

**Sunday, April 6, 2025**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
**SUNDAYS AND SEASONS 2025 – ELW SETTING #10**



### **INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

*Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.*

### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **RINGING OF THE CHIMES**

### **GATHERING**

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

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

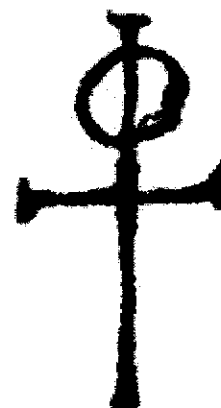
Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Compassionate One,  
you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
but our lives do not always reflect you  
and your love for the world.  
We do not show others the tender compassion  
you have shown to us.  
We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality  
you grant to all people.  
We oppress others,  
even though you have set us free again and again.  
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.  
Transform our lives  
and guide us again in the way of the cross.  
**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God's arms are always stretched open wide  
to welcome the wandering ones home.  
In ☩ Christ your sins are forgiven.  
You have a place in God's house forever.  
**Amen.**

**Gathering Song: ELW #661 "I Love to Tell the Story"**



## **Apostolic 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.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all 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.**

*Please be seated while the children come forward.*

## **Children's Time**

### **The Word – Readings**

#### **First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21**

*The prophet declares that long ago God performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, God is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new Exodus.*

<sup>16</sup> Thus says the LORD,  
    who makes a way in the sea,  
    a path in the mighty waters,  
<sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse,  
    army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
    they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
<sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things,  
    or consider the things of old.  
<sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing;  
    now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
    and rivers in the desert.  
<sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honor me,  
    the jackals and the ostriches;  
for I give water in the wilderness,  
    rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
    <sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.



Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalm: Psalm 126**

*Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. (Ps. 126:5)*

<sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
    then were we like those who dream.  
<sup>2</sup> **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.**  
    **Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."**  
<sup>3</sup> The LORD has done great things for us,  
    and we are glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup> Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses of the Negeb.

<sup>5</sup> Those who sowed with tears  
will reap with songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup> Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

### Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

*Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.*

[Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup> If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup> Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup> More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup> Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

### Gospel Acclamation for Lent – ELW Setting # 10 – S205b



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.



### Gospel: John 12:1-8

The Gospel according to John, the 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.*

<sup>1</sup> Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup> Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup> (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was

a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup> Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon**

**Pastor Dean Willich**

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

**Hymn of the Day: ELW #685 "Take My Life, That I May Be"**

**The 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**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

The church declares your praise, O God. Guide us in the example of Isaiah's imagination, Paul's transformed identity, and Mary's faith and devotion; that our lives, too, may be poured out in love as we trust in your promises. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

The earth declares your praise, O God. Make a way for the planet's future in the sea and the wilderness, the mountains and plains, the tundra and wetlands. Repair habitats and sustainable ecosystems on, above, and beneath the ground. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

The nations declare your praise, O God. Where religious differences divide, bring together those who worship you in the name of Jesus Christ and those who call to you with different names. Guide interreligious dialogue, that faith may unite rather than divide communities. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

The people declare your praise, O God. Restore those whose hope has been dampened through a health diagnosis, job or home loss, divorce, or death. Bring healing to those in need (*especially those we name aloud or keep in our hearts*). May all who weep now sing songs of joy again. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

The gifts of the Spirit declare your praise, O God. We thank you for artists who proclaim the gospel (*especially Albrecht Dürer, Matthias Grünewald, and Lucas Cranach*). Inspire music, poetry, and images that proclaim the new thing you are doing. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

The communion of saints declares your praise, O God. Giving thanks for those who have died, we trust in the one who has made them his own: Christ Jesus, our crucified and risen Savior. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**Amen.**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

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

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words. The assembly is seated.*

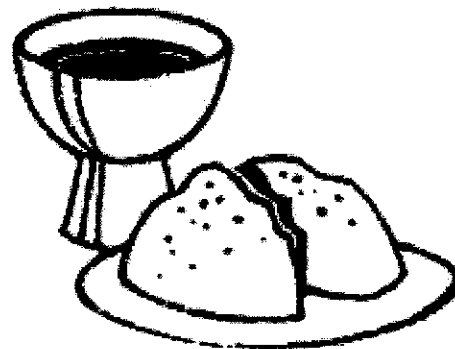
**Offering** – Collection of our offerings.

*Background music will be played during this time. (ELW #685 "Take My Life, That I May Be")*

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

### **Offering Prayer**

Gracious Provider,  
you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.  
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those  
treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**



### **THE MEAL**

### **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.**

## PROPER 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;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
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:

### Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy – ELW Setting # 10 – S207



## The Word's of Institution

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.

## The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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


All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread. Come.

*Please be seated and wait to come forward for Holy Communion after the singing of The Lamb of God song.*

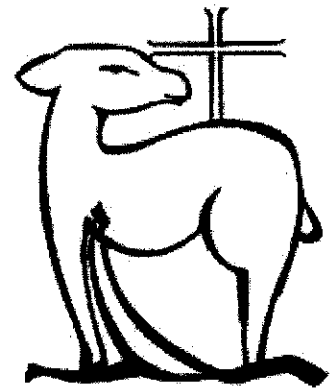
### Lamb of God – ELW Setting # 10 – S208



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.



### Hymn During Communion: ELW #542 “O Living Bread from Heaven”

#### Blessing after Communion

*After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands. The presiding minister may say a table blessing; the assembly responds Amen.*

#### Prayer after Communion

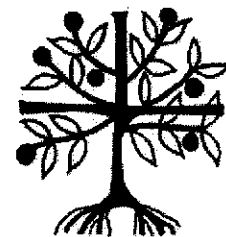
Let us pray, together.

Generous Host,  
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.  
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,  
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,  
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Sending Blessing

God our tender parent,  
God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit,  
✠ bless you now and forever.  
Amen.

**Sending Song: ELW # 334 "Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery" Verses 1, 2, 3, & Lent 5**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**

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**Today's Lay Leaders**

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**Ushers:** Craig & Tania Beyler

**Communion Assistant:** Sandy Ringwall

**Altar Guild:** Deanna Posig

**Music & Worship Coordinator:** Barb Regent

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