



**Come to Believe † Come to Belong**  
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT  
March 16, 2025

**PRELUDE**

Rob Aaron

*“Come to believe, Come to belong, Come to receive, the promise of God”*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

*Amen*

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*

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sins with a time of silent self-reflection.

*(Time for silence)*

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage 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.*

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

*Amen.*

## GATHERING SONG

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, For the beau - ty of the skies,  
2 For the won - der of each hour Of the day and of the night,  
3 For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's de - light,  
4 For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,

For the love which from our birth O - ver and a - round us lies:  
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r, Sun and moon and stars of light:  
For the mys - tic har - mo - ny Link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
Friends on earth and friends a - bove; For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:

*Refrain*  
Christ, our Lord, to you we raise This our sac - ri - fice of praise.

5 For yourself, best gift divine  
To the world so freely giv'n;

Agent of God's grand design,  
Peace on earth and joy in heav'n: *Refrain*

## GREETING

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.**

# KYRIE

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

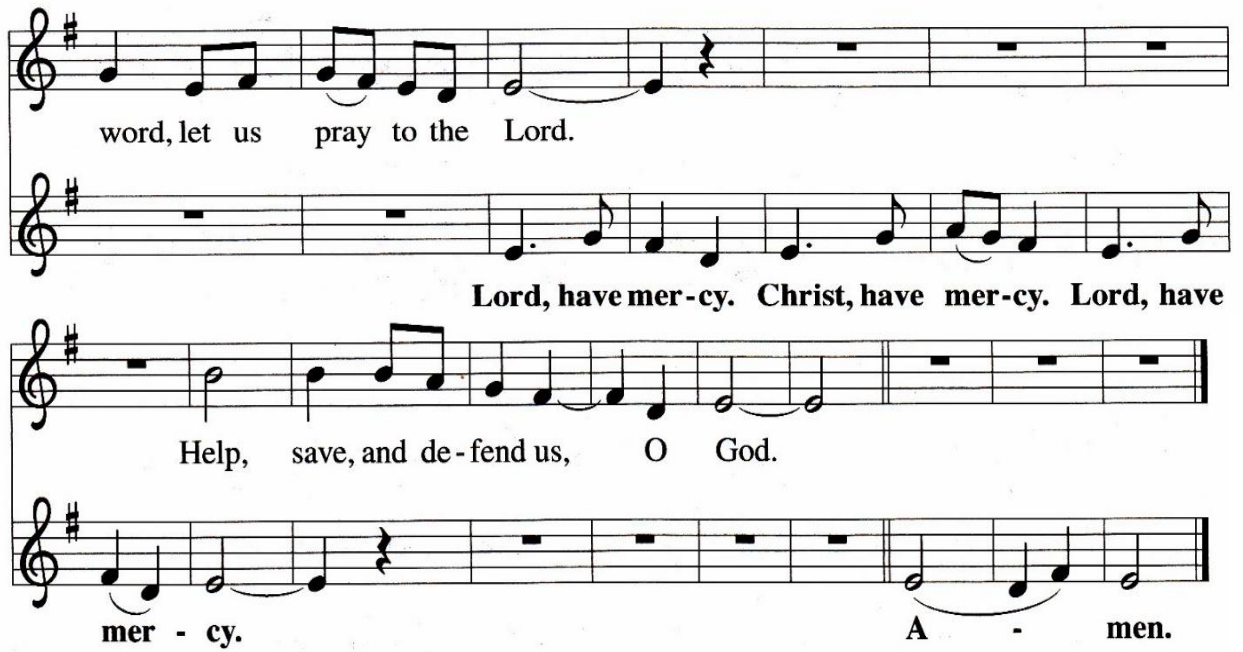
Lord.

