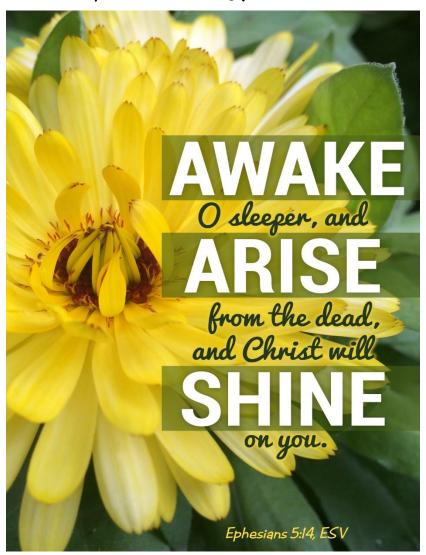
# **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

Worship...Serve...Grow...Connect

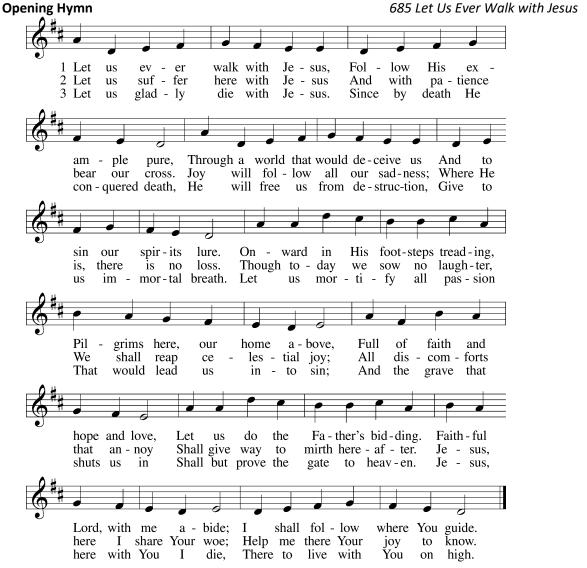


Fourth Sunday in Lent March 19, 2023 - 8:30AM

(Please note this service is being livestreamed.)

## **Welcome & Announcements**

(Please stand)



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#### Invocation

- f P In the name of the Father and of the m + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### **Opening Sentences**

- P Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes; and I will keep it to the end.
- Give me understanding, that I may keep Your law and observe it with my whole heart.
- P Lead me in the path of Your commandments, for I delight in it.
- Behold, I long for Your precepts; in Your righteousness give me life!

  Let Your steadfast love come to me, O LORD, Your salvation according to Your promise.

# **Confession and Absolution**

- **P** Let us make confession of our sins to God, our gracious, heavenly Father.
- Eternal God, we confess that we all have sinned and need forgiveness. By nature, we are sinful from the very beginnings of our lives. Through our thoughts, words, and deeds, we continually sin against You. We have lived for ourselves in many ways, breaking Your commands that direct us not to lie, steal, or transgress Your holy will. We have walked in the darkness of bad choices and have left unfulfilled opportunities to do good and be blessings to others. O God, in Your mercy forgive our sin and free us from selfishness and indifference, that we may joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your commandments. Graciously forgive our sins and direct us in ways of compassion and love.
- God promises to hear those who turn to Him with repentant hearts. Upon this your confession, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 🕂 Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in 🕂 peace.
- C Amen.

## **Service of the Word**

#### **Salutation**

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

## **Prayer of the Day**

**P** Let us pray.

Faithful God, whose grace attends us all our days, look upon us in mercy and renew us by Your Holy Spirit. Direct our steps into pathways of peace and lead us to discover all that is good and right and true. Preserve us in Your righteousness and at last bring us to Your eternal kingdom where You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(You may be seated)

First Reading Isaiah 42:14–21

For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

AThis is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading Ephesians 5:8–14

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern 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 speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

### Children's Message

(Please stand)

Holy Gospel John 9:1–7, 13–17, 34–39

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed 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." Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. . . .

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. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." . . .

They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

(You may be seated)



Pastor Ted Diedrick Sermon

(Please stand)

### **Apostles' Creed**

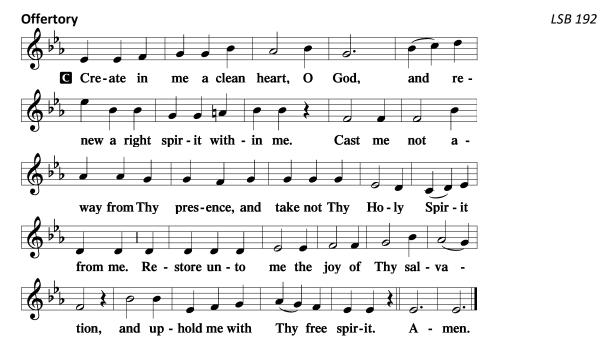
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

(You may be seated)

Ushers will collect offerings and prayer cards

#### Offering

(Please stand)



#### **Prayer of the Church**

Response after each petition

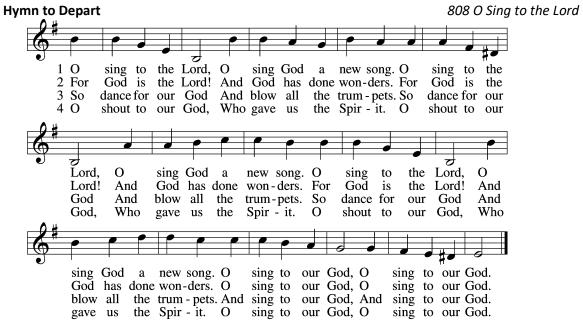
- A Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.

#### **Lord's Prayer**

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.

#### **Benediction**

- P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ♣ give you peace.
- C Amen.



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