

# HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 5, 2023



## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.



## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to offer God's Word of Love, Grace, Mercy and Justice to our homes, congregation, city and all creation.**

### **Welcome**

We are delighted you have come to worship. Relax, sing, and center yourself on the presence of God here today. Let the congregation and this bulletin guide you and follow along as you are able. Join us after the service for refreshments. We look forward to meeting you. **Due to the new city ordinance, please wear your mask at all times. Regardless of vaccination status.**

### **Visitor**

Please complete the attendance card located in the pew, you may also include a prayer, concerns, and other information you would like the church to know. If you are interested in meeting with pastor, learning more about our community or becoming a member, please make a note on the card.

### **Music**

If you don't know a song, sing along as you are able and don't worry about getting it right. Just praise.

### **Children are Welcomed Here**

Children enrich our worship experience. The sounds of crying, laughing, and talking are welcome in our church; these sounds are a true gift and remind us of God's presence. Children may find crayons and coloring sheets helpful during worship, you can find some in our narthex.

### **Holy Communion**

The congregation will be celebrating Holy Communion this morning. All are welcome no matter your background. Both wine and grape juice, and gluten-free bread are offered at the table. **Due to covid we ask that when you stand at the rail you keep 3-6 feet from others. Once you have received communion, please go back to your seat using the far left or right walkways.**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

**GATHERING SONG**

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

(ELW 321)

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.

**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.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
 who forgives all our sin,  
 whose mercy endures forever.

**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.**

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

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

## **KYRIE**

### Jesus, Remember Me

(ELW616)

Two systems of musical notation for the hymn 'Jesus, Remember Me'. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.' The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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.**

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

## **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

A reading from Genesis.

*God's call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.*

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Refrain:* I lift up my eyes to the hills; my help comes from the LORD. **R**

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

**My help comes from the LORD,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

**Behold, the keeper of Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep; R**

the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

**the sun will not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth for-evermore. R**

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

A reading from Romans.

*In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.*

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null, and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable proclaiming the word of God.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## **GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

The holy gospel according to John.

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.*

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The gospel of the Lord.

### **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

## **SERMON**

Ted Goulet

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

### **God Loved the World**

(ELW 323)



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all  
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in  
trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues  
sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by  
Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.  
Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.  
Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

## 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

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

O God, you so love your church. Raise up leaders who care for your people. Bless lay theologians, seminary and college professors, and all who are called to the ministry of teaching, that they form and inspire us for the work of the gospel. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your creation. Breathe new life into our planetary home. Guide the work of researchers, scientists, and activists who love your earth and who inspire us to care for the natural world. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love the world. Uphold leaders who resist tyranny and oppression. Strengthen organizations that promote peace and harmony. Direct their work to alleviate human suffering and to address its root causes. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your people. Draw near to all who live with mental illness, depression, or addiction, and accompany them in healing and recovery. Hear the cries of those who look to you in their distress. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your children. Bless the young in our midst, and delight us with their joy, wonder, and curiosity. Revive our ministries with children and youth and equip us all for faithful discipleship. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your saints. As our ancestors in the faith have been a blessing to us, so inspire us by their example of holy living to be a blessing to those who come after us. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

For what else shall we pray for today?

*We invite prayers from the congregation to be shared.*

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

*The usher will now pass with the offering plate.*

**MUSIC**    *Amazing Grace*    *arr. Myra Schubert*

Ma-Li Lin

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

## OFFERING

### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## 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.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

These elements, the bread, wine & grape juice were consecrated previously by Pastor Marc Mohr

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

## COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
Amen.

## COMMUNION SONG

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.

