



# **Faith Lutheran Church**

***Faithfully Growing, Welcoming,  
and Caring through Christ***

**The Fifth Sunday of Lent  
Sunday, April 2, 2017**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (A brief silence.)  
Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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:** God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

## **OPENING HYMN “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”**

**Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I long to take my stand;  
the shadow of a mighty rock  
within a weary land,  
a home within a wilderness,  
a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat  
and burdens of the day.**

**Upon the cross of Jesus,  
my eye at times can see  
the very dying form of one  
who suffered there for me.  
And from my contrite heart, with tears,  
two wonders I confess:  
the wonder of his glorious love  
and my unworthiness.**

**I take, O cross, your shadow  
for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than  
the sunshine of his face;  
content to let the world go by,  
to know no gain nor loss,  
my sinful self my only shame,  
my glory all, the cross.**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the communion  
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: Amen.**

# INTRODUCTION

P: In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection.

In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome new sisters and brothers at the baptismal font, as we renew our baptismal promises.

**C: Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Let us pray. (A brief silence.)

**C:** **Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

# Children's Church



## **First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14**

R: A reading from Ezekiel, the 37th chapter.

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry.

He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath:

Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’”

Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people.

## **Psalm 130 ~ A Responsive Reading**

**R:** Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;

**C:** **O LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

R: If you were to keep watch over sins,  
O LORD, who could stand?

**C: Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that  
you may be feared.**

R: I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

**C: My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

R: O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

**C: For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

## **SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:6-11**

A reading from Romans, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law - indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you.

Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

**R:** Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## **GOSPEL: JOHN 11:1- 45**

**P:** The holy gospel according to John, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill.

So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.”

The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.”

After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep.

Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. For your sake, I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.” When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

# SERMON

*“”*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“Just As I Am, Without One Plea”**

**Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come,**

**Just as I am; thy love unknown  
has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

# **THE 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

**P:** Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need. (A brief silence.) God, our sure strength, set the mind of your church on the Spirit of Love and kinship. Bring healing where there is division and hope where there is worry. Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**

**P:** You bring life where there was despair and death. Bring new hope and new growth to barren lands and water to parched earth. Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**

**P:** Listen to the voices of the weak and oppressed. Guard people in all lands from danger and injustice (especially).

Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**

**P:** Martha and Mary pleaded for healing.  
Hear the cries of your people who call out  
in need and pain. Grant healing and  
comfort to those who are ill. (We pray  
especially for . . .) Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**

**P:** Bring life to dry bones in our community.  
Breathe your life-giving Spirit into the  
corners of our ministry that need renewal.  
Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**

**P:** We give thanks for the faithful departed (especially) and for the assurance that we will join with them in the heavenly banquet. Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**

**P:** Into your hands, merciful God, we  
commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your steadfast love; through  
Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

# **SHARING THE PEACE**

**P:** The Peace of Christ be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**~VIDEO DURING OFFERING ~**

**“PRICELESS”**

**by For King and Country**



## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**P:** Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

# **DIALOGUE**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the  
Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and  
praise.**

# **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **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.**

*COMMUNION*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P:** Let us pray. Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

# **BLESSING**

**P:** The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN**

**“Rise Up, O Saints of God!”**

**Rise up, O saints of God!  
From vain ambitions turn;  
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts  
with nobler zeal might burn.**

**Speak out, O saints of God!  
Despair engulfs earth's frame;  
as heirs of God's baptismal grace,  
the word of hope proclaim.**

**Rise up, O saints of God!  
The kingdom's task embrace;  
redress sin's cruel consequence;  
give justice larger place.**

**Give heed, O saints of God!  
Creation cries in pain;  
stretch forth your hand of healing now,  
with love the weak sustain.**

**Commit your hearts to seek  
the paths which Christ has trod;  
and, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r,  
rise up, O saints of God!**

# **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**





























