



Sunday, March 21, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Welcome to Worship and Announcements

Prelude

***Confession and Forgiveness:**

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

Congregation: Amen.

P God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Fountain of living water,

C pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

P Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

C Amen.

***Gathering Hymn: "Now the Green Blade Rises" ELW 379**



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

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***Greeting:**

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

C **And also with you.**

***Prayer of the Day:**

All O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Please stand as you are able.

Kidsword: Pastor Jerry O’Neal

Our first reading is from Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L Word of God. Word of life. C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51:1-12 : (Read responsively between Lector and **Congregation.**)

- ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- ²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**
- ³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**
- ⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother’s womb.
- ⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**
- ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
- ⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**
- ⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**
- ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

Our Second reading is from Hebrews 5:5-10

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

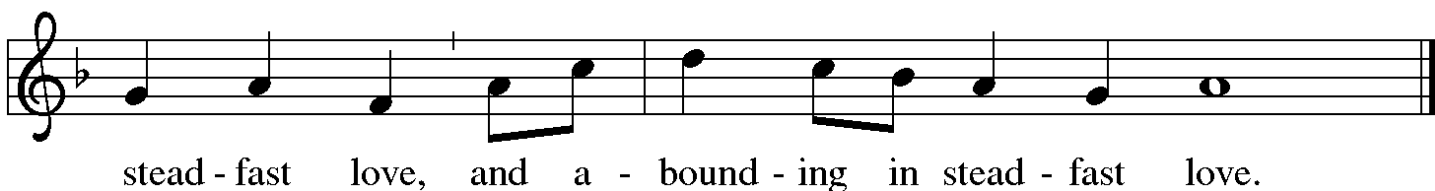
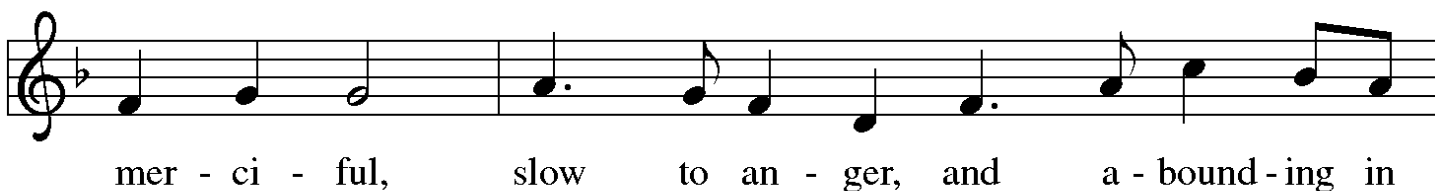
⁶as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

L Word of God. Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation (setting 3)



*Please stand as you are able.

***Gospel Reading: John 12:20-33**

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

P The Holy Gospel according to John the 12th chapter.

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

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon: – Pastor Jerry O'Neal

***Hymn of the Day: "In The Cross of Christ I Glory" ELW 324**



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

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***Apostles' Creed:**

P&C 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.

*Please stand as you are able.

***Prayers:** (Congregation's response in bold type.)

L For our prayers today, I will conclude each petition with "Hear us, O God" and your response is, "Your mercy is great.."

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

You wash us through and through and remember our sin no more. Make your church a community of forgiveness throughout the world. Give your people courage to forgive; through them show the world new possibilities. Bless ministries of repentance and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You fill the earth—from tiny grains of wheat to the mighty thunder—with your presence, and you call us to attend to your will for all creation. Grant weather that prepares the soil for seeds; protect all from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You promise to write your law on our hearts. Guide citizens throughout the world to shape communities that reflect your mercy, justice, and peace, and give them creativity to work for the welfare of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Restore the joy of all who need to know your presence: those who are lonely or feel unforgivable, those who need healing of mind or body, those who are dying, and all who grieve, especially those we now name either aloud or in the silence of our hearts (pause). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Jesus calls us to follow him in life and death. Empower this congregation in discipleship. Equip children and teachers in Sunday school, confirmation, and learning ministries. Give us your truth and wisdom and teach us to follow Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In this season of Lent, open our hearts to your cleansing and our minds to your Word. Bless our mid-week Lenten studies and help us to share your Word with those around us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the cross of Christ, your name is glorified. We praise you for those who have given us words to worship you. With all those who have died in Christ, bring us into life everlasting. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***Sharing the Peace:**

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

*Please stand as you are able.

Offering:

If you would like to give electronically, you may

1. Download the ELCA Giving App from Google Store or Apple Play, or
2. Go to our website www.holytrinitylutheranchurch.com and click on the green "Give" button.
3. Using your bank's online BillPay features.

Thank you for your support of Holy Trinity and our ministries!

Offering Music: "Hope of The World" arr. by Lloyd Larson

***Offering Prayer:**

L Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

***The Great Thanksgiving**

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 to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

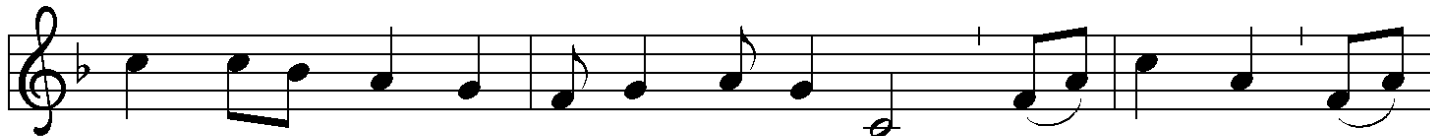
P Glorious God...

