

Introduction

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

Quiet Meditation: Prayerful Preparation

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude "Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless"- arr. David Cherwien

Gathering

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

Confession and Forgiveness

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 #774 ELW

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms?



what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.



Refrain

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;
 Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,
 lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1919
 Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924

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.

Kyrie

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

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, 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 holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

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

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

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

First Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.

¹ When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God.

¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

- ¹ You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—
² **you will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust."**
⁹ Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,
¹⁰ **no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**
¹¹ For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in all your ways.
¹² **Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**
¹³ You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.
¹⁴ **I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**
¹⁵ They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.
¹⁶ **With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.**

Second Reading

Romans 10:8b-13

Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.

^{8b} "The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to 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.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 4th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called “the Son of God.”

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.”

⁴ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please.

⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’

¹¹ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” ¹² Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

Sermon

Hymn #779 WOV

“On Eagle’s Wings”

1 You who . . . dwell in the shel - ter of the Lord, who a -
2 Snares of the fowl - er will nev - er cap - ture you, and
3 For to the an - gels God’s giv - en a com - mand to

G DM⁷ Bm

bide in this shad-ow for life, say to the Lord: "My . . .
 fam - ine will bring you no fear; un - der God's wings your . . .
 guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

G DM7 F B^b

ref - uge, . . . my . . . rock in whom I . . . trust!"
 ref - uge . . . with . . . faith - ful - ness your . . . shield.
 bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

Dm C Dm Gm A^{sus4} A

Refrain
 "And I will raise you up on ea - gle's wings,

D

bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the

Em A⁷ D A G D⁷

sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."

G Em A Bm F#m Em A7 D

The image shows a musical score for a song. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in the treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lyrics are "sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand." The piano accompaniment is in the grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with the same key signature and time signature. Chord symbols are written above the piano part: G, Em, A, Bm, F#m, Em, A7, and D.

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Prayers

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

A brief silence.

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. Help us do acts of justice.

God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations.

God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges, and juries, presidents, and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. May genuine peace prevail.

God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share.

God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend people who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We give thanks for healing that has already happened. We pray for all who are ill. We pray for all members of Faith Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry, especially Mary Muckler, Marc Dovenmuehle, Bob Baer, Carol Shrider, Pauly Zody, Sarah Driver, Jordan Seubert, Patrick Hellman, Mary Bausano, Kim, Sue, and Liam.

God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life. We ask for your blessing upon Terry and Fred Schuurmann at the death of Terry's brother. We also lift before you the family and friends of Lisa Glenn, as they grieve and mourn her passing. Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. 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.**

Peace

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

Please greet people near you with a sign of peace.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Wishing to make a donation? This QR code will take you to tithe.ly where we can receive gifts. Please note: a tithe.ly account is required to give in this way but is quick to create!



Choir Anthem

“What Does the Lord Require of you”? by Jim Stratdee

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 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.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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.

Words 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.

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.

**We welcome all to join in the sacrament of Holy Communion as the Holy Spirit guides and
directs.**

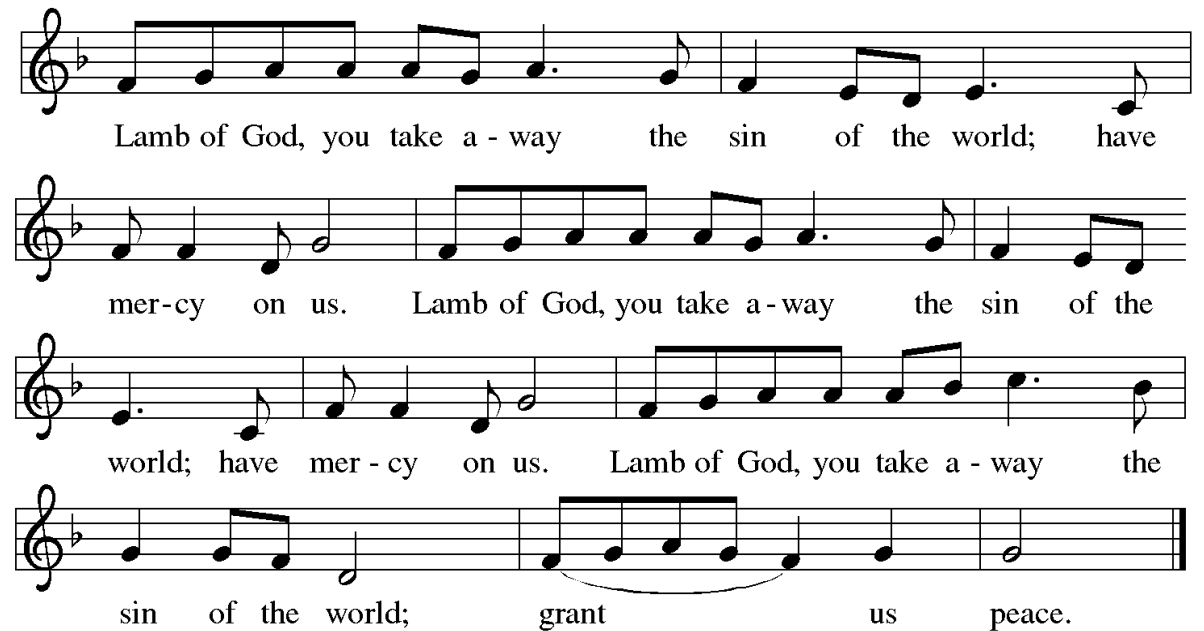
People in worship will be invited to come forward to the altar by pew rows.

