

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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LENT 2023

(February 26-April 2)

9:30 a.m. Worship



WHO WE ARE

We are a community grounded in the life and teachings of Jesus.

- We embrace an open approach to every spiritual journey.
- We ask questions together and value every voice.
- We strive for justice through service to the world.

We seek to be transformed by the path we walk together.

WE ARE A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

We are a community embraced by the mystery of God's love for all creation.

We look for the Christ shining in every race, every child and family shape, every sexual orientation and gender identity, every physical and mental ability, every economic status, and every faith perspective. Within this dynamic community, we foster meaningful connections and experiences as we live into faith and face the issues of our time.

Together, we strive to live with loving hearts, open minds, and hands extended to all.

"... for all of you are one in Christ." – Gal. 3:2

LENT: A MICROCOSM OF OUR LIFE'S JOURNEY

The six weeks of Lent is a very intense, concentrated form of what we see happening throughout our lives. We all go through highs and lows, and in Lent we see Jesus' highs and lows in the last part of his earthly life, viewing them through the lens of our own experience. We all know disappointment in relationships, and in Lent we see the political-religious authorities turn against Jesus, even as his disciples become confused and fearful. We all must bear things difficult to face, and in Lent we see Jesus carrying the cross on which he would be executed. Yet we are a people of hope, because we know how Jesus' story ends. Let us take our Lenten journey, aware of both the pain and the glory of human existence, following in the steps of the one who taught us how to achieve the highest potential of our humanity.

PRELUDE

see insert

WELCOME

Please rise as you are able

OPENING DIALOG

L: Welcome, friends, to this holy day.

We come to offer thanks; we come to sing and pray and learn.

Welcome, friends, to this time set apart.

A time to experience the love of God and the love of our community.

Welcome, friends, to this table of remembrance and joy.

The table where we are fed, the feast we share with many.

Welcome, friends. Let us take the Lenten journey together.

HYMN

see insert

The community is seated

L OLD TESTAMENT READING

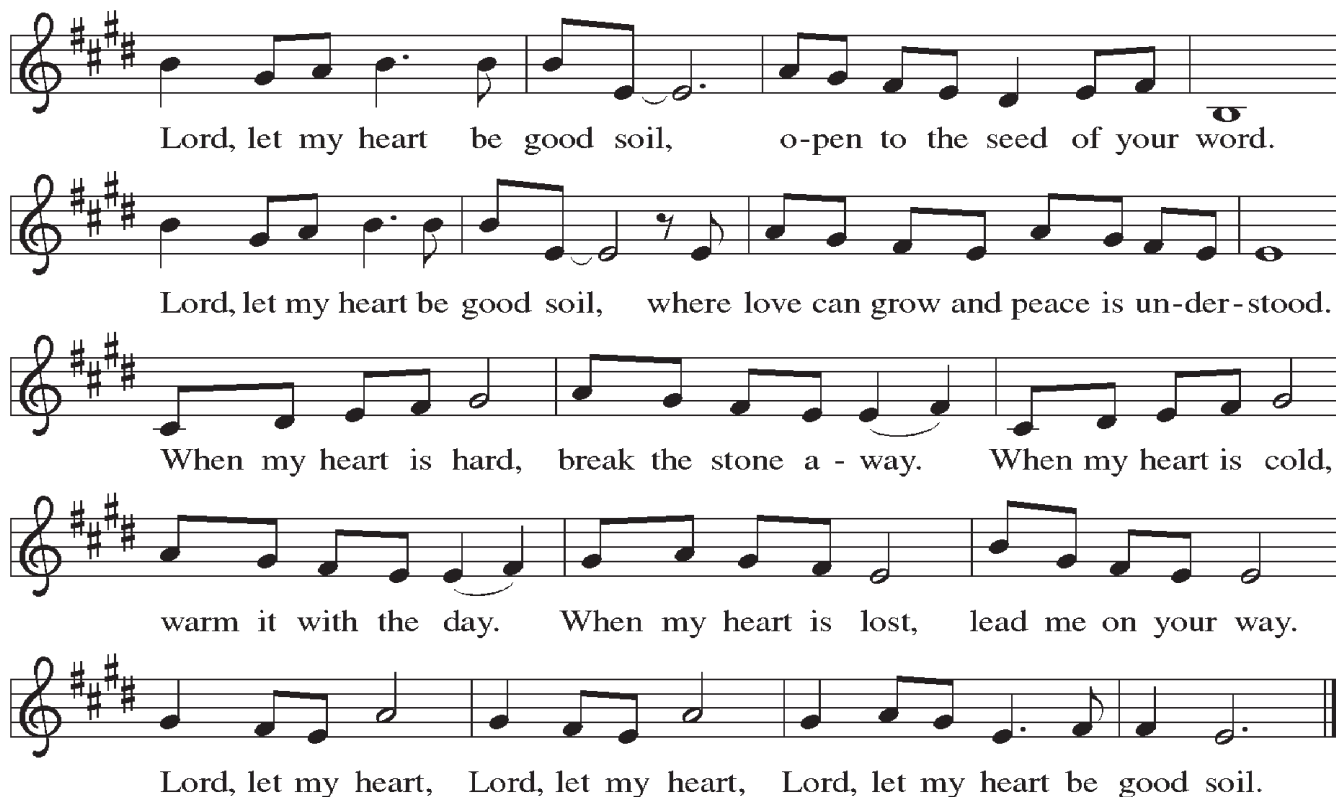
see insert

L PSALM (read responsively)