...singing the hymn of your unending praise.

(setting 3)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

P Righteous God...

...Great is the mystery of faith.

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P Heavenly God...

...and your kingdom is known on earth, now and for ever.

C **Amen.**

***Lord's Prayer:**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. (Lord's Prayer)

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.**

Invitation to Communion

P Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

*Please stand as you are able.

Communion Hymn "Lamb of God" (setting 3)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution:

This is the Table of Grace for all who belong to Christ and seek his gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. We extend to you all that we have in the Lord Jesus and invite you to his Holy Supper. Those communing with us who haven't been baptized and desire God's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation in Holy Baptism are invited to talk to the Pastor. We invite you to come forward, receive the bread in your hand, and take a cup from the tray and take them back to your seat. After all have been served, we will consume Communion together. White grape juice is offered as an alternative to wine and are in the cups in the center of the tray.

***Post Communion Blessing**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
All Amen.

***Post Communion Prayer**

L God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

*Please stand as you are able.

***Sending Call and Response:**

L God's work!
C **Our hands!**
L God's love!
C **Our hearts!**
L God's story!
C **Our voices!**

***Benediction:**

P "Barocha" - Michael Card
C **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn: "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways" ELW 772**



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan-d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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***Dismissal:**

L Go in peace. Share the good news.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements for March 21, 2021

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the week of March 21-27:

Birthdays:

March 21 – Ken Miller

March 23 – Rosemary Martin

March 26 – Scott Lindley

Anniversaries:

March 24 – Jaren and Kendra Summers

This week's Prayers: Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Mary Broughton

Sue Donnellan

Kent Windmiller, Karen Wenger's brother

Rachel Wagner, Nancy Wagner's daughter

Denise Amschler

Those who are infected with the COVID-19 Coronavirus and the frontline workers who are caring for them.

Walking Group

The HTLC walking group will continue to walk at the Muncie Mall at 10 AM on Tuesday mornings. The entrance is just past the Books A Million entrance.

Coat racks, restrooms, signs regarding distancing, hand sanitizer is available. Masks must be worn. Come join us. Linda Hamilton, Parish Nurse

A Reminder to Thrivent Members:

Please remember to direct your 2020 Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31 by logging in at Thrivent.com. Thanks to Thrivent and its clients, Holy Trinity has received \$1,529 Choice Dollars ® grant funds since January 1, 2020 and Project Stepping Stone has received \$624.

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Walker (765) 212- 2307. Thank you.

Updated [03/04/2021] Vaccination News:

Recent news from the Indiana State Department of Health has opened up the availability by appointment only for Indiana residents age **45 and older** to receive a COVID 19 vaccination.

You may schedule your appointment by going online at **ourshot.in.gov** or by calling **211**

Volunteers Needed:

We need volunteers to work in the Christian Ministries Food Pantry on Wednesday, March 31 (Need 1 more); Thursday, April 1 (Need 2); and Friday, April 2 (Need 2) from 9:00am to 12 Noon. We need 2 people per day. If you can help with this, please contact the church office.

Mid-Week Lenten Book Study:

We continue our Mid-Week Lenten Book Study, via Zoom, on Wednesday, March 24th at 7:00pm. We will be joining Lutheran Church of the Cross, Grace Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church and Riverside United Methodist Church, in this Lenten Zoom Study.

****This week, March 24th, we will be discussing the Chapter Five.****

Here is the Zoom link information:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82224448890?pwd=R2E3d3EwWWwwYW5TaS9WbDU1V085Zz09>

Meeting ID: 822 2444 8890

Passcode: 225469

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

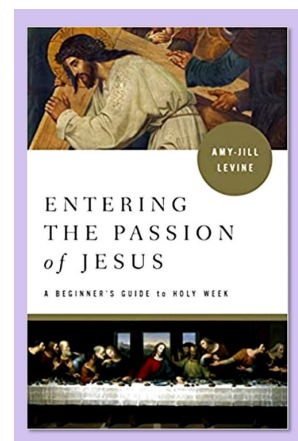
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 822 2444 8890

Passcode: 225469

On Thursday, April 8th at 7:00pm via Zoom, we will be having a virtual Q&A with the author of *Entering The Passion of Jesus*, Amy-Jill Levine.

We pray that the Lord provide you during Lent "the opportunity to think about your life alongside the life of Jesus, inviting inward transformation and then outward action." (excerpt from *Entering The Passion of Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine pp.13)



Holy Week Schedule 2021:

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on March 28 at 10:00am via Facebook Live.

Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 7:00pm at High Street United Methodist Church (UMC), 219 S. High St, Muncie. This will be an in-person service. Masks and social distancing required.

Good Friday, April 2 at 7:00pm via Facebook Live. This will be a joint service with High Street UMC.

Facebook link:

<https://www.facebook.com/HTLCMuncie/>

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at 7:00am with an in-person, outdoor service. Masks and social distancing required.

Easter Sunday Service at 10:00am via Facebook Live only (no in-person service)

*Please stand as you are able.