For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your



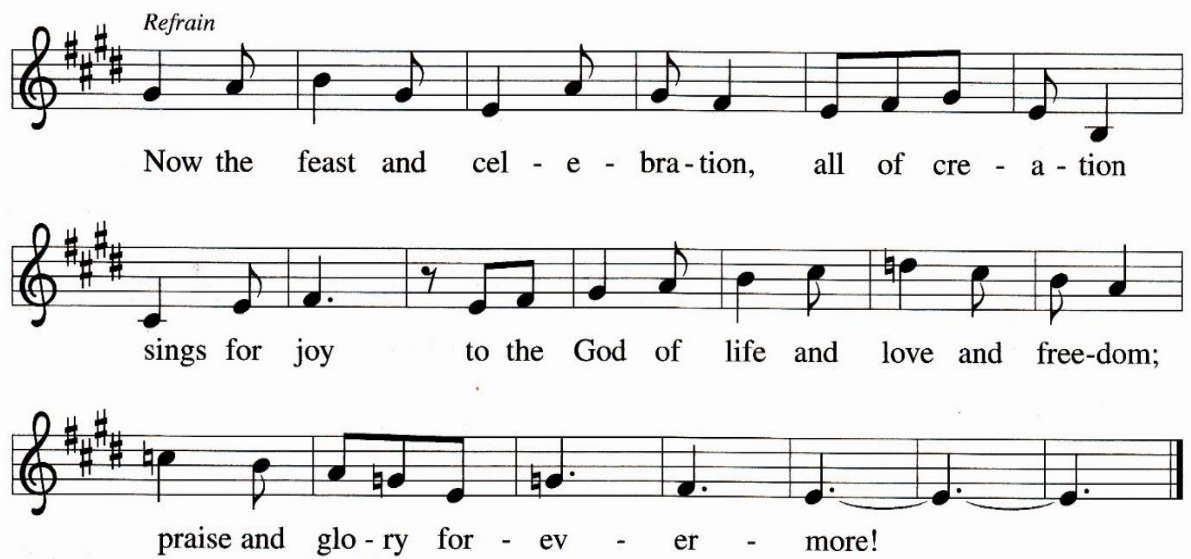
word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

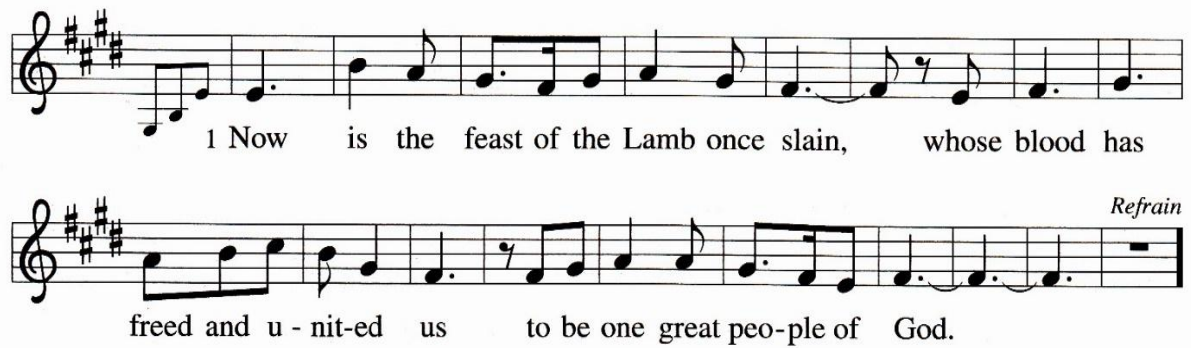
*Refrain*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

*Refrain*



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

*Refrain*  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

*Refrain*  
God; to make all things new.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together: **God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## CHOIR ANTHEM

*“I Need Thee Every Hour”*

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

### FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

<sup>1</sup> After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” <sup>4</sup> And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup> And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So

shall your offspring be.”<sup>6</sup> And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup> And he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.”<sup>8</sup> But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?”<sup>9</sup> He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.”<sup>10</sup> And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half.<sup>11</sup> And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup> As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him.

<sup>17</sup> When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.<sup>18</sup> On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 27

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

**The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?**

<sup>2</sup> When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh,  
**my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.**

<sup>3</sup> Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;  
**though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.**

<sup>4</sup> One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:  
**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD  
all the days of my life,**

to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD  
**and to inquire in his temple.**

<sup>5</sup> For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;  
**he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;  
he will lift me high upon a rock.**

<sup>6</sup> And now my head shall be lifted up  
above my enemies all around me,  
**and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;  
**be gracious to me and answer me!**

<sup>8</sup> You have said, “Seek my face.”

**My heart says to you, “Your face, LORD, do I seek.”**

<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger,  
**O you who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not,  
O God of my salvation!**

<sup>10</sup> For my father and my mother have forsaken me,  
**but the LORD will take me in.**

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD,  
**and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.**

<sup>12</sup> Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;  
**for false witnesses have risen against me,  
and they breathe out violence.**

<sup>13</sup> I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD  
in the land of the living!