see insert

Please rise as you are able

GOSPEL VERSE



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

L GOSPEL

see insert

HYMN OF THE DAY

see insert

The community is seated

SERMON

Please rise as you are able

L THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

L PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each prayer,

L: God, who journeys with us,

Hear our prayer.

L PEACE

May the peace of God, that surpasses all understanding, be with you all.

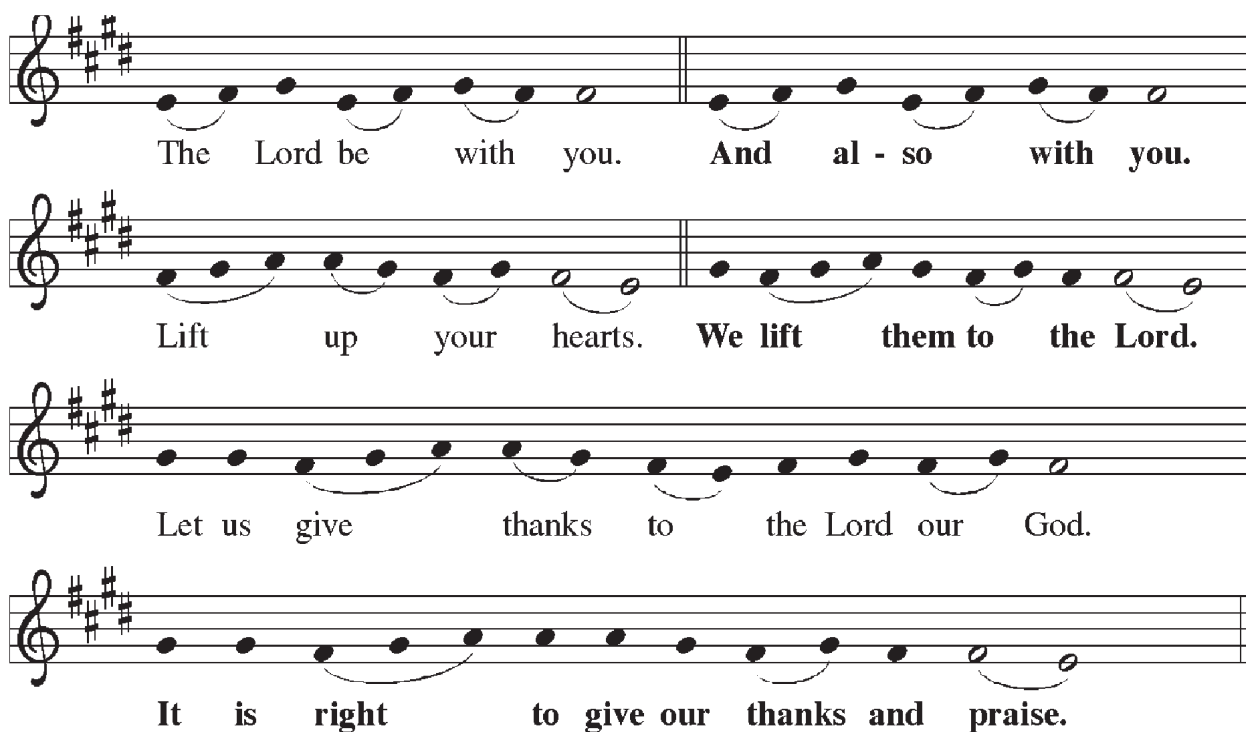
And also with you.

