



April 3rd, 2022

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620

Fifth Sunday in Lent

To make disciples for Jesus Christ. . .

. . .we **Gather** in faith for worship, prayer,
study and fellowship

. . .we **Equip** the people of God with a faith
that works in real life

. . .we **Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ

Pastor:..... Ellen Schoepf
Music Director:.....Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist:.....Bruce Williams
Church Secretary:..... Katie Love
Youth & Education DirectorPam Williams
Pastor's email:.....prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Church email:.....faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website:.....www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page:.....facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

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

“Andante Tranquillo”

Norman Warren

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God,
who makes a way in the wilderness,
walks with us,
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

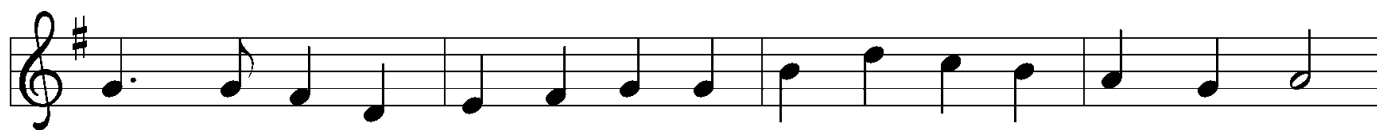
Amen.

Holy One,
**we confess that we have wandered far from you:
we have not trusted your promises,
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.
Have mercy on us!
Forgive us and turn us again to you.
Teach us to follow in your ways,
assure us again of your love,
and help us to love our neighbor.
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,
the Word draws near to you,
and all who call out to God shall be saved.
In Jesus, God comes to you again and again
and gathers you under wings of love.
In ✝ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.
God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Christ, the Life of All the Living



- 1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
- 2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
- 3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

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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.**

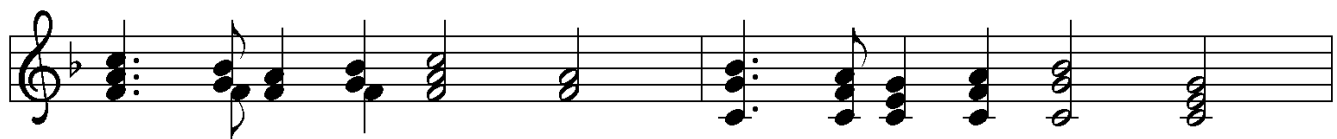
PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

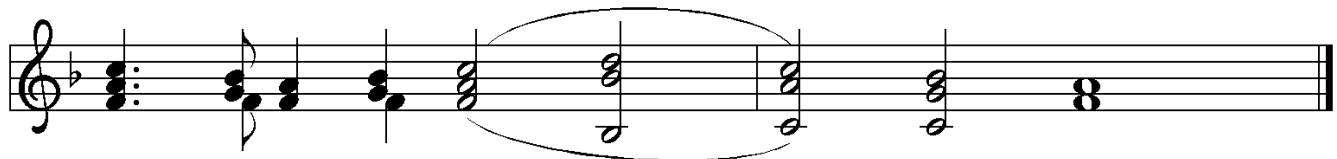
Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.
1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, . . . have mer - cy.
Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

OLD TESTAMENT 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.

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹⁶Thus says the LORD,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸Do not remember the former things,
 or consider the things of old.
¹⁹I 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.
²⁰The 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,
 ²¹the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

²**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.”**

³The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

⁴**Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

⁵Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

⁶**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

NEW TESTAMENT 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.

A reading from Philippians.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised 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; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More 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 ⁹and 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. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not 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. ¹³Beloved, 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, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

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.

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

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary 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. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(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.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

SERMON

Rev. Dr. John D. Schleicher

HYMN OF THE DAY

Holy Woman, Graceful Giver

1) Ho - ly wom - an, grace - ful giv - er, proph - et, ser - vant, and be -
 2) How the frag - rance filled the dwell - ing! How the act of beau - ty
 3) Lo - ving - ly Christ stilled the scof - fer who would grasp - ing guard the
 4) Though dis - dained or though con - test - ed, acts of love are nev - er

4

liev - er, Ma - ry with the oint - ment jar, sought the Christ, by scorn un -
 well - ing blest all those with - in the place! How the act of pure de -
 cof - fer, point - ing to a hid - den trove: Not all trea - sures gain and
 was - ted: Beau - ty is a face of God. Grace - ful Ma - ry, by your

8

daun - ted, knelt in love, his feet a - noin - ted for his com - ing bur - ial
 vo - tion, whisp - ring of his com - ing pass - ion, blest the heart of Christ with
 pro - fit; feed the poor, and feed the spi - rit acts of beau - ty acts of
 giv - ing: you have shown a way of liv - ing: acts of beau - ty, love, and

12

hour, for his com - ing bur - ial hour.
 grace, blest the heart of Christ with grace!
 love; acts of beau - ty acts of love.
 good; acts of beau - ty, love, and good.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Prayers of intercession are prayed. To each petition, the assembly responds: Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes the prayers, and the assembly responds:

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

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

OFFERING

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

(Lani Smith)

Chancel Choir

Please stand if you are able.

