

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

*WELCOME. Dear Guest! We are happy to have you join us for worship today. May the Lord speak to your heart and supply help for your life as we listen to God's Word. Please sign the Guest Book in the narthex or fill out a Welcome Card to place in the offering boxes and come back soon!*

PRAYER AS WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP: Inside front cover of LSB

**Welcome and Announcements** + Please Silence Cell Phones +

*(You may also follow Divine Service II in the LSB hymnal beginning on page 167 for music.)*

**Prelude** "Your Heart, O Lord, Is Grieved" [LSB 945] (Levoca/Hyslop)

*Stand*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** 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  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

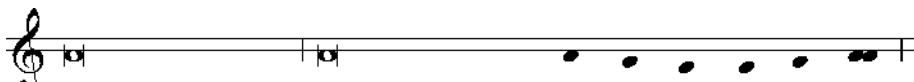
**Introit** (sung by the Cantor)

For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,\*  
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

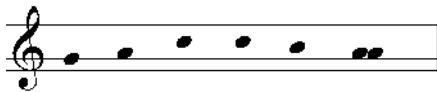
For you are not a God who delights in | wickedness;\*  
evil may not | dwell with you.

The boastful shall not stand be- | fore your eyes;\*  
you hate all evil- | doers.

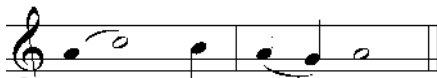




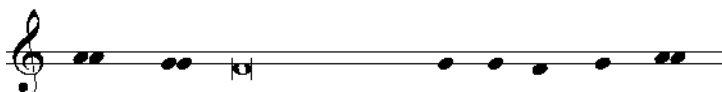
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

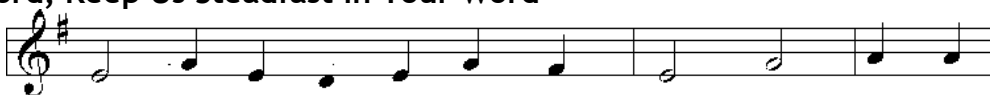


**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

### 655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are

3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your

Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that

u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And bring to naught all He has done.

we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.

strife And lead us out of death to life.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

**Choir** (11:00) “Thou Art Jesus, Savior and Lord” (Schutz-Coggin)

### Old Testament Reading

*Ezekiel 33:7–20*

<sup>7</sup>“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

<sup>10</sup>“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

<sup>12</sup>“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. <sup>13</sup>Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>14</sup>Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, <sup>15</sup>if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>16</sup>None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

<sup>17</sup>“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. <sup>18</sup>When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. <sup>19</sup>And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. <sup>20</sup>Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

-4-

## Gradual (sung by the Cantor)

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus, \*  
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame, \*  
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

## Epistle

*1 Corinthians 10:1–13*

<sup>1</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, <sup>10</sup>nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. <sup>11</sup>Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup>Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. <sup>13</sup>No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

## Stand

### Holy Gospel *Luke 13:1–22*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

<sup>6</sup>And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ <sup>8</sup>And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. <sup>9</sup>Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

<sup>10</sup>Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. <sup>11</sup>And there was a woman who had had a disabling spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. <sup>12</sup>When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said to her, “Woman, you are freed from your disability.” <sup>13</sup>And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and she glorified God. <sup>14</sup>But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, “There are six days in which work ought to be done. Come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day.” <sup>15</sup>Then the Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it away to water it? <sup>16</sup>And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?” <sup>17</sup>As he said these things, all his adversaries were put to shame, and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

<sup>18</sup>He said therefore, “What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? <sup>19</sup>It is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his garden, and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.” <sup>20</sup>And again he said, “To what shall I compare the kingdom of God? <sup>21</sup>It is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, until it was all leavened.” <sup>22</sup>He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

**704 Renew Me, O Eternal Light**

**Sermon**

*Stand*

**Apostles' Creed**

**C** 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.**

**Prayer of the Church & The Lord's Prayer**

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. -6-

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

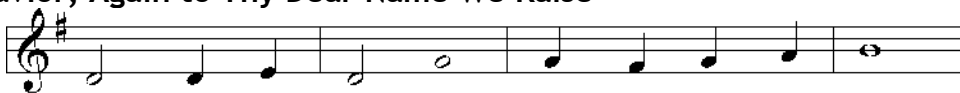
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## 917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise  
2 Grant us Thy peace up - on our home - ward way;  
3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;  
4 Grant us Thy peace through - out our carth - ly life.