The community is seated

SPECIAL MUSIC

see insert

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

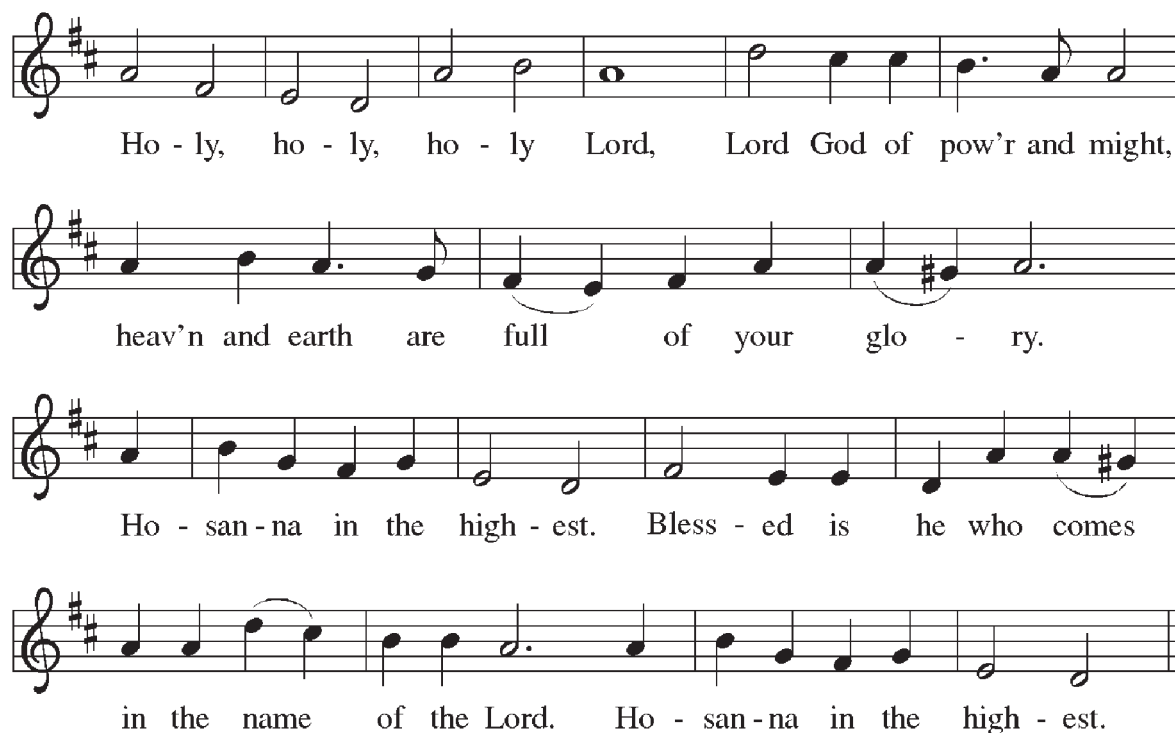
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE



HOLY (SANCTUS)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*As a sign of our welcome to all, our communion wafers are gluten-free;
in addition, there is the choice of wine (red) or grape juice (white).*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS (please sing as the sacrament is shared) see insert

PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

see insert

CLOSING BLESSING

L: Let us all bless each other as we leave this place to continue our Lenten journey:

**May God, the giver of Love,
Christ, the resurrection and the life,
And the Holy Spirit of rebirth,
Bless us as we each make our Lenten journey.
Amen.**

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.



WORSHIP INSERT

March 26, 2023

Leading Worship Today

Pastor: Dan Senter

Dir. of Worship/Music: Martin Morley

Liturgist: Trudy Triner

Prelude Lenten Meditation
Rex Koury

First Hymn ELW 526
God Is Here! vs 1,2

Scriptures
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
John 11:38-44

Hymn of the Day ELW 333
Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land

Special Music Choir
Out of the Depths (Psalm 130)
Dan Nelson

Distribution Hymns
ELW 331, 359, 319

Sending Hymn ELW 526
God Is Here! vs 3,4

Postlude Sarabande
Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Our current Covid-19 guidelines make masking optional, but still highly recommended. Please distance your seating 6-10 feet from other individuals/family pods.

April is that time of year we ask each household to review their level of financial support for OSLC and provide a best estimate of giving intentions for the next fiscal year. Watch for a letter soon from our OSLC Treasurer, Greg Wikler that includes all you need to participate. We will spend the month gathering responses and putting a budget together to present to the congregation for comment and modification during the month of May. This conversation informs the creation of the budget for both OSLC and Creekside Commons to be presented at our annual meeting, on June 11th.

New Book Discussion Group

All are invited to join our next Book Discussion Group, beginning April 12, for seven sessions ending on May 24. The book is "Wholehearted Faith" by Rachel Held Evans (with Jeff Chu). Rachel Held Evans (1981-2019) was a NY Times best-selling author whose essays and blogs on matters of faith have been widely read and shared on social media. "Wholehearted Faith," assembled by her friend Jeff Chu after Rachel's untimely death at 37, has been described as "a rich collection of essays that ask candid questions about the stories we've been told—and the stories we tell—about our faith, ourselves, and our world." Facilitated by Martin Morley, our book discussion groups have Zoom meetings on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:00 pm and are open to anyone with an interest in the book we are reading.

New Bridge Class Begins

Monday, April 10th | 10:00 - 12:00

You are invited to join the Contra Costa Bridge Center for a new "BASIC BIDDING" class starting Monday, April 10 and running 8 sessions until June 5, (No class Memorial Day, May 29). This class will be held in Oakview 1 at Creekside Commons.

This class is open to new players and to those who may have taken one or more classes and would appreciate a review. If you or your friends may benefit from this class, please contact Deb Rechnitz at drechnitz@comcast.net or 925-360-1330

Prayer Requests

Prayers for healing for Joan Stevenson, recovering from a series of falls and broken bones.

Prayers of comfort for Pam Ruh and her family in the passing of Bob Ruh.