<sup>14</sup> **Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the LORD!**



*Wait for the  
LORD; be strong,  
and let your heart  
take courage; wait  
for the LORD!  
Psalms 27:14*

## **SECOND READING**

Philippians 3:17 – 4:1

<sup>17</sup> Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup> For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. <sup>19</sup> Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

**4** <sup>1</sup> Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

## GOSPEL

Luke 13:31-35

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

### Glory to You, O Lord!!

<sup>31</sup> At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” <sup>32</sup> And he said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course.’ <sup>33</sup> Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.’ <sup>34</sup> O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup> Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”

The gospel of the Lord.

### Praise to You, O Christ!!

## SERMON

Pastor Gary Heltsley



HYMN OF THE DAY

*“Trust and Obey”*

1. When we walk with the Lord In the light of His Word  
 2. Not a bur - den we bear, Not a sor - row we share,  
 3. But we nev - er can prove The de - lights of His love  
 4. Then in fel - low - ship sweet We will sit at His feet

What a glo - ry He sheds on our way! Let us do His good will;  
 But our toil He doth rich - ly re - pay; Not a grief or a loss,  
 Un - til all on the al - tar we lay; For the fa - vor He shows  
 Or we'll walk by His side in the way; What He says we will do,

He a - bides with us still, And with all who will trust and o - bey.  
 Not a frown or a cross, But is blest if we trust and o - bey.  
 And the joy He be - stows Are for them who will trust and o - bey.  
 Where He sends we will go; Nev - er fear, on - ly trust and o - bey.

Trust and o - bey, for there's no oth - er way To be

hap - py in Je - sus, But to trust and o - bey.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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**

P) For the Church, the world, and our sinful selves, let us pray to our Lord, who is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

*A brief silence*

Lord Jesus, thank you for gathering your people beneath your wings. Your mercy covers our sins – and gives us courage to repent. Let us always remember your sacrifice, walk in the pathway you set before us, and stand firm in you, our Savior, Redeemer, and God.

Lord in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Bless this congregation with your dear presence. Make us mirror your humble, self-giving love to everyone we encounter.

Lord in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We pray for our enemies and for all who hate you. Deliver them from the evil one. Forgive their sins. Give them grace to repent. Heal their spirits, clear their minds, and transform their hearts into thrones worthy of you.

Lord in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Through our Baptism, we have been made citizens of your heavenly Kingdom, but we still live in this world. Therefore, we pray for our earthly leaders; for all who wield power and authority; and for all who stand in harm's way in defense of life and liberty. Give them wisdom, integrity, humility, a hunger for justice, and a thirst for mercy. And bestow your heavenly peace upon us all.

Lord in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Loving Savior, gather the sick, sorrowing, suffering, and dying beneath your holy wings, especially those we name out loud or silently in our hearts (*allow time for silent and spoken prayers*). Grant them shelter, healing, and hope. Bestow upon them your strong saving love. Strengthen and encourage everyone who cares for them.

Lord in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Most holy Jesus, we entrust to you our faithful departed. Shelter them all with your never-failing love. Comfort all who mourn with your never-failing compassion. Guide all who still walk through the valley of the shadow of death. Bring all whom you have redeemed into your Kingdom, where with your Father and the Holy Spirit, you reign in never-failing joy, peace and love.

Lord in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

P) Hear us, dear Lord; and answer our prayers according to your will, to your glory and for the benefit of the people you came to save.