*The pastor will distribute a wafer or gluten-free wafer, saying, "The body of Christ, given for
you."*

*Each person will then move toward a volunteer holding a tray of disposable, plastic cups:
the inner ring will be filled with grape juice, the other cups will be filled with wine.*

*As each person selects their cup, they will hear: "The blood of Christ, given for you."
Empty cups will be placed in a tray held by another volunteer after each person has
communed.*

*Pre-sealed cups are on the table in the hallway for anyone who chooses to communion in this
form.*



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.

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

Communion Hymn #325 ELW

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"



1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
me; in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

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 # 534 ELW "Savior, Again to Your Dear Name We Raise"

1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise
2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;
3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,

with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
 with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;
 for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.
 our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;

once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,
 guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
 Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;
 then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,

then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.
 that in this house have called up - on your name.
 your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.
 call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826-1893, alt.
 Music: ELLERS, Edward J. Hopkins, 1818-1901; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"- arr. John Leavitt

Announcements

Welcome! We welcome all visitors and guests. The sacrament of Holy Communion is an essential aspect of our worship, so we invite all who are present to share in this sacrament as the Holy Spirit guides and directs you.

Wednesdays of Lent Each Wednesday, an email devotion will be sent to all our members and friends, containing a message written from Barbara Brown Taylor's wonderful book *Home By Another Way*. Each Wednesday's devotion will carry with it a brief message for you to read and an appropriate Lenten hymn. Watch your email!

Taco Lunch! Join us after worship this morning for a Taco Lunch hosted by our youth, Christian Education & Life Together teams, and participants from our Campus Ministry. Donations will fight food scarcity through Lutheran World Relief.

March Newsletter You may have already received your newsletter by email. Let us know if you need one. Contact Kim at 513.523.3808.

Campus Ministry Lindsay Stevenson (stevenl7@miamioh.edu) and Mason Santalucia (santalmd@miamioh.edu) are our student interns who will be leading our Campus Ministry for this semester. Introduce yourselves. Exchange contact info. Plan to be a part of our events.

Faith's Table On the second Wednesday of each month, we invite our neighbors and friends to join us in a hot meal and offer pantry goods. This ministry is called Faith's Table. We set up at 4:30 pm. We start serving food (both at table and via drive through) at 5:30 pm. Clean up follows, so everyone leaves around 6:30 pm. We love volunteers! Please join us! If you can prepare food to share, please let us know by using the sign-up sheet on the name tag table.

MIAMI STUDENT RECITAL AT FAITH- On Monday evening April 7th, students from the Miami Woodwind Department will present a recital at 7:30 pm at Faith Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry. Will Fleischhauer, a Masters student who attends Faith, is organizing this program with his Professor Aaron Pergram. Please plan on attending- Woodwinds sound beautiful in our Sanctuary!

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Join us at 8:30 am in the Korte Lounge as we continue to compare the life and Passion of Jesus in the gospels.

Zoom Bible Study Please join our next Zoom Bible Study. Our meetings for this study are on Wednesdays, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. We are studying the Minor Prophets. Join us!

Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the **Southwest California Synod ELCA** and **Pacifica Synod ELCA** to assess the most urgent needs for the communities that are being devastated by wildfires.

To donate, you may:

1. Click here (<https://tinyurl.com/3hbrerd7>) to donate directly to Lutheran Disaster Response
2. Send donations to the Southern Ohio Synod, designated for U.S. Wildfires and we will forward them to Lutheran Disaster Response on your behalf. 100% of donations designated as "U.S. Wildfires" will go directly to serve these communities.

We continue to pray for the communities impacted.

Church Office This week, our church office is staffed Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 12 noon. Email our office admin at FaithLutheranOxford@gmail.com or phone 513.523.3808 for any concerns. Please let our admin Kim know whenever you come into the building.