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.

DIALOGUE

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-er and might,



heav'n 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is food and drink for the journey.

Take and be filled.

COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION SONG



- 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.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

arr. Dale Wood

Please stand if you are able.

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

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.

BLESSING

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✝ bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

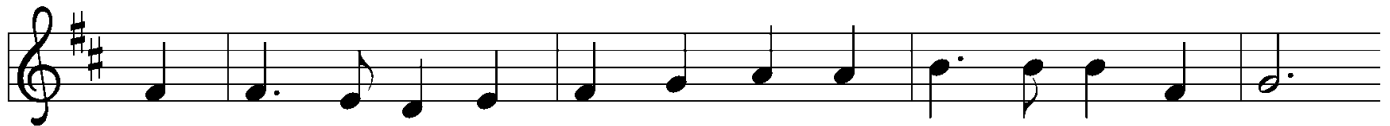
Beneath the Cross of Jesus



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might-y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon-tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869

Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Grand Chorus, Op. 52, No. 1”

Alexandre Guilmant

We encourage those who are able, to remain seated in the chairs for the postlude.

Reader: Jamie Royalty
Lay Assistant: Randy Royalty
Ushers: Walter & Brenda Kopf

Year to Date **January 1-February 28th, 2022**

Income	\$ 49,987.00
Expenses	<u>\$ 55,647.00</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (5,660.00)

3/20
N/A

3/27
N/A

For a quick overview of giving options,
please visit the Faith Lutheran Church
website and look for the giving button in
the top right corner.
www.faithlutheranokemos.org

The area greenhouses are not accepting bulk orders for Easter flowers due to supply chain issues. We would like to have a colorful altar on Easter Sunday and are researching other resources. **If you're interested in purchasing flowers, please designate \$15 for the flower fund along with your dedication by April 3rd.**

Dedication forms are available on the counter in the Narthex. Thank you, Worship Committee





Ukrainian Easter Egg Making and Silent Auction

Saturday, April 9, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Faith Lutheran is excited to host Shannon Donnally Quinn, Assistant Professor of Russian at MSU, and a wonderful crafts-person. She has been making Ukrainian Easter Eggs for years and has offered to volunteer her time and talents to lead a workshop where you will learn about and make some Ukrainian Easter Eggs. All materials and supplies will be provided and the eggs you create will be yours to keep. Space is limited. We are asking for a minimum \$20 donation (collected at the event) for each attendee and all proceeds will go to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) in support of relief efforts for the Ukrainian crisis.

In addition we will have some items up for silent auction, again will all proceeds will go to Lutheran World Relief.

Sign up to reserve your spot at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ukrainian-easter-egg-silent-auction-fundraiser-tickets-305590719067>

If you have any questions, please contact Rich Weingartner, mathwhiz@mathwhiz.org

Silent Auction Donations Needed

To help raise funds for Lutheran World Relief in support of relief efforts for the Ukrainian Crisis, we will be holding a silent auction in conjunction with our Ukrainian Easter Egg making event. We are looking for creative items to be auctioned off - items themed with sunflowers or in blue/yellow colors would fit in very well with the mission of supporting our Ukrainian siblings. If you have items to donate, please contact Rich Weingartner or Mike Eschelbach. Deadline for donations is Wednesday, April 6.



Palm Sunday, Holy Week & Easter

Palm Sunday, April 10 – 10:00 AM

This service marks the beginning of Holy Week. Be present to discover your own rootedness in the drama, which is Christ's passion, a drama that has no audience. As we begin this holiest of weeks, this is a drama in which we are participants. Come and allow the Passion story to embrace you, name you, shape your very being and become your story!

Maundy Thursday, April 14 – 7:00 PM Eucharist

Jesus is making his journey to the cross. That journey includes time with the disciples in that upper room meal where Jesus gives us a new commandment and greets us with his very life and blood. Be present in the quiet as the altar is stripped and we follow Jesus' journey to Gethsemane.

Good Friday, April 15 – 7:00 PM Service

Noon – 3:00 PM – Seven Last Words Service at University Lutheran Church.

Pastor Ellen will be preaching at noon on the First Word, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they are doing." (The rest of the schedule for this service will be included in the April newsletter)

7:00 PM – Good Friday Service at Faith Lutheran

Join us as we stand at the foot of the cross to remember Jesus' passion for this world. We come together to remember that God's love in Jesus transformed the cross and made it a symbol of life, hope and forgiveness.

Easter Sunday, April 17 – 10:00 Eucharist

Be present to rejoice with us in worship as we celebrate Christ's resurrection. Our alleluias will again be proclaimed as we share the joy of the Risen Christ.