



Ascension Lutheran Church

3rd Sunday of Lent
Sunday, March 7, 2021

WELCOME/INTRODUCTION

PRELUDE

Lift High the Cross (arr. Larry Shackley)

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.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive 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.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, 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. Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the holy spirit be with you all.

C: **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

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.

PRAYER

P: Let us pray...Holy God, in this wilderness I feel lost. Remind me of your promise: that you are present, that you are faithful, that you bring life.

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Tony

LENTEN VERSE**Return to God**

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.

Optional Repeat

GOSPEL READING

John 2:13-22

P: The Holy Gospel for this day comes from the book of St. John, the 2nd chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Spring Cleaning

Pastor Tony

MUSICAL OFFERING**Your Great Name** (Nordhoff/Neale)

Lost are saved, find their way
At the sound of Your great name
All condemned, feel no shame
At the sound of Your great name
Every fear, has no place
At the sound of Your great name
The enemy, he has to leave
At the sound of Your great name

**Jesus, worthy is the Lamb
That was slain for us
Son of God and man
You are high and lifted up
That all the world will praise
Your great name**

All the weak, find their strength
At the sound of Your great name
Hungry souls, receive grace
At the sound of Your great name
The fatherless, they find their rest
At the sound of Your great name
Sick are healed, dead are raised
At the sound of Your great name
(Chorus)

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 & MUSIC**Here I Am to Worship** (Tim Hughes)

Please sing after each petition:

**Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and



Congregation:
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
fear:
peace:
love.

Final Stanza

Congregation or Assistant:



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

A reminder that when you receive the bread and wine you may say to yourself or others in your home: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

MUSICAL MEDITATION**Come, Let Us Eat** (*setting by John Carter*)**BENEDICTION**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

P: People of God. Be at peace. God is with you. Have courage. You are loved.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING SONG**Make a Difference** (*Rachel Kurtz*)

*You gave Your life to make a difference
 You gave Your life to make a change
 You welcomed all to Your table
 You're telling us to do the same*

Working side by side, no out or inside
 Together we can make that change
 With a few or many, with a lot or not any
 Together we can make that change (**Chorus**)

**I want my life to make a difference
 I want my life to make a change
 I want my life to do some good here
 I want my life to make a change**

Crossing the great divide, joy and peace will abide
 Together we can make that change
 Jesus is our peace all fighting will cease
 Together we can make that change (**Chorus**)

FAITH CONNECTION

Join us as we connect as a church in new ways.

Donate Today or Give By Text or Online

- Text 262-214-3681 with the amount to donate
- Online: tinyurl.com/DonateAscension

College Care Collection: We want to let our college students know we still care for them despite the distance and isolation. We'll be accepting donations March 7-21. More information and to register a student, please [see our website](#). The deadline to register a student is March 14.

Mt. Meru Coffee Available for Purchase: Mt. Meru Coffee is available to purchase at church during office hours (9a-3p, Mon-Thurs, 9a-12p Fri). You can also order by email to [Donna Aschenbrenner](mailto:Donna.Aschenbrenner). Orders are available for pick-up the following week.

Lenten Devotions: Ascension is offering video devotions via email, our [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) three times a week during Lent. Please join us for your Lenten journey.

Blessing Box: We are so thankful for all the donations to the Blessing Box. It is still getting heavy use in this winter weather. Please be aware that plastic, glass or cans can freeze and break so keep an eye on the weather forecast. Dry products, paper products, and cleaning supplies are best during these cold spells.

Prayers

Submit a prayer request [online](#), [by email](#), or phone message to the church office. Please pray:

Thanksgiving

For the birth of a daughter, Sadie, to Jessie and Alex Dati.

Comfort

For Arlene Kelsey at the death of her sister, Nancy
For Sheri Greger and family at the death of her Aunt Lynn

Healing

Lorraine Malchow, hospitalized after a fall, covid-positive and has UTI
Marvin Goetter, upcoming cardiac valve replacement

On our website, ascensionelca.org

- Read the monthly newsletter.
- Register online for next week's worship.
- Watch or re-watch worship and sermons.
- Read blog postings with updated information about church activities.



Easter Lily Donations

If you would like to donate an Easter Lily for our sanctuary this Easter season, please fill-out this form and place in the offering box along with your donation or return the form with your donation to the church office. Lilies are \$12 each.



Donor(s): _____

Donation amount \$ _____

This donation is given (please check):

In celebration of the resurrection of Jesus

To the glory of God

Donated in honor of:

Donated in memory of:

Thank you for helping make the sanctuary beautiful as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus!