



3rd Sunday in Lent

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH | Lodi, California

March 15, 2020

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news about God's grace, love, and forgiveness given to us. If you would like to learn more about our church, please speak with our pastor or one of our members after the service.

- **Bathrooms** are located in the fellowship hall. A changing table is located in the women's bathroom.
- A worship monitor is to the right as you exit. We encourage children of all ages to participate in our worship. Please don't be afraid to bring them into the service. We have a nursery room with toys, books, and other items that you can use to help calm your child.
- Before you leave, please sign our guest register. Located on the lectern in the entryway.

CONNECTION CARDS

Take a moment to fill out the Connection Card. If you have a private prayer request, comment, or question, write it on the back side place the completed card in the collection plate or hand it to an usher.

WORSHIP THEME

We were born in the blindness of sin, and without the light of Christ we could not find a way to safety. Christ comes to shine his light into our darkened eyes that we might see him and live. Yet for those who refuse to see their Savior in Christ, the blindness of unbelief remains. He gives gracious sight to the blind who trust in him; he gives blinding judgment on those who reject him; finally, he displays the work of God in the lives of those who now walk in the light of Christ.

The Service of the Word and Sacrament

The high and holy worship of God is faith in Jesus Christ. Such faith is created and sustained by God's service to us (the German, "Gottesdienst," "God/ Divine Service). In the Divine Service, the Lord comes to us in His Word and Sacrament to bless and enliven us with His gifts. The Service is not something we do for God, but His service to us received in faith. The liturgy is God's work. He gives, we receive.

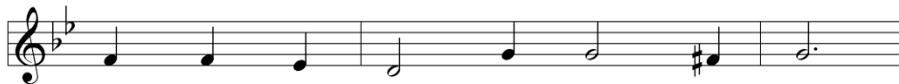


Opening Hymn

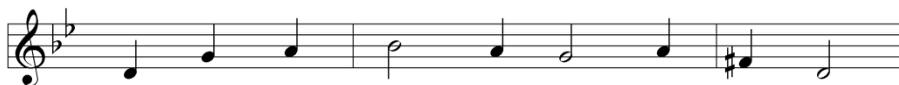
414 I Leave All Things to God's Direction



1 I leave all things to God's di - rec - tion;
 2 God knows what must be done to save me;
 3 My God de - sires the soul's sal - va - tion;
 4 My God has all things in his keep - ing;



He loves me both in wealth and woe.
 His love for me will nev - er cease.
 My soul he, too, de - sires to save.
 He is my ev - er - faith - ful friend.



His will is good, sure his af - fec - tion;
 Up - on his hands he did en - grave me
 There - fore with Chris - tian res - ig - na - tion
 He gives me laugh - ter af - ter weep - ing,



His ten - der love is true, I know.
 With pur - est gold of lov - ing grace.
 All earth - ly trou - bles I will brave.
 And all his ways in bless - ings end.



My for - tress and my rock is he:
 His will su - preme must ev - er be:
 His will be done e - ter - nal - ly:
 His love en - dures e - ter - nal - ly:



What pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.
 What pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.
 What pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.
 What pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.

Text: Salomo Franck, 1659–1725, abr.; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
 Tune: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT (98 98 88) Georg C. Neumark, 1621–81.

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

ABSOLUTION

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

LORD, HAVE MERCY - *Kyrie*

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

From God's Word we know that wherever God puts His name, there He is to bless. In the Old Testament the temple was the place where God graciously caused His name to be present (1 Kings 8:27-30).

God has put His name—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—on us in Holy Baptism. The Divine Service begins with the Invocation, the words spoken over us at our baptisms.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

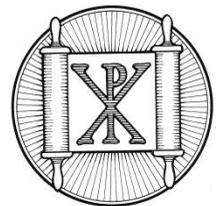
M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

The Service of the Word

Having just received absolution for their sins, believers now gather around the Word of God to find encouragement and peace for their lives on earth.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 42:14-21

One cannot see a way to salvation; the other sees the Way, but rejects him. Here, the Lord makes promises to both groups. To his helplessly blind children who cannot find a way out, he promises certain deliverance and rescue. God himself will lead them to safety and will turn their darkness into light. But to those who reject the true God and look to idols, God promises judgment!

¹⁴ “I have kept silent from ages past;
I have been quiet and restrained myself.
But now, I will groan like a woman in labor,
gasping breathlessly.

¹⁵ I will lay waste mountains and hills
and dry up all their vegetation.
I will turn rivers into islands
and dry up marshes.

¹⁶ I will lead the blind by a way they did not know;
I will guide them on paths they have not known.
I will turn darkness to light in front of them
and rough places into level ground.
This is what I will do for them,
and I will not abandon them.

¹⁷ They will be turned back and utterly ashamed—
those who trust in an idol
and say to a cast image,
‘You are our gods!’

¹⁸ “Listen, you deaf!
Look, you blind, so that you may see.

¹⁹ Who is blind but my servant,
or deaf like my messenger I am sending?
Who is blind like my dedicated one,^[a]
or blind like the servant of the LORD?

²⁰ Though seeing many things,^[b] you pay no attention.
Though his ears are open, he does not listen.”

²¹ Because of his righteousness, the LORD was pleased
to magnify his instruction and make it glorious.



O Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;
 in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.
 Do not bring your servant into judgment,
 for no one living is righteous before you.
 My spirit grows faint within me;
 my heart within me is dismayed.

Refrain

Answer me quickly, O LORD;
 do not hide your face from me
 Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love
 for I have put my trust in you.
 Teach me to do your will, for you are my God;
 may your good Spirit lead me on a level ground.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 5:8–14

Paul says, “We were darkness and now we are light.” Our conversion meant a total transformation of what we are, and therefore, it transforms what we do.

⁸ For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light— ⁹ for the fruit of the light^[a] consists of all goodness, righteousness, and truth— ¹⁰ testing what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Don't participate in the fruitless works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what is done by them in secret. ¹³ Everything exposed by the light is made visible, ¹⁴ for what makes everything visible is light. Therefore it is said:

Get up, sleeper, and rise up from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

CHOIR

Come to Me and Rest

Lyrics are from Hymn 338 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

VERSE OF THE DAY

John 3:14,15

**Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,
that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.**

THE GOSPEL

John 9:1–41

In God's plan there are no coincidences, and there is no karma. The man was born blind not because of his parents' sin; nor was the man lying in Jesus' path by accident. Both happened that the work of God might be displayed in the life of this man who was doubly blind: he could not see Jesus physically or spiritually. Christ opened the door to the latter by solving the former.

⁹ As he was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him: "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

³ "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," Jesus answered. "This came about so that God's works might be displayed in him. ⁴ We^[a] must do the works of him who sent me^[b] while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶ After he said these things he spit on the ground, made some mud from the saliva, and spread the mud on his eyes. ⁷ "Go," he told him, "wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent"). So he left, washed, and came back seeing.

⁸ His neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit begging?" ⁹ Some said, "He's the one." Others were saying, "No, but he looks like him."

He kept saying, "I'm the one."

¹⁰ So they asked him, "Then how were your eyes opened?"

¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So when I went and washed I received my sight."

¹² "Where is he?" they asked.

"I don't know," he said.

¹³They brought the man who used to be blind to the Pharisees. ¹⁴The day that Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes was a Sabbath. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees asked him again how he received his sight.

“He put mud on my eyes,” he told them. “I washed and I can see.”

¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, because he doesn’t keep the Sabbath.” But others were saying, “How can a sinful man perform such signs?” And there was a division among them.

¹⁷Again they asked the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he opened your eyes?”

“He’s a prophet,” he said.

¹⁸The Jews did not believe this about him—that he was blind and received sight—until they summoned the parents of the one who had received his sight.

¹⁹They asked them, “Is this your son, the one you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”

²⁰“We know this is our son and that he was born blind,” his parents answered. ²¹“But we don’t know how he now sees, and we don’t know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he’s of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said these things because they were afraid of the Jews, since the Jews had already agreed that if anyone confessed him as the Messiah, he would be banned from the synagogue. ²³This is why his parents said, “He’s of age; ask him.”

²⁴So a second time they summoned the man who had been blind and told him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.”

²⁵He answered, “Whether or not he’s a sinner, I don’t know. One thing I do know: I was blind, and now I can see!”

²⁶Then they asked him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”

²⁷“I already told you,” he said, “and you didn’t listen. Why do you want to hear it again? You don’t want to become his disciples too, do you?”

²⁸They ridiculed him: “You’re that man’s disciple, but we’re Moses’s disciples. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses. But this man—we don’t know where he’s from.”

³⁰“This is an amazing thing!” the man told them. “You don’t know where he is from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God doesn’t listen to sinners, but if anyone is God-fearing and does his will, he listens to him. ³²Throughout history^[a] no one has ever heard of someone opening the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he wouldn’t be able to do anything.”

³⁴“You were born entirely in sin,” they replied, “and are you trying to teach us?” Then they threw him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown the man out, and when he found him, he asked, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”^[a]

³⁶“Who is he, Sir, that I may believe in him?” he asked.

³⁷Jesus answered, “You have seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.”

³⁸“I believe, Lord!” he said, and he worshiped him.