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;  
With Thee be - gan, with Thee shall end, the day.  
Turn Thou for us its dark - ness in - to light.  
Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife;



Once more we bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease,  
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
From harm and dan - ger keep Thy chil - dren free;  
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.  
That in this house have called up - on Thy name.  
For dark and light are both a - like to Thee.  
Call us, O Lord, to Thine e - ter - nal peace.

## Silent Prayer

**Postlude** "We Sing The Praise Of Him Who Died" (Read/Shewmaker)

**Offering** - Please place in offering boxes located by sanctuary doors.

## Acknowledgments

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### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

**FAMILY PRAYERS:** We continue to pray for God’s peace and comfort to be with Elaine Neitzel and family following the death of her husband, Dennis, whose memorial service will be held here at Faith this Tuesday at 2 pm. We continue to pray for all those undergoing medical care or recovering including: Keren McCullem, Laurine McGrew, Deacon Tim Bruce and his wife Linda, Bob Donaldson, Jennifer Benson, Rosemarie Schlegel, Erik Simpson, Lawrence Kettel, Tom & Bonita Hoskins, Dorothy Ludke, Bob Schoessler, Fred Swenson, Bob Barclay, Carolyn Stephens, Jean Collinson, Pat Skinner, Don Haas, Debbie Hayes, Larry Latson, Luella Hilby, Jean Gookins, Bruce Ludke, and for all our shut-ins. Missionaries of the month: Rev. Tim & Heidi Norton and their children, Phillip & Leslie serving at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Navajo, New Mexico.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** given to the glory of God for all His many blessings by Pat Marcy in loving memory of her husband, Spencer, and in celebration of their daughter, Danielle Roth’s birthday and also their grandson, Dmitry Marcy’s birthday.

**THOSE SERVING TODAY:** **Altar Care:** Kathleen Stites & Ellen Wendt  
**Ushers:** (8:30) Bill Eichler, Roger Harmann; (11:00) Sylvia Baxter & Jennifer Benson  
**Greeters:** (8:30) Jon & Ellen Wendt; (11:00) Mai Alexander  
**Elder:** (8:30) Jon Wendt & Jerry Walker; (11:00) Gary Meier & Don Brueckner  
**Counters:** Pat & Janice Moored; **Lectors:** (8:30) Rev. Mark Smith; (11:00) Lana Adickes  
**Audio Visual:** Pat Moored, Paul Schwabe, George Haslett



**OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS WEEK:** [Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 & 11 am]

TODAY: 9:45 am Adult Bible Class; ~~Sunday School~~; 7-8 pm Youth Group

MONDAY: 10– 12 Laundry Mission; 1 pm Line Dancing

TUESDAY: **2 pm Memorial Service for Dennis Neitzel** with reception following  
**6 pm Special Council Meeting**

WEDNESDAY: ~~8:45 am~~ *Preschool Chapel*; 1 pm *Daytime* Basic Bible Truths Class

**4 pm Beginning Bells**; 5 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal; 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal

**5:45 pm Soup Supper; 7 pm Lenten Worship Service**

THURSDAY: 7:30 am Men’s Prayer; 10 am & 6:30 pm LWBS; 12 pm Quilting Group

~~9 am & 12:30 pm~~ *Preschool Chapel*; 5-7 pm Women’s AA Group

SATURDAY: 10 am Special Prayer Service on the Beatitudes for the congregation



Our LWML collect “mites” or coins in the narthex the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month in support of national & District Mission Projects.



Since our Music Director, Pat Marcy has expressed a desire to be able to retire sometime in the near future, our Elders were prompted to begin to pursue options for filling a position that she has held here at Faith for 50 years this July! Following a lead on an upcoming Lutheran Church Music Major graduating this Spring from Concordia University in Nebraska, our Elders brought Ryan Edinger up to Sequim on Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> to visit our church and to interview for the position of Music Director here at Faith.

The Bell Choir, Voice Choir, and all three Preschool Chapel groups were able to meet Ryan and during their regular rehearsal and meeting times. He also attended a soup supper and a Wed. evening Lenten service, as well as LWBS the next day. After a casual lunch of pizza in the library with the Elders, Ryan demonstrated his organ and keyboard playing skills in the sanctuary for the Elders, Pat Marcy, and whoever else was around. He did a great job and answered all questions well.

Everyone who met Ryan really liked him as a person and also felt that he would be able to fit in well.

The Elders are going to take steps towards creating a new full-time, “called” position of music and ministry for both our church and Ryan. And so, special meetings have been scheduled and need to happen quickly.



**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING:** A special Council meeting has been scheduled for this Tuesday, March 25th, at 6:00 pm, to prepare for the Special Voter’s Meeting.

