

## WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We are glad you could be with us today, especially if you are visiting with us for the first time. We look forward to meeting you and getting to know you. You can greet our pastor as you leave the sanctuary after services. Please stop by our Guest Welcome Center near the Fellowship Hall for more information. We pray that you will consider becoming a part of our Holy Cross family. **Both members & visitors please complete the connection card in the pew pockets** (or scan the QR code below to complete online). Place the card in the offering plate on your way out. NOTE: You can give online at our website or place in offering plates at back of sanctuary (we don't pass plates).

### A WORD ABOUT COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated every Saturday and Sunday (except on FRIEND DAYS), and all festival services. Lutherans believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present "in, with and under" the bread and wine in the Supper and is given to us for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. All communicants should have been baptized in the name of the Triune God and have faith in these words of Jesus: "This IS my Body given for you...This IS my Blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Instruction on this and the Lutheran Church takes place through First Communion, Confirmation, and membership classes or meeting with the pastor. To inquire, contact the church office at your convenience. If you will not be receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, you may remain in your pew or come forward for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest as a sign that you will not be receiving. Non-alcoholic white wine is located in the center of the individual cups tray. **Gluten-free wafers are packaged and placed in wafer bowl, indicate to server.**



### SURVEY QUESTION

No survey questions during the Lenten season.

**PREPARING FOR WORSHIP** You may light a candle and enter the sanctuary in reverence, find a seat and take a moment to pray and be still. Please keep all social dialogue in the Narthex.

**WE CAN PRAY WITH YOU** If you would like someone to pray for you or with you, the pastor, deacons or one of the Elders will join you at the Chancel rail following the worship service.

**FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED** We are equipped with a personal hearing assistance system. If you would like a receiver for the service, please see an usher.

**Fifth Saturday in Lent**  
**Judica**  
**March 16, 2024**

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**Judica:** This is the 2nd Sunday before Easter. Historically called Passion Sunday. It is from Psalm 43:1. The origin is from Church Worship in the Middle Ages. The Introit for the Day is: Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly nation...

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME, CONNECTION CARD AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INVOCATION**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the † Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** **Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Pastor:** 1 John 1:8 & 9 says, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

(pause to for silent confession)

**All:** **Heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, forgive us, renew us and lead us so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, in Jesus Name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

Please stand and share the peace with someone.

**OPENING SONG #1**      “10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)”

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul.  
Worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before;  
O my soul! I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up; it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again.  
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me.  
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul.  
Worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before;  
O my soul! I'll worship Your holy name.

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger.  
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind.  
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul.  
Worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before:  
O my soul I'll worship Your holy name.

And on that day when my strength is failing.  
The end draws near and my time has come.  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending.  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore!

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul.  
Worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before:  
O my soul I'll worship Your holy name. (repeat)

Sing like never before, O my soul;  
I'll worship Your holy name.  
I'll worship Your holy name.  
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

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## **PASTOR'S PRAYER**

**OPENING SONG #2**            "Kyrie Eleison (Have Mercy)"

### **Chorus, Solo**

Kyrie Eleison, have mercy. Christe Eleison, have mercy.  
Kyrie Eleison, have mercy. Christe Eleison, have mercy.

### **Chorus, ALL**

**Kyrie Eleison, have mercy. Christe Eleison, have mercy.**  
**Kyrie Eleison, have mercy. Christe Eleison, have mercy.**

### **Verse 1, Solo**

As we come before You with the needs of our world,  
We confess our failures and our sin.  
For our words are many yet our deeds have been few,

Fan the fire of compassion once again. **Chorus ALL**

**Verse 2, ALL**

**When the cries of victims go unheard in the land,  
And the scars of war refuse to heal.  
Will we stand for justice to empower the weak,  
Till their bonds of oppression are no more. Chorus ALL**

**Verse 3 ALL**

**If we love our God With all our heart mind and strength,  
And we love our neighbours as ourselves,  
Then this law of love will heal the nations of earth  
And the glory of Christ will be revealed. Chorus ALL**

**Verse 4 ALL**

**Lord renew our vision to be Christ where we live,  
To reach out in mercy to the lost.  
For each cup of kindness to the least in our midst,  
Is an offering of worship to the throne. Chorus ALL**

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You may be seated.

**VIDEO**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Genesis 22:1-14

<sup>1</sup>After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>2</sup>He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw

the place from afar. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” <sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” <sup>8</sup>Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together. <sup>9</sup>When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>12</sup>He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

Hebrews 9:11-15

<sup>11</sup>When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) <sup>12</sup>he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup>For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, <sup>14</sup>how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

<sup>15</sup>Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Please stand if you are able.

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

John 8:42-59

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

**All: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. <sup>43</sup>Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. <sup>44</sup>You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. <sup>45</sup>But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. <sup>46</sup>Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? <sup>47</sup>Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”

<sup>48</sup>The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” <sup>49</sup>Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. <sup>50</sup>Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” <sup>52</sup>The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ <sup>53</sup>Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” <sup>54</sup>Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ <sup>55</sup>But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. <sup>56</sup>Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my

day. He saw it and was glad.”<sup>57</sup> So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?”<sup>58</sup> Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.”<sup>59</sup> So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please be seated

## **SERMON**

Please stand if you are able.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**All: 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.**

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER,**

At the end of the prayer the congregation responds with **Amen.**



## PASTOR'S PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Let us now pray the prayer our Lord taught us.

**All: 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.**

### JESUS' WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Corinthians 11:26)

**All: Amen.**

### THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All: And also with you.**

Please be seated until the usher releases your pew.

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

### THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Pastor: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

### CLOSING SONG #1 "Believe For It"

#### Verse 1

They say this mountain can't be moved.  
They say these chains will never break.  
But they don't know You like we do.  
There is power in Your name.

#### Chorus

Move the immovable, break the unbreakable.  
God we believe, God we believe for it.  
From the impossible we'll see a miracle.  
God we believe, God we believe for it.

#### Verse 2

We've heard that there is no way through.  
We've heard the tide will never change.  
They haven't seen what You can do.  
There is power in Your name.  
So much power in Your name. **Chorus**

### **Verse 3**

We know that hope is never lost.  
For there is still an empty grave.  
God we believe no matter what,  
there is power in Your name.  
So much power in Your name. **Chorus**

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### **OPENING SONG #2**            "Sing To Jesus"

#### **Verse 1 Solo**

Come and see, Look on this mystery.  
The Lord of the universe, Nailed to a tree.  
Christ our God, Spilling His holy blood.  
Bowing in anguish, His sacred head.

#### **Verse 1 ALL**

**Come and see, Look on this mystery.  
The Lord of the universe, Nailed to a tree.  
Christ our God, Spilling His holy blood.  
Bowing in anguish, His sacred head.**

#### **Chorus 1, Solo**

Sing to Jesus, Lord of our shame.  
Lord of our sinful hearts, He is our great Redeemer.  
Sing to Jesus, Honor His name.  
Sing of His faithfulness. Pouring His life out unto death

#### **Chorus ALL**

**Sing to Jesus, Lord of our shame.  
Lord of our sinful hearts, He is our great Redeemer.  
Sing to Jesus, Honor His name.  
Sing of His faithfulness. Pouring His life out unto death**

**Verse 2, ALL**

**Come you weary, And He will give you rest.  
Come you who mourn, Lay on His breast.  
Christ who died, Risen in paradise.  
Giver of mercy, Giver of life.**

**Chorus 2, ALL**

**Sing to Jesus, His is the throne,  
Now and forever, He is the King of heaven.  
Sing to Jesus, we are His own,  
Now and forever, Sing for the love our God has shown.**

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**CLOSING SONG #3           “God So Loved”**

**Chorus, Solo**

For God so loved the world  
That He gave His only Son  
That whosoever believes will not perish  
They shall have eternal life

**Chorus ALL**

**For God so loved the world  
That He gave His only Son  
That whosoever believes will not perish  
They shall have eternal life**

**Verse 1, Solo**

I shall hold to the cross  
I shall hold to God alone  
For His love has salvaged me  
For His love has set me free

### **Verse 1, ALL**

**I shall hold to the cross  
I shall hold to God alone  
For His love has salvaged me  
For His love has set me free**

### **Chorus ALL**

### **Verse 2 ALL**

**I shall wait upon the Lord  
I shall wait upon His Word  
And by His grace I am released  
By His grace I am redeemed**

### **Chorus ALL 2X**

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## **FINAL BLESSING**

## **POSTLUDE**