³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, in order that those who do not see will see and those who do see will become blind.”

⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard these things and asked him, “We aren’t blind too, are we?”

⁴¹ “If you were blind,” Jesus told them, “you wouldn’t have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

343 Christ Is the Word’s Light



1 Christ is the world’s light, Christ and none oth - er;
2 Christ is the world’s peace, Christ and none oth - er;
3 Christ is the world’s life, Christ and none oth - er;
4 Give God the glo - ry, God and none oth - er;



Born in our dark - ness, he be - came our broth - er.
No one can serve him and de - spise an - oth - er.
Sold once for sil - ver, mur - dered here, our broth - er.
Give God the glo - ry, Spir - it, Son, and Fa - ther;



If we have seen him, we have seen the
Who else u - nites us, one with God the
He who re - deemed us reigns with God the
Give God the glo - ry, God with us, my



Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
Fa - ther? Glo - ry to God on high!
Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
broth - er: Glo - ry to God on high!

Wake Up

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,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
 and became fully human.

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,
 who in unity with the Father and the Son
 is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian
 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.

Dt. 6:4
2 Cor. 6:18
Is. 51:13
Col. 1:16
1 Cor 8:6
Jn. 3:16
Heb. 1:2,5
Jn. 1
Jn. 10:30
Jn. 1:3
1 Th. 5:9
Jn. 6:38
Lk. 1:35
Gal. 4:4
Mk. 15:15
1 Cor. 15:3-4a

1 Cor. 15:4b
Ac. 2:33-34
Heb. 1:13
Mt. 25:31
2 Tim. 4:1
Lk. 1:33
Job 33:4
Jn. 15:26
Jn. 4:24

2 Pet. 1:25
Mt. 16:18; Eph. 2:19-20

Eph. 4:5; Ac. 2:38
1 Cor. 15:21-22

Rev. 22

The Nicene Creed is the great Confession of the Christian faith professed by all Christians. The Creed originated at the First Council of Nicaea (c. AD. 325) The Creed itself was crafted as a confession of Scripture in opposition to the Arian heresy, which denied that the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit are God.

OFFERING

In order to contain the spread of Covid-19 we are not passing the plate at this time. Offerings gathered at the door will be brought to the altar at this time.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

God's Word is always primary in worship. We speak only as we are spoken to. Gathered in Jesus' name, we bring the petitions and thanksgivings before Him that grow out of His Word. This prayer is called the Prayer of the Church for in it the royal priesthood of all believers does its priestly work of making "requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving" for all people, "for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness" (1 Timothy 2:1-6).

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

**C: 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.**

The Service of the Sacrament

This greeting marks a new service, so to speak. These ancient introductory words & phrases help to highlight, celebrate and bring attention to the Sacrament.



M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. *In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.* Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever

and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - *Sanctus*



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my ☩ blood of the new covenant,

The Words of institution both proclaim the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's Supper.

which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

PEACE OF THE LORD – *Pax Domini*

John 20:19

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

C: Amen

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD – *Agnus Dei* *John 1:29*



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



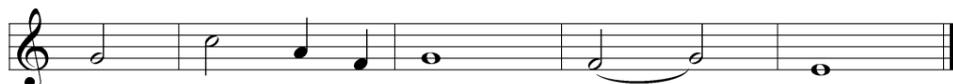
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old



1 Your hand, O Lord, in days of old Was
 2 Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health, Gave
 3 Oh, be our great de - liv - 'rer still, The



strong to heal and save; It tri - umphed o'er dis -
 speech and strength and sight; And youth re - newed and
 Lord of life and death; Re - store and quick - en,



ease and death, All dark - ness and the grave. To
 fren - zy calmed Re - vealed you, Lord of light. And
 soothe and bless, With your life - giv - ing breath. To



you they came, the blind, the dumb, The par - a -
 now, O Lord, be near to bless, Al - might - y
 hands that work and eyes that see Give wis - dom's



lyzed and lame, The lep - ers in their
 as be - fore, In crowd - ed street, by
 heal - ing pow'r That whole and sick and



mis - er - y, The sick with fe - vered frame.
 beds of pain, As by Gen - nes - 'ret's shore.
 weak and strong May praise you ev - er - more.

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–91, alt.

Tune: KINGSFOLD (CM D) English folk tune, 19th century, adapt.

During the COVID-19 outbreak we are asking members and visitors to practice social distancing.

- **Refrain from shaking hands.**
- **Refrain from using hymnals.**
- **Wash your hands before and after worship**
- **We won't be passing the offering plate but a door offering will be collected.**
- **The next two weeks will be crucial. Pray that this virus passes over. Ask God to have mercy on us and all who are suffering.**



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