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

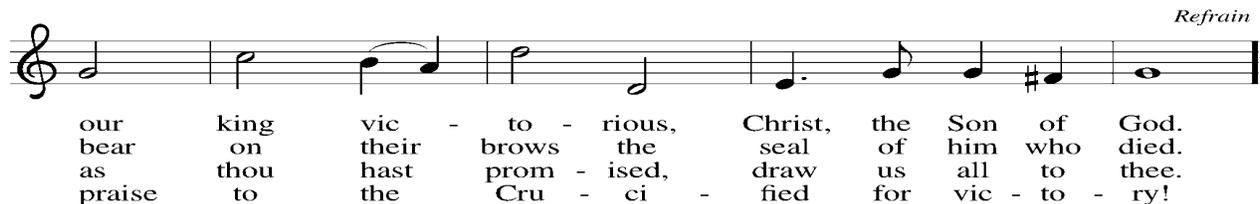
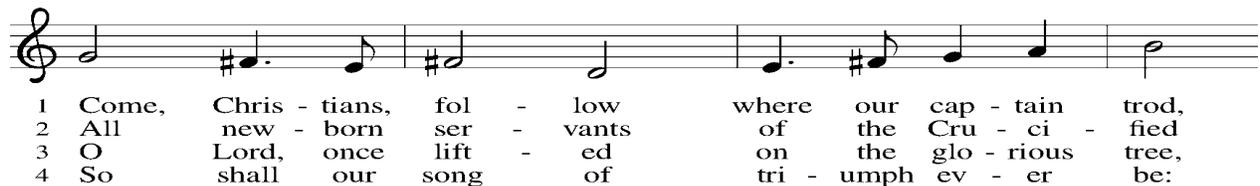
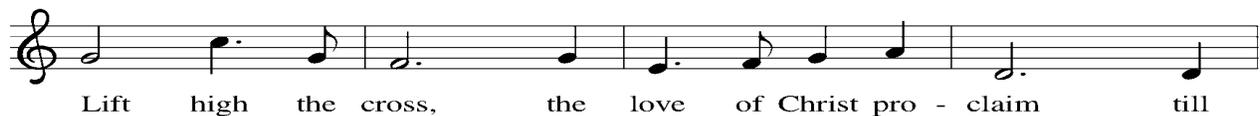
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

### Lift High the Cross

(ELW 660)



## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Just a Closer Walk With Thee*

*arr. James Denton*

Ma-Li Lin



Please offer your prayers throughout the week for the following individuals:

**Special Prayer:**

God of peace, give leaders of nations the wisdom to choose peace over war, dialogue over conflict.  
Comfort those who are in fear and are caught in the middle of the conflict.

**For healing:**

Sandy, Patrick Tapia, Sylvia Goulden, David Dias

**For trust in your mercy:**

Jason Meadows

**For wholeness and well-being:**

Roy Stone, Bill Richards

**For strength and healing in fighting cancers:**

Barbara "B" Wilke, Beverly Harris, Jennifer Yates, Johnny Birge, Will Terry, Jaha Blackwell, Sam Gros,  
Debra Lande, Tim Pugh

**For hopefulness and strength:**

Marcia, Raoul Tapia & Family, Bruce Galsim sons Xavier Lorenzo & Linus Sebastian

For all people in the military who are deployed or serving our country.

**Memorial Candles are lit in memory of:**

Elizabeth Woodbury, Raul Scott Salas, Raoul Tapia Sr.

As a reminder, this community is inclusive and welcomes all of God's people. The rainbow candelabra located on the altar serves as a reminder of this community's inclusive and intentional welcome to the LGBTQ+ community.

The paschal candle located at the entrance of the sanctuary is used by our congregation as the welcoming light of Jesus Christ. In the same way that it has traditionally been utilized as light to the world.

If anyone would like to add or re-add a name please email or call our office.

[hollyluth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hollyluth@sbcglobal.net) (323)667-1212

Names normally remain on our list for a month or it's removed before by request.

Lent

**HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**101st Year,**

We are a congregation of the Southwest California Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Email: hollyluth@sbcglobal.net Phone: (323)667-1212  
Website: www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net Youtube:HLCstudios

**In Today's Liturgy**

Sermon: Ted Goulet  
Assisting Minister: Karla Richards  
Lector: Bill Richards  
Plants are given to the glory of God

**Upcoming Calendar at a glance**

Food Pantry Delivery on Mondays 8:00 am  
Food Pantry Distribution on Wednesdays  
10:00am-1:00pm  
Mariposa Ministry March 19<sup>th</sup>  
(3rd Saturday of the month)

Plants are given to the glory of God

- The HLC Food Pantry serves over 100 families a week. Please see Tom Scott for the next opportunity to lend your support or volunteer.
- Mariposa Ministry is always accepting letter writing volunteers, any help would make a difference. Every 3rd Saturday of the month is when they all get together to write letters. Please see David Conrad for details.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Daylight Saving Starts Next Week Sunday, March 12,2023**

**HOLDEN EVENING**

Soup Supper 6:00 pm Prayer 7:00 pm  
Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>

*Book Launch, Reading, & Signing*

Lincoln and Rachmaninoff Walk Into a Bar  
*A climate change novella*  
By **Cherie Magnus**

Saturday, March 25, 1:00pm.  
*A mini piano concert by Dr. Sergei Silvansky.*

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

Soup Supper 6:00 pm Prayer 7:00 pm  
Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>

Free. All welcome.