

The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

*Psalm 23:2*

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light.

Live as children of light.

*Ephesians 5:8*

## **Fourth Sunday in Lent**

March 19, 2023

11:00 AM

*Shared on Augsburg Lutheran Church YouTube Channel*

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

*The mission of Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God  
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through  
worship, witness, education, service and fellowship.*

**On the center aisle of each pew is a folder known as the Friendship Register.** Please sign the register and check if you are communing today. Be sure to review the sheet to identify visitors. Please hand the completed pages from the register to an usher during the singing of the Hymn of the Day.

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting Five*

*The paraments are purple during the season of Lent. This deep rich color has come to represent somberness and solemnity, penitence, and prayer.*

## **✠ GATHERING ✠**

### **ACCLAMATION**

Timothy Olsen

Return to the LORD, your God, who is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

### **OPENING VOLUNTARY** Prelude on Psalm 23

Healey Willan

*Julianne Zhu, Music Intern*

*We stand.*

### **RINGING OF THE BELL**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the help of your people,  
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.  
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit  
that we may confess our sin,  
receive your forgiveness,  
and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

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.**

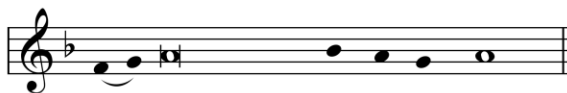
*The assembly turns to face the cross as it enters the sanctuary, following the cross as we have followed Jesus into this holy place and time of corporate worship.*

**GATHERING HYMN 339 Christ, the Life of All the Living JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN**

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.**

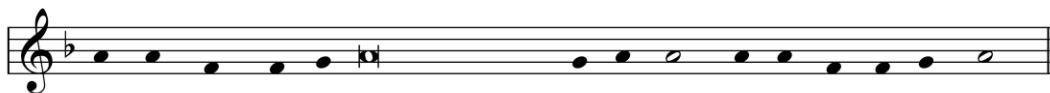
# KYRIE



In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, com - fort and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

*After the prayer the assembly responds:* **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## WELCOME

# ✠ WORD ✠

## FIRST READING 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 23** *Read responsively by verse; P-Pulpit side, L-Lectern Side*

*P* <sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

*L* <sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

*P* <sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

*L* <sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

*P* <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

*L* <sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

**SECOND READING** Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

*We stand.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

## **GOSPEL** John 9:1-16, 35-41

The holy gospel according to John. *The assembly responds:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

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

*We sit.*

## **CHILDREN’S SERMON**

### **SERMON**

Rev. Joe Yucha

*We stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** 843 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

NETTLETON

## **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.

*Each portion of the prayers concludes:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

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 presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*We sit.*



# ✠ MEAL ✠

## OFFERING

**\*OFFERTORY ANTHEM** Psalm 23

text: Michael Morgan  
music: William Stevens

As faithful shepherds tend their flocks, so God will care for me;  
And from God's store of grace my needs are met abundantly.  
In pastures green, by waters still, my soul new life doth take;  
And in the paths of righteousness I follow for God's sake.  
When death surrounds I will not fear, God's strength dispels my dread;  
I hold God's blessing in my heart and face my fear instead.  
For as a lamb, my comfort rests upon the Shepherd's rod,  
To bring me home, where'er I stray into the fold of God.  
A bounteous feast for me is placed in presence of my foes;  
My head with oil the LORD anoints, my cup with grace o'erflows.  
The lovingkindness of the LORD Is mine for all my days;  
And in God's house for evermore I'll join the songs of praise.

*Julianne Stevens, Satie Stevens, Jakob Olsen, trebles  
Laura Dangerfield Stevens, flute*

*We stand.*

\*Today's anthem, a metrical setting for Psalm 23 with music by Bill Stevens, is by Michael Morgan. Michael is one of three important hymn writers and good friends of Augsburg whom we lost last year along with Susan Paolo Cherwien and Thomas Troeger. In the fall we plan to have a hymn, psalm, or anthem by one of those poets for eight Sundays.

## OFFERTORY HYMN



Let us pray.

**Holy God, gracious and merciful,  
you bring forth food from the earth  
and nourish your whole creation.**

**Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way,  
that all may know your care;  
and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are connected by slurs, indicating a continuous melodic line. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens used to indicate syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff has a double bar line in the middle. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

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 in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - - - na in the high - est.

The image shows five staves of musical notation in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are connected by slurs, indicating a continuous melodic line. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens used to indicate syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff has a fermata over the final note. The fifth staff ends with a double bar line.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness  
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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 for the 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 for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us. Send us forth,  
burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,  
with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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



Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,  
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.  
Give us to-day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as  
we for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri - al  
and de-liv-er us from e - vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r, and the  
glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

*The presiding minister lifts the bread and cup and says*

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ. When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

*The assembly responds*

**Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread, as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.**

## AGNUS DEI

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. A - men.

*We sit.*

### COMMUNION

*Holy Communion is available to all who believe, through two options. Those who are able are invited forward to receive the bread and wine through the method of intinction. Please let an usher know if you need a gluten-free wafer or grape juice option. You may also choose to receive an individual pre-sealed communion kit from an usher that you are welcome to bring forward for the Eucharistic Proclamation. The pastors will come to the pews of those unable to come forward. Those who would like to receive a blessing instead of communion are asked to cross their hands when they come forward.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond Amen.*

### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

**HYMN 814** Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am *(Sung three times)*

TAKE ME AS I AM

**HYMN 779** Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

NEW BRITAIN

*We stand.*

## TABLE BLESSING

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

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *Nunc dimittis*

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has  
been ful-filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion  
which you have pre-pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:  
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions  
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it,  
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er.  
A - men.

Let us pray. God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# ✠ SENDING ✠

## BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly faces the cross as it leaves the sanctuary, following the cross as we follow Jesus into the world. All remain facing the cross for the dismissal.*

**SENDING HYMN** 793 Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY** Toccata in E Minor

Johann Pachelbel

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## AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod*

### ***Rostered Ministers of Word and Sacrament***

The Reverend Paul A. Wollner, Senior Pastor

The Reverend Joe Yucha, Associate Pastor

### ***Rostered Minister of Word and Service***

The Reverend Katie B. Bryant, Youth & Emerging Ministries

Our rostered ministers observe Friday as their sabbath day.

Please refer to the announcement sheet for the pastor on call.

Nancy Carbone, Parish Administrator

Daniele Olsen, Executive Assistant

Hannah Norem, Communications Coordinator

Leigh Anna Voigt, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Robin Welch, Youth & Outreach Coordinator

Dr. Timothy Olsen, Cantor

Christin Barnhardt, Handbell Choir Director

Julianne Zhu, Music Intern

Reggie Jackson, Lead Sexton

Carl Davis, Sexton

*Augsburg Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation*