

WELCOME TO



GLORIA DEI
LUTHERAN CHURCH
GATHERING IN CHRIST † SHARING HIS LOVE

4th Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

We welcome all who worship with us. If you are a guest, we are especially glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Our worship is always enhanced by new faces and voices. If you are already a part of our church family, welcome home.

www.gloriadeielca.com

Prelude: Voluntary

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

P: CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. 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 HYMN: ELW 807 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

P: 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: ELW (Page 138) "In peace let us pray to the Lord"

P: PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray....

A brief silence is kept for our own intentions.

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*All respond: **Amen.***

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 32



Be glad, you right-teous, and re - jice in the LORD.

Psalm 32:11

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¹ Happy are they whose transgressions I are forgiven,
and whose sin is I put away!

² **Happy are they to whom the LORD im- I putes no
guilt,**

and in whose spirit there I is no guile! R

³ While I held my tongue, my bones with- I ered away,
because of my groaning I all day long.

⁴ **For your hand was heavy upon me I day and
night;**

**my moisture was dried up as in the I heat of
summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not
con- I ceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."
Then you forgave me the guilt I of my sin.

⁶ **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers
to you in I time of trouble;**

**when the great waters overflow, they I shall not
reach them. R**

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve I me from trouble;

you surround me with shouts I of deliverance.

⁸ **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that I you should go;**

I will guide you I with my eye.

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no I understanding;

who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will I not stay near you."

¹⁰ **Great are the tribulations I of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust I in the LORD.**

¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice I in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are I true of heart. **R**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 177 "Lenten
Acclamation"**

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The assembly is seated.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

**HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 779 "Amazing Grace, How
Sweet the Sound"**

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

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

**God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.**

*The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.
The assembly is seated.*

PEACE

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.
The peace of Christ be with you always.*

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Deuteronomy 16:17

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord, your God, which he has given you.

OFFERTORY: ELW 686 "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

OFFERTORY PRAYER

After the table is set, the assisting minister leads in prayer. Please stand at the invitation to pray:

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS: ELW page 144 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister leads the Eucharistic Prayer

At the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer, all say:

Amen.

...With this bread and cup

We remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P- Grace our table with your presence.

C- Come, Holy Spirit.

P- Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love.

C- Come, Holy Spirit.

P- We praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever

C- Amen

***The Lord's Prayer (Spoken)**

(Those who wish may hold hands as a sign of Christian unity).

**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.

LAMB OF GOD: ELW (page 146) "Lamb of God"

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All Baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Those who do not wish to commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing (fold your arms over your chest).

The Body is available as bread or gluten-free Host.

The Blood is available as wine (large chalices) or non.-alcoholic juice (small chalice). Worshipers may receive Communion via "intinction," dipping the Host into the Chalice, or by common cup, on the PULPIT side of the Altar. If you're on the Pulpit side, you may also feel free to intinct. The other chalice is for intinction ONLY.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The appropriate response is:

Amen.

During the distribution, please pray silently or join in singing.

Hymn: ELW 608 "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

Choir: Wondrous Love

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand at the invitation to pray:

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

BLESSING

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

Amen.

**SENDING HYMN: ELW 763 "My Life Flows On in
Endless Song"**

DISMISSAL

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

Postlude: Voluntary

***The end of Worship –
The beginning of Christian Ministry.***

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor:		Pastor Lynn M. Fonfara
Music Director:		Len Cremisio
Asst. Ministers:	9:30 a.m.	
Reader:		Arlene Kelly
Crucifer:		Julian Menchaca
Communion Assistant:		
Assisting Minister:		Vaike O'Grady
Ushers:	9:30 a.m.	Crystal Kirkpatrick, Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson, John Kelly
Altar Care:		Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick, Craig Carlson
Post Worship Sec.:	9:30 a.m.	Maureen Skurecki
Counters:		John Braun
Greeters:	9:30 a.m.	
Fellowship:		

Communion Wine: For March in Loving Memory of Allen, Emma & Helen Weber Given by Nancy & MaryJean Kancel

Altar Flowers: Bernadine Kirkpatrick in loving memory of Clarence Kirkpatrick. Happy Birthday.

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