**SPECIAL VOTER’S MEETING:** Our Elders are calling a special Voters meeting for *April 6<sup>th</sup>* between services at 9:45 am to recommend that our church call Ryan Edinger as Director of Music. **All members should plan to attend and vote.**

## THE SEASON OF LENT CONTINUES ON WEDNESDAYS!

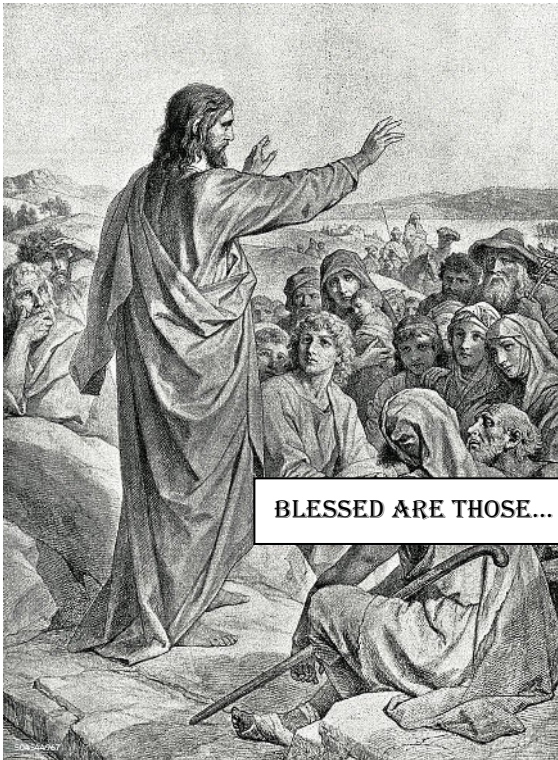
*Worship Service at 7 pm, March 26<sup>th</sup>!*

*Soup Supper preceding the service at 5:45 pm.*

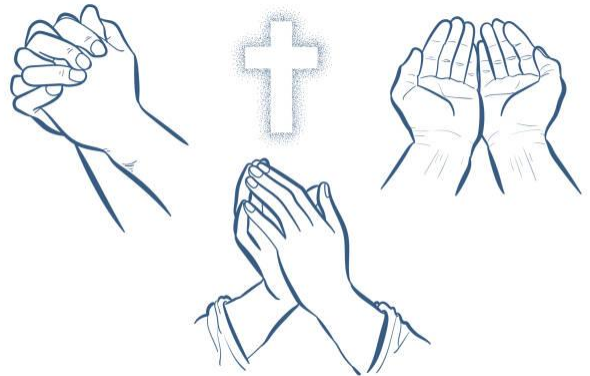
*We thank our Fellowship Board for coordinating this fun meal.*



**SPECIAL PRAYER SERVICE:** The congregation is invited to attend a special Lenten prayer service on the Beatitudes, hosted by the LWML and officiated by Pastor Stites this Sat. Mar. 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.



BLESSED ARE THOSE...



### **MEMORIAL SERVICE:**

The celebration of life service for Dennis Neitzel will be held here at Faith this Tuesday at 2 pm. There will be a reception to follow.

**BEGINNERS BELL CHOIR:** Have you ever thought about playing handbells? Now's your chance to try it out and see! **This new group is now meeting at 4 pm on Wednesdays in the sanctuary.** All those interested in this new opportunity should contact Pat Marcy. Ringers should be 5<sup>th</sup> Grade age & up.



## *Holy Week Schedule*

### **Palm Sunday**

April 13<sup>th</sup> – Services at **8:30 & 11 am**

### **Maundy Thursday**

Worship Service with Holy Communion

April 17<sup>th</sup> – Worship Service at **7 pm**

### **Good Friday**

Service of Darkness

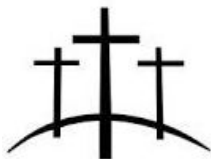
April 18<sup>th</sup> – Worship Service at **7 pm**

### **Easter Sunday**

April 20<sup>th</sup> – Services at **8:30 & 11 am**

*(special coffee hour between the services)*

*Come place a flower on the old Rugged Cross!*



**COMMUNITY CHORUS CONCERT:** “O! What a Beautiful City”, a concert collection of works by Shawn Kirchner will be presented in Sequim at 2 pm Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at Trinity Methodist Church, 100 S. Blake Avenue. Donations at the door are welcome. *(suggested amount \$15 per person)* Members RayDelle Kistler and Dave Ahlman are singers in these events. The concert will also be performed in Port Townsend and Chimacum. See poster for more details.

**SHRED EVENT:** Cascade West Group of Thrivent will be hosting a Shred-a-Thon event next month on Wed. April 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Sequim Chamber of Commerce from 11:30 am – 1 pm.