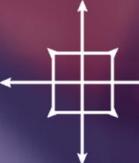


4th Sunday in Lent

God
empowers
us for
extraORDINARY
ministry

Muhlenberg Lutheran Church  A Wellspring of God's Grace

Fourth Sunday in Lent ~ MARCH 22, 2020

WELCOME

We welcome you in the name of Christ. **We love welcoming guests/visitors** and encourage you to complete one of the blue cards in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher. We have a gift for you at our Welcome Desk – please stop by after worship. You are invited to join in all parts of worship. Everything you need is printed in this worship booklet except the hymns which are in the red hymnal in the pews/chairs.

All who desire to receive Holy Communion are welcome at the table. If you do not wish to receive, you may simply remain seated. For instructions on how to receive the bread and wine, see the Communion section later in this booklet. Portions of worship in **bold print** are to be spoken/sung by the whole congregation. **We stand** for portions of our worship service. Please feel free to remain seated, if you prefer.

CHILDREN AND NURSERY

We love having children in worship and welcome their participation. Please also feel free at any time to make use of our fully equipped and professionally staffed nursery, located at the north end of the Gathering Area (main church entrance). **Our nursery is open and staffed during all regular morning services for children newborn to 5 years old.** Nursing mothers are welcome to use the Caring Corner (through the double doors opposite the Gathering Area). Special activity bags for children in worship are available next to the elevator in the Gathering Area.

Sunday Morning Christian Formation Groups (Sunday School) for all ages are held at 9:30 each Sunday morning. Class information is available at the Connection Center in the Gathering Area.

Children's Church for ages 3-3rd grade is held the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays at 11:00, and 2nd & 4th Sundays at 9:30. It begins in the Sanctuary with Children's Time and moves to the Nielsen Room (downstairs in the main church). Children rejoin parents in the Sanctuary during the Sharing of the Peace.

OUR WORSHIP

Our worship is rooted in the ancient pattern of the church – gathering, word, meal, sending. The shape of this liturgy and much of the actual words/prayers come directly from scripture. Though we make seasonal shifts, the constancy of our worship reflects God's constant love and promises through forgiveness, scripture, and the sacraments of baptism and communion. Following this liturgical pattern, as well as the Revised Common Lectionary, a three-year cycle of scripture readings, we are connected through our worship with Christians around the world and throughout time. *For details, see "About Our Worship" on last page.*

OTHER NOTES

- **Amplification devices** for the hearing impaired are available from ushers or at the welcome desk.
- **Large print worship booklets** are available from the ushers.
- A **restroom** is located at the north end of the Gathering Area (additional restrooms downstairs).

MUHLBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH: A WELLSPRING OF GOD'S GRACE

Open ✚ Authentic ✚ Relational ✚ Serving

Pastor Lauren Eanes

Pastor Alex Zuber

281 E. Market Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

(540) 434-3496
www.muhlenberglutheran.org

If you're interested in why we do what we do, follow the notes in this column.

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING

We come from our homes, our labor, our struggles, and our joys – which we share in fellowship as a Christian community. We are gathered together as God's people to worship. In this first part of our worship, we share together honestly – our sins in confession, our joy in forgiveness.

WELCOME

CHILDREN'S TIME *Children are invited forward for a brief message with the pastor.*

PRELUDE

Choral and Variation 1 (J. G. Walther, 1684-1748)

(We stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The congregation turns and faces the baptismal font.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist. **Amen.**

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Receive good news: God turns to you in extraORDINARY love. "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you. **Amen.**

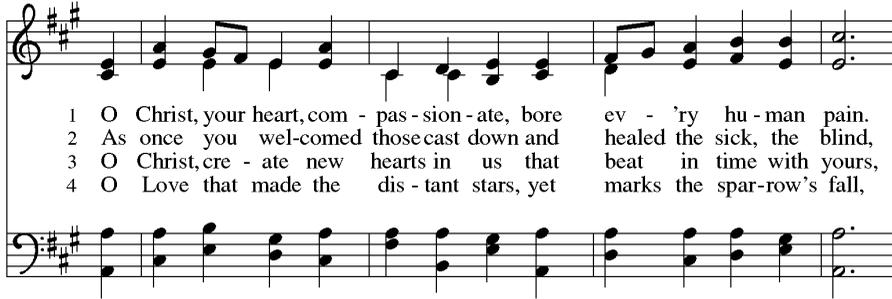
+ All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins, but no one should feel compelled.

Both our confession of sin and God's promise of mercy are rooted in our baptism. We come before God recalling our brokenness, but even more God's great grace.