*Amen.*

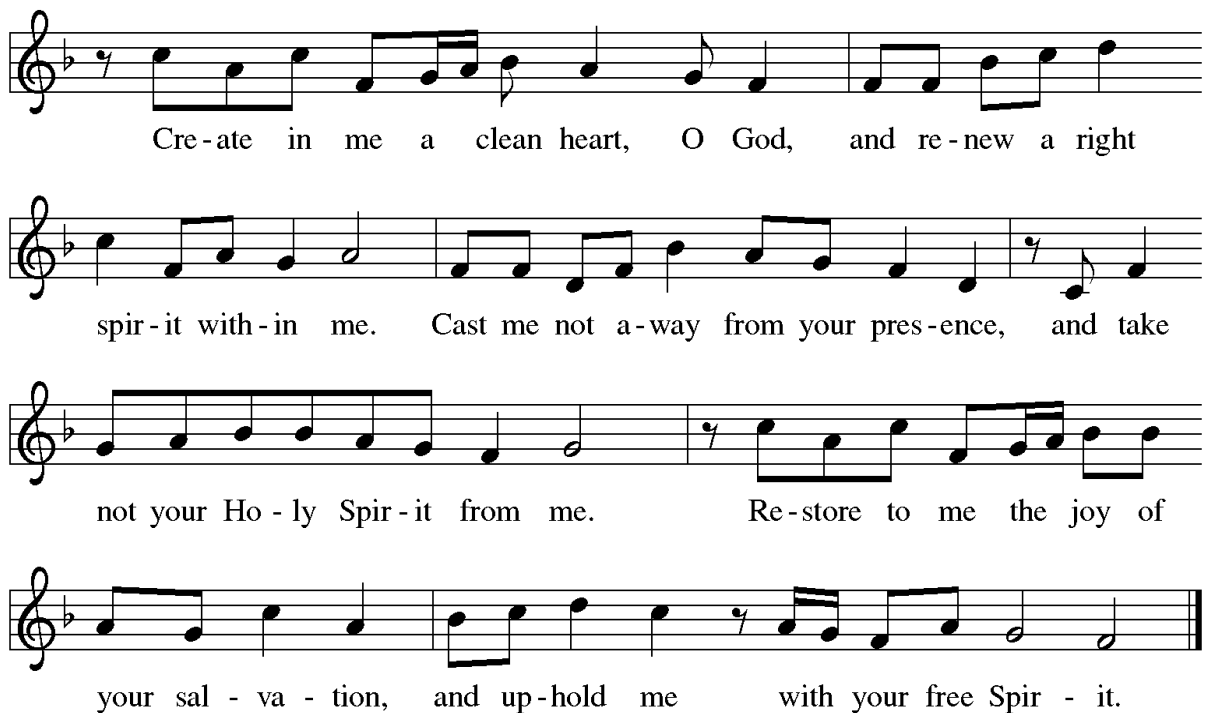
P) The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C) **And also with you.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

### OFFERING

### OFFERTORY



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 to me the joy of  
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together

**Loving God, we give you thanks for the generous gifts you have first given us. May that which we offer to you, come joyfully from our hearts and be pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

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 Him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right...*(pastor continues, concluding with)*, we praise your name and 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, 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*spoken*)

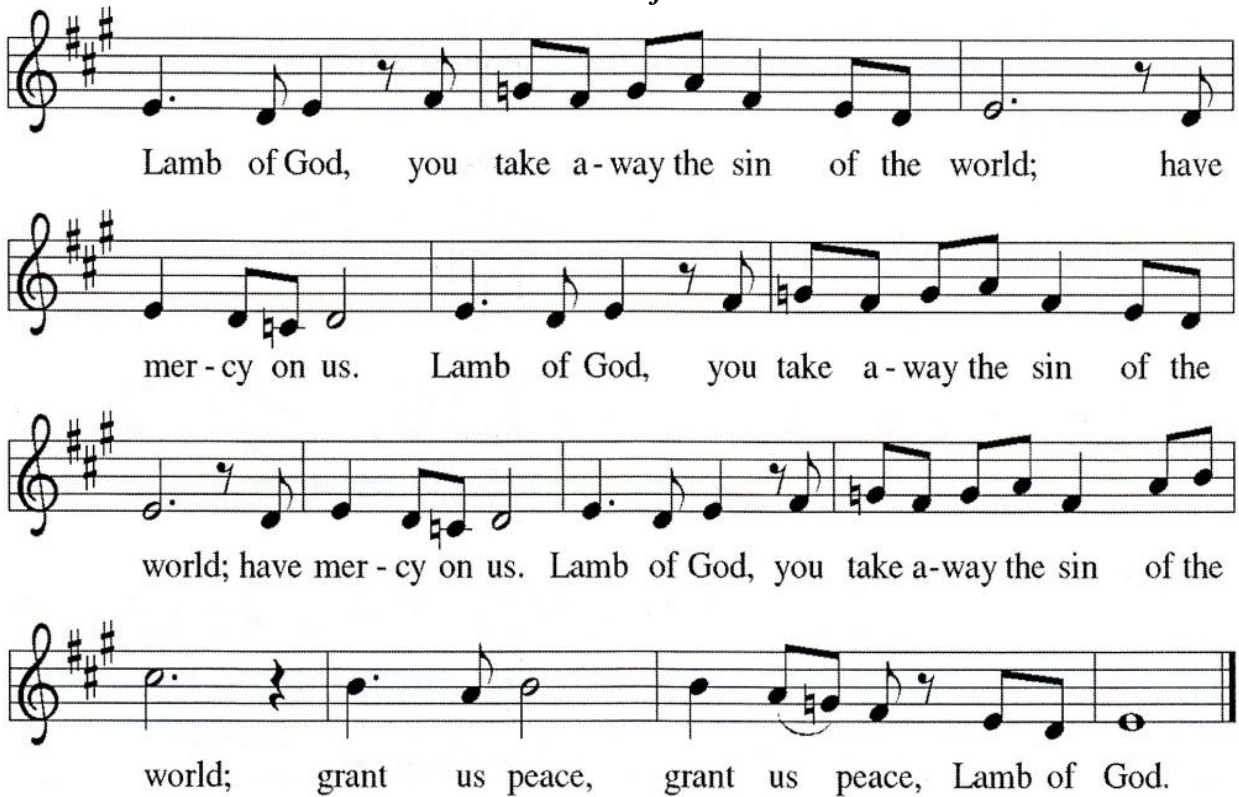
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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** – We believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine/juice, which are his body and blood. All are welcome at the Lord's Table (*the red liquid is wine; the white liquid is grape juice*).

*"Lamb of God"*



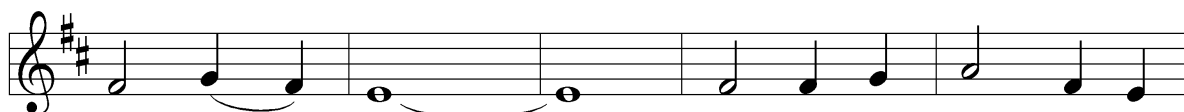
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.



*“Seek Ye First”*



1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God and its  
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and



righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be  
you shall find; knock and the door shall be



add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.  
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

*“They’ll Know We are Christians”*

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
We are one in the Sprit, we are one in the Lord,  
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

*Refrain*

*And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our  
love; yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.*

2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
We will walk with each other we will walk hand in hand,  
And together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land:

*Refrain*

3. We will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
And we’ll guard human dignity and save human pride:

*Refrain*

4. All praise to the Father, from who all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

*Refrain*



*“Give Thanks”*

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
 give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
 give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say, “I am  
 rich,” be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And  
 now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say, “I am  
 rich,” be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Last time

**“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”**

*Refrain*

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, com-ing for to car-ry me home.

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, com-ing for to car-ry me home.

- 1 I looked o - ver Jor - dan, and what did I see,
- 2 If you get . . . there . . . be - fore . . . I do,
- 3 The bright - est . . . day . . . that ev - er I saw,
- 4 I'm some - times . . . up, . . . . I'm some - times down,

com-ing for to car - ry me home? A band of an - gels  
 com-ing for to car - ry me home; tell all my friends I'm  
 com-ing for to car - ry me home; when Je - sus washed my  
 com-ing for to car - ry me home; but still my soul feels

*Refrain*

com-ing af - ter me, com-ing for to car - ry me home.  
 com - ing . . . too, com-ing for to car - ry me home.  
 sins . . . a - way, com-ing for to car - ry me home.  
 heav-en - ly . . . bound, com-ing for to car - ry me home.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

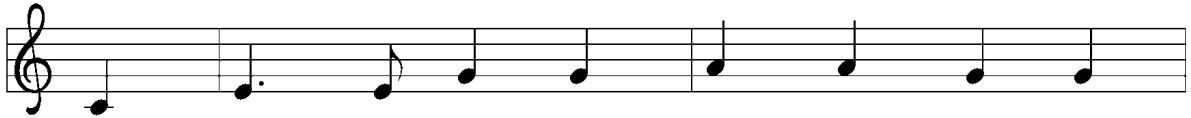
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in His grace. *Amen.*

Let us pray together...**We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you, and in fervent love toward one another, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**THE BLESSING**

## SENDING SONG

*“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”*



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than  
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I  
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -  
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my  
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and  
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are  
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.  
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

*Refrain*



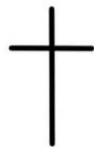
On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

Rob Aaron – piano ~ Nancy Martin - choir ~ Pr. Gary Heltsley – presiding



## TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

**Greeters:** Diane Heltsley & Donna Smith

**Ushers:** Jerry & Char Pedersen

**Reader:** Kristian Schonberg

**Sacristans:** Linda Gaskins & Bonnie O'Hanlon

**Communion Assistants:** Sandi Fleury & Shelley Marion

**Barista:** Michael Wright      **Close Up:** Council Member

**Altar Flowers:** Dennis & Bonnie O'Hanlon

*In honor of Dennis' dad's birthday, Lawrence D. O'Hanlon*

**Last Week's Attendance:** 94    **Last Week's Offering:** \$2,877.45

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome to North Bay Lutheran Community Church!** We hope you are blessed today as we worship the Lord together. If you are a visitor, please feel free to fill out an attendance card located in the slot in front of you and drop it in the offering plate. We also invite you to stay for fellowship following our service. We are glad that you're here!

**Fellowship time** – Today – St. Patrick's Day Theme. *Next week (March 23<sup>rd</sup>)* Nachos Sunday (please bring tortilla chips and/or nacho cheese sauce, or nacho toppings).

**Neighborhood Bible Study** – will meet on **Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:45 pm.** For more information, please contact Sue Nichols or call the church office.

**Dementia Support Group** will meet on **Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.** For more information, please contact Patty Rogers or call the church office.

**Lenten Services** - Lenten services will continue each Wednesday through April 9<sup>th</sup>. We will begin with Soup Suppers in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm. Then at 7:00 pm, we will gather in the sanctuary for a time of peaceful worship, sing the service of the Holden Evening Prayer, and hear a meditation, given by different members of our church family. Please look for sign-up sheets next to the door in the Fellowship Hall to sign up to bring soup or bread.

**“At the Crossroads”** is the theme of the messages for our midweek Lenten services. Many of those involved in the story of the Passion of Christ came to a crossroads and had to decide which way to go. Some chose well, some did not, and the stories of each of these experiences at various crossroads help us to know what to do and what not to do when we encounter similar crossroads in our own lives.



**Women's Bible Study** will meet **Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** at **11:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, please contact Shari Stormo or the church office.

**Men's Bible Study** - will meet this **Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>** at **8:00 am** as we continue our study of the Book of Genesis.

**Work Parties!** Now that the weather is getting warmer, we will once again have monthly church yard work parties on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month during the growing season, March through June. Our first monthly party will be this **Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>** from **10:00 am - 12:00 pm**. Coffee and donuts will be served. Everyone is welcome to help, for all or part of the time. Please bring your tools and thank you for your help!

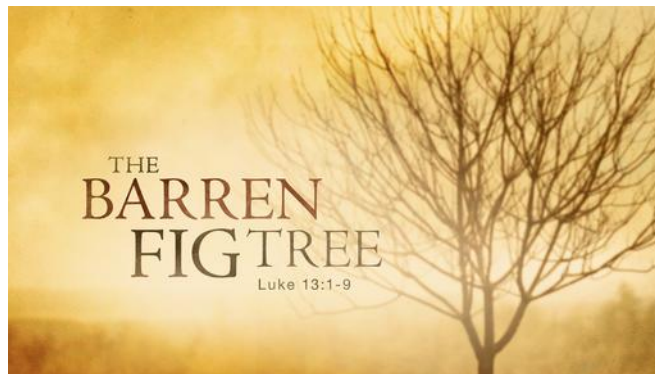
**Office Hours** this week are 9:00 am to 1:00 pm – Tuesday through Friday.

**Pastor Gary** is in the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:30 am to noon.

**Prayers** – Please call the church line with your prayer requests, or if you need pastoral care (360) 275-3390.

### **READINGS FOR MARCH 23, 2025**

Isaiah 55:1-9 ~ Psalm 63:1-8 ~ 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 ~ Luke 13:1-9



**NORTH BAY LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
PO Box 1643 - 221 E Lakeland Dr. - Allyn, WA 98524  
Phone: (360) 275-3390  
Email: [office@northbaylutheran.org](mailto:office@northbaylutheran.org)  
Web site: [www.NorthBayLutheran.org](http://www.NorthBayLutheran.org)