</sup> My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

<sup>6</sup> **when I remember you on my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.**

<sup>7</sup> For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

<sup>8</sup> **My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. R**

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 *Israel ate the same spiritual food as Christians*

<sup>1</sup> I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup> Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. <sup>6</sup> Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup> Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” <sup>8</sup> We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup> We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup> And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup> These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup> So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup> No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The word of the Lord or Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*We stand with the presiding minister to greet the reading of the gospel.*

## Gospel Acclamation



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

*(cantor) Jesus began to proclaim, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. (Repeat acclamation)*

## Gospel

Luke 13:1-9 *Unless you repent, you will perish: parable of the fig tree*

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.<sup>2</sup> [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?”<sup>3</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?<sup>5</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.” <sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ <sup>8</sup> He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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

*We sing the acclamation; then we sit.*

**Sermon** Pastor Dana Lockhart

*We stand.*

**Hymn of the Day** ACS 1049 *Before the Waters Nourished Earth*



1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -  
2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of  
3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows  
4 The Love that called cre - a - tion good all good - ness



ag - ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the  
E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in  
par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's  
still is bring - ing. This Love turns death a -



u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.  
mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.  
faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dy - ing.  
gain to life and si - lence in - to sing - ing.



## 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

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

### Peace

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

*We share the peace of Christ with one another and then we sit.*

## Welcome and Announcements

**Choral Offering** *Lenten Meditation* Jay Althouse  
Parish Choir

*Jesus Christ, my Savior lived for me and died, source of my salvation, yet was crucified. Peace that knows no measure: this by faith I see. Love that knows no ending; Jesus died for me.*

*Lord, O Lord, we renew our commitment those forty nights and days. And, Lord, O Lord, by your grace help us change our sinful ways.*

*Hear me now, Lord Jesus: I will never stray. I will never wander. Hear me, Lord, I pray: free me now from darkness. Cleanse me now from sin. Pardon my transgressions, make me pure within.*



## Offering Song

ELW 188

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -  
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,  
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The image shows a musical score for a song. It consists of five staves of music in G minor (one flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with 'Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right'. The second staff continues with 'spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your'. The third staff has 'pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -'. The fourth staff reads 'store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,'. The fifth and final staff concludes with 'and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.'.

## Offering Prayer

### 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...join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

## Eucharistic Prayer

### Lord's Prayer

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

### Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

## Music During Communion

### Lamb of God

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.

### Return to God

Marty Haugen *(cantor sings verses, assembly sings 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.

*After all have communed, we stand.*

## Post Communion Prayer

## Charge to the People

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

## Blessing

**Sending Hymn** ELW 618 *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*



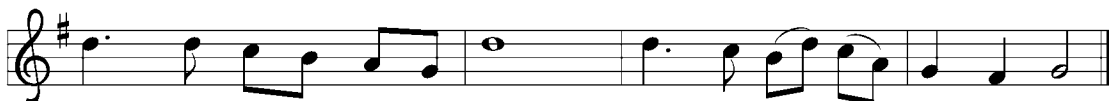
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem-er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
shield me with your might-y arm, shield me with your might-y arm.  
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

## Dismissal

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

**Postlude** *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

setting by Hal Hopson

## Serving Today

Assisting Minister	(8:30) Richard Michel (11:00) Roland Born
Cantor	Elijah Garrett
Organist/Pianist	Kathy Egner
Ushers	(8:30) Charlie Hamilton & Jim Knauss (11:00) Ellie Burnside & Gordon Grotrian
Greeter	(8:30) Diana Shappley (11:00) Victoria & Bea Lockhart
Sacristan	(8:30) Jim & Judy Knauss (11:00) Jane Pettibone
Counters	Teri Applegate & Carol Buchanan
Livestream Operator	Helen Born
Ministers	All Members of Faith
Pastor	The Reverend Dana Lockhart
Pastor Emeritus	The Reverend Ron Luckey
Parish Administrator	Amanda Nord
Director of Music	Kathy Egner
Youth Assistant	Paige Barricklow
Faith Learning Center Director	Courtney Hearld
Facilities Manager	Parker Taul
Sexton	Neil McComb

## Worship Servants for Next Sunday (March 30)

	<b>8:30</b>	<b>11:00</b>
Assisting Minister	Judy Page	Judy Page
Cantor	Ole Wendroth	Ole Wendroth
Ushers	Jim & Judy Knauss	Debbie Rosenberg & Carolyn Carden
Greeter	Val Dutcher	Dave & Judy McGrew
Sacristan	Jim & Judy Knauss	Jane Pettibone
Counters	Penni Black & Debbie Rosenberg	
Livestream Operator		Jonathan Delap



## THIS WEEK AT FAITH

### **Sunday, March 23**

- 8:30am In-Person Worship
- 11:00am In-Person/Livestream  
Worship
- 5:00pm DYG—First Presbyterian
- 6:00pm In-Person Worship

### **Monday, March 24**

- 5:30pm FLLC Committee Meeting
- 6:15pm AA
- 7:00pm Sophia Group
- 7:00pm Parish Life Committee
- 7:00pm Property Committee
- 7:00pm Worship Committee

### **Tuesday, March 25**

- 11:00am Tuesday Bible Study

### **Wednesday, March 26**

- 4:00pm Children’s Choir
- 6:00pm AA—Faith House
- 6:00pm Lenten Soup Supper
- 7:00pm Lenten Evening Prayer
- 7:30pm Parish Choir

### **Thursday, March 27**

- 7:15am Men’s Group (First Watch)
- 3:30pm Svetlana—Sanctuary
- 4:30pm Eurhythmics

### **Friday, March 28**

- 1:00pm Church Women United Setup

### **Saturday, March 29**

- 9:00am Church Women United

### **Sunday, March 30**

- 8:30am In-Person Worship
- 11:00am In-Person/Livestream  
Worship
- 3:00pm HFAS Concert
- 6:00pm In-Person Worship

## Egg My Yard



We recently launched our Spring “Egg My Yard” Fundraiser in which we stuff plastic Easter eggs with candies and stickers and then place them around people’s homes on the Saturday night before Easter so that their children can wake up to find them on Easter morning! (Some also include actual notes from the Easter Bunny!)

You can only imagine the children’s joy & excitement!! (Parents sometimes film this for us!)

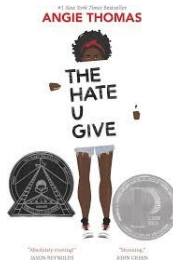
We are looking for any donations of plastic Easter eggs and/or small candies & stickers from any members of our Congregation who would like to participate. If you are interested in donating, or

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Lenten Soup Suppers will be held each Wednesday of Lent, March 12-April 9 at 6.00pm. This will be before the Mid-Week Lenten services. Come and enjoy a delicious bowl of soup and fellowship before the service.

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## Sophia Group

Sophia Book Group will meet Monday, March 24th at 7:00pm, at Kris Neese’s home.

The book is *The Hate U Give*, by Angie Thomas.