

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

We hope you feel welcome here.

St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

As disciples of Christ who value the faith, gifts, and ministry of all God's people, and who seek justice, racial equity, and reconciliation, we welcome all God's children to an inclusive community. This welcome is extended without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

We hope you can participate fully in worship.

Everything needed to participate in today's worship is found in this bulletin. The hymns are found in the back third of the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) or purple *All Creation Sings* (ACS) located under the seat in front of you. Worshipers are invited to stand as you are able at the places marked * and to respond when indicated with bold type. We gently remind you to silence all electronic devices.

Our youngest worshipers and their parents may appreciate the Prayer Pond in the worship space or listening to the service from our unstaffed nursery. Activity bags are available in the narthex and children's bulletins are available from an usher.

Assisted hearing devices and complete-service, large-print bulletins are available from an usher. The blue chairs with arms are reserved for people with mobility limitations. Ushers can remove chairs to place a wheelchair.

We hope you know Holy Communion is for you. At communion, everyone is welcome. This includes doubters, young children, and folks who have yearned for this feast. Come forward at the direction of an usher and receive hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers and pink wine or red grape juice. If you have mobility limitations, please take the closest available place at the altar, or ask an usher for Communion to be brought to you at your seat.

We hope you know our welcome extends beyond our building.

Today's 8:30 a.m. service is livestreamed. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

We hope you know we pray for you.

We would love to pray for the concerns of your heart during this service. Prayer request slips are located on the table near the main doors; prayer requests made before the service begins will be included in the Prayers of the People.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.
C: Amen.

*ENTRANCE HYMN

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, sin - ners, ru - ined
 3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, wound - ed, im - pot -
 4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'tis a soul - re -

by the fall; here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
 ent, un - kind; here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
 new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er

flows to you, to me, to all, in a full, per -
 here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
 break his cov - e - nant of blood, signed when our Re -

pet - ual tide, o - pened when our Sav - ior died.
 will re - store; they that drink shall thirst no more.
 deem - er died, sealed when he was glo - ri - fied.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

Text and music: public domain

NAAR MIT ÔIE

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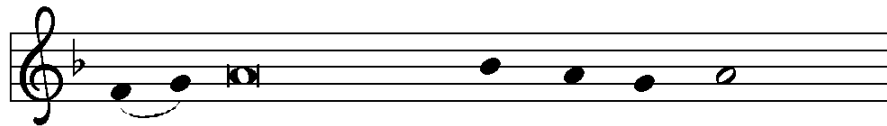
Zec 13:1; Mt 27:33-35; Rev 22:17

*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.

*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,



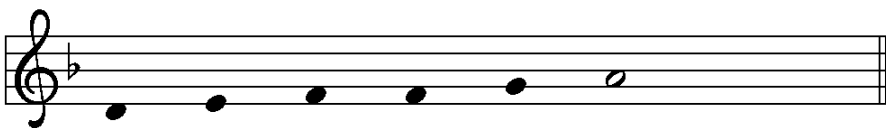
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



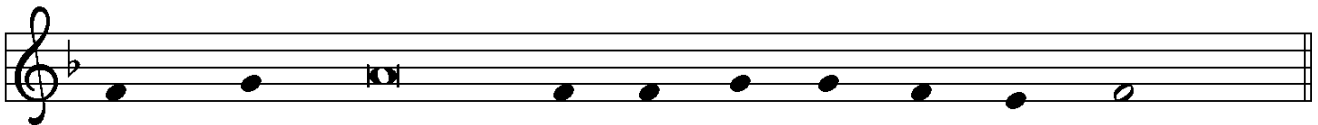
For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. 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.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Adrienne Meier

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It 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 spouse, says the LORD. But 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.

No 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

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**²Wash 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.

**⁴Against 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.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 5:5-10

So also Christ 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”;

as it is said also in another place,

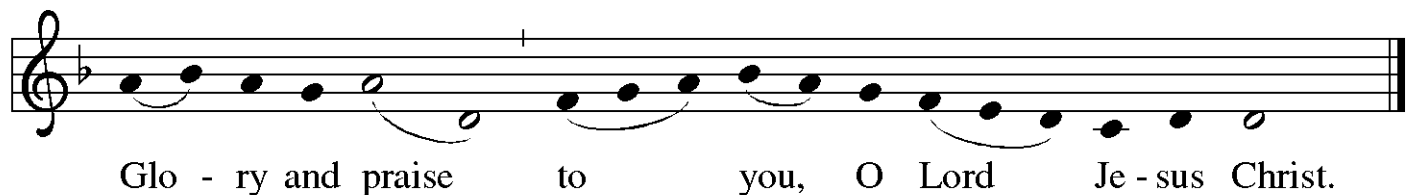
“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In 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. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered, and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having 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



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew, then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very 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. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"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. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it

again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” Jesus said to them, “The light is in you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.”

After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

P: The Gospel of Our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pr. Lecia Beck

*HYMN OF THE DAY

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth



1 A lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth to save a world of sin - ners.
2 This lamb is Christ, our great - est friend, the Lamb of God, our Sav - ior,
3 Our Sav - ior an - swered from his heart that he would take the bur - den:
4 Of death I am no more a - fraid; your dy - ing is my liv - ing.



He bears the bur - den all a - lone, dies shorn of all his hon - ors.
whom God in mer - cy chose to send to win us reb - els o - ver.
"My Fa - ther's will is my com - mand; I'll do as I am bid - den."
You clothe me in your roy - al robes that you are al - ways giv - ing.



He goes to slaugh - ter, weak and faint, is led to die with -
"Go down, my child," the Fa - ther said, "and free my chil - dren
Oh, won - drous love! Oh, lov - ing might! To right what mor - tals
Your love is dress e - nough for me to wear through all e -



out com - plaint; his spot - less life he of - fers. He bears the shame,
from their dread of death and con - dem - na - tion. The pain - ful stripes
can - not right the Son was sent from heav - en. What love, O Love,
ter - ni - ty be - fore the throne of heav - en, where we shall stand



the stripes, the wrath; his an - guish, mock - er - y,
 are hard to bear, but by your death they all
 who came to save by lov - ing e - ven to
 close by your side, your church, the well - ap - point -

and death for us he glad - ly suf - fers.
 can share the joy of your sal - va - tion."
 the grave un - til the stone was riv - en.
 ed bride, when all the faith - ful gath - er.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.
 Music: AN WASSERFLÜSSEN BABYLON, Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

8:30 a.m. only

***APOSTLES' CREED**

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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.**

***HOLY BAPTISM**

ELW page 227

During the baptism, the congregation joins the baptismal party in a profession of faith:

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

The presider leads the congregation in thanksgiving at the font:

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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

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

The congregation shares a welcome:

P: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

As the newly baptized is introduced to the congregation, all sing:

*HYMN

Jesus Loves Me!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

A: God of all that exists, you lavish the earth with extravagant beauty. Preserve the rich and complex diversity of living things. Support local, national, and international efforts to protect the environment for future generations. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children. We pray especially for the work of Global Refuge and Lutheran World Relief, as they seek to provide shelter, safety, and sustenance for refugees and others in need around the world. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for all experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse in families and intimate relationships. We remember before you those in our community without homes or facing eviction, and those who struggle to feed their families. We pray for the work of Beacon and Friend's Place, Middle Way House, New Hope for Families