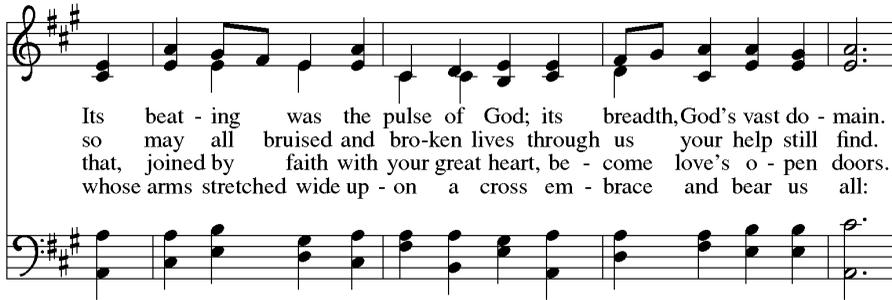
We sing as the Spirit gathers us for worship. This hymn sets the tone for the day.

GATHERING HYMN ~ *The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar, reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence and love of God.*

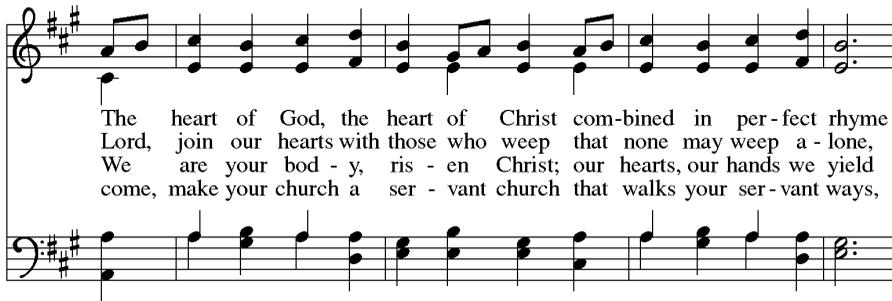
O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate



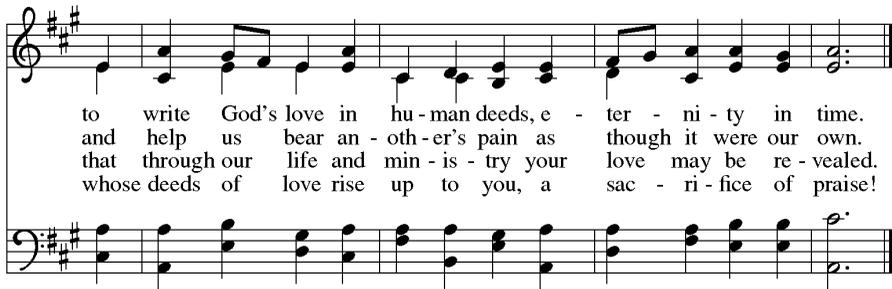
1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
2 As once you wel - come those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar-row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

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.**

The "Kyrie" is an ancient piece of the service liturgy that may date back to the second century. Kyrie Eleison is Greek for "Lord have mercy" and is in reference to both New and Old Testament scriptures which use the same words and pattern.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

~continued on next page~



For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

*This prayer
collects the
themes from
today's scripture
readings.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(We sit)

Liturgy, from the Greek, means “the work of the people.” Our worship is designed so we all take part. We are far more than just spectators.

The scripture readings follow a three-year cycle, called a lectionary. We are connected with other Christians all over the world, in many denominations, reading the same texts.

We stand during the gospel because we believe our Lord is present with us in the reading.

This hymn complements the day’s scripture readings and sermon.

WORD

The first half of our liturgy focuses on the Word of God through the reading of scripture and preaching. The pattern of reading, singing, reading, singing is an ancient one, which comes from Christianity’s roots in Jewish synagogue worship.

READING ~ Acts 12:6-11 (see back of bulletin)

The reading concludes:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(We stand).

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Glo-ry to you, O Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ.

GOSPEL ~ Mark 6:6b-13 (see back of bulletin)

The Holy Gospel according to ... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the reading:

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(We sit)

SERMON

Pastor Alex Zuber

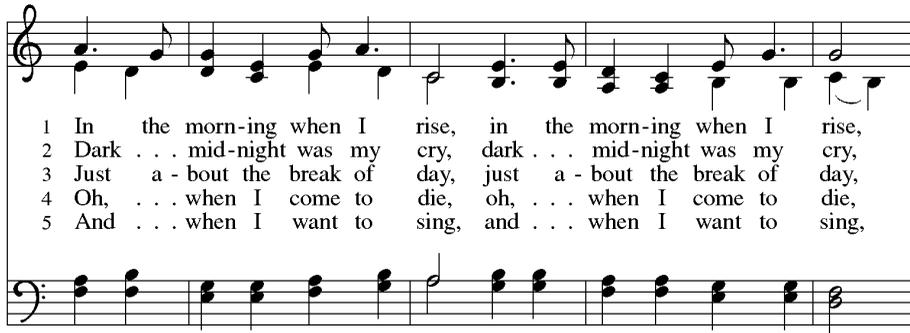
Silence for reflection follows.

(We stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

~see next page~

Give Me Jesus

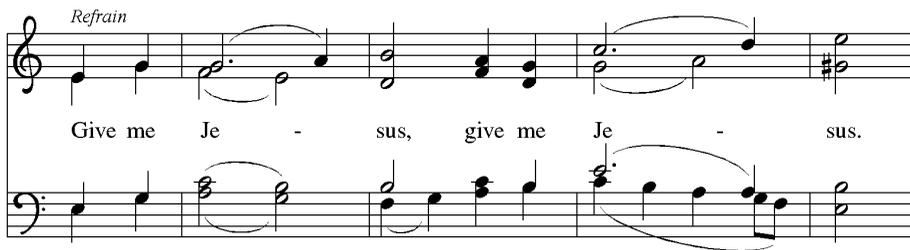


1 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,
2 Dark . . . mid-night was my cry, dark . . . mid-night was my cry,
3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
4 Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,
5 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,



in the morn-ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
dark . . . mid-night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

Refrain



Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.



You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

The creeds (statements of faith) date back to the 4th century and contain the basics of what Christians around the world hold to be true.

APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith:

**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.**

We pray as a community. The assisting minister leads this time to gather the prayers of all, and at his/her invitation you may add others aloud or silently in your heart.

PRAYERS

After each petition:

. . . Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers:

**Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Have a prayer concern to share? Share it live or email it to info@muhlenberglutheran.org.

Much more than a pleasant greeting – we do this to proclaim God's promise of peace to one another.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

*The congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:
“Peace be with you.”*

(We sit)

THANKSGIVING

We give thanks for the saving word and all the gifts of God, who then sends us to share the good news we have received and to care for those in need.

Our offerings are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service. They support the ministries of Christ's church in this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners.

OFFERING

Sweet Hour of Prayer with I Need Thee Every Hour (arr. W. Bradbury, 2004)

(We stand)

This song becomes our prayer as our gifts are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service.

OFFERING SONG

~see next page~

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy and generous host, **you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every ordinary gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your extraORDINARY peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

We give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

We give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

We give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

Jesus taught his disciples this prayer. In this prayer, all our needs and concerns are addressed. See ELW page 1163 for Martin Luther's explanation of this prayer in the small catechism.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

SENDING

Our worship does not end, but continues in the world. In our daily lives we are called to be ministers of God's love and mercy as we live and serve by the power of the risen Christ.

We gather once more in song as our worship concludes, and we prepare to take this good news into the world.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

The congregation turns & faces the cross reminding us that we follow Christ into the world & our daily lives.

~see next page~

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

Enviado soy de Dios

En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,

pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.

Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain

un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;

me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.

A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

*In this blessing we
are reminded we
bear God's name
as we depart to
live out our
baptism, serving
our neighbor and
spreading the
gospel.*

BLESSING

May the God of ordinary things meet you in surprising ways.
May the God of extra-ORDINARY love † bless you, unbind you, and send you
love and peace. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

We have been renewed at the Wellspring of God's grace!
Now, go in peace!

We go to be: Open † Authentic † Relational † Serving
Thanks be to God!

*Feel free to stay
and listen to
music.*

POSTLUDE

Toccata in E Minor (J. Pachelbel, 1653-1706)

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

PREACHING MINISTER: Pastor Alex Zuber

PRESIDING MINISTER: Pastor Lauren Eanes

SOUND TECHS ~ Mike Koch, Mark Byerly

LIVESTREAM OPERATOR ~ Bo Boisen

MUSICIANS Elizabeth Williams, Music Minister

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Printed music for today's service is from the ELW and reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701538.

READING: Acts 12:6-11

⁶The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. ⁷Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his wrists. ⁸The angel said to him, "Fasten your belt and put on your sandals." He did so. Then he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." ⁹Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. ¹⁰After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. ¹¹Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

GOSPEL: Mark 6:6b-13

⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.