



# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

LOVE JESUS, GROW IN FAITH, SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS

Galesville, WI (608) 582-2818

March 17th, 2024

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

**Pastor Joe Iverson**

Music: Selisa Erickson

## WELCOME TO LENT

### INVOCATION HYMN

*Restore in Us, O God*

#328

### CALL TO WORSHIP

God meets us in the night—

**Before the sun rises, Before the wound heals, Before there are answers, Before there is closure.**

God meets us in the light—

**Where joy is effervescent, Where laughter is contagious, Where flowers bloom from cracks in the sidewalk, And where people gather around the table.**

God meets us at the threshold—

**At the edge of the water, At the beginning of the wilderness, At the start of something new, On the edge of faith.**

And if God meets us in all those places, Then surely God meets us in between—

**Staying with us through the wilderness.**

We are not alone. God is all around.

**Let us worship the God of the here and now.**

### WORSHIP NOTES FOR GUESTS

### GATHERING HYMN

*Old Rugged Cross*

Acc. by Pr. Joe/guitar

### GREETING

L: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

### CALL TO CONFESSION

....So join me in the prayer of confession  
today as we take one step closer to the Divine...

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,

**We want to see you.**

**We want to be known as the people who looked for Jesus;**

**Forgive us for times we forget, to look for you in others,**

**And in ourselves.**

**we want to be a people who have your covenant written on our hearts.**

**Living for you, and others and finding ourselves.**

**Once again, write on our fragile hearts.**

**We would be so grateful. Amen.**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, despite our wonderings, Despite our distractions,  
Despite wrong turns time and time again,  
We are known and loved by God. Like a lighthouse keeper by the sea,  
God will never stop waving us home.  
So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**Our fragile bones are held by the Great Creator.**  
**Our fragile hearts are loved by the Great Creator.**  
**Our tender spirits are forgiven by the Great Creator.**

Today is a new day.

**Again and again, we are forgiven;**  
**Again and again, we are reformed.**  
**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### First Scripture Lesson

### Jeremiah 31:31-34

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

### Second Scripture Lesson

### Psalm 51

(read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

<sup>6</sup>**You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

<sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

pg.189 front of red book, setting 8

Let your stead-fast love, come to us, O Lord.  
Let your stead-fast love, come to us, O Lord.  
Save us as you promised; we will trust, your, word...  
Let your stead-fast love, come to us, O Lord.

## GOSPEL

John 12:20-33

The holy Gospel according to John  
**Glory to you, O LORD**

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

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

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Here I Am Lord*

#574

## 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 THE PEOPLE

Sandy Iverson

Respond to "Lord in Your mercy" with "Hear our prayer"

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING HYMN**

*"Create In Me A Clean Heart"*

#186

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

...Jesus Christ, our risen Savior  
**AMEN**

## **INVITATION TO THE TABLE / STORY OF COMMUNION**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

### **COMMUNION HYMNS**

Let Us Break Bread Together

#471

Stay with Me

#348 (x3)

Eat This bread

#472 (x3)

Instrumental music on the piano

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **SENDING HYMN**

*Bless Now, O God, the Journey*

#326

### **BLESSING**

May the light of God shine upon you

Blessing you with hope, peace

And a holy trust that this God we worship,  
with you now and always,

In the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirt

### **DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

#884

### **INVITIATION COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God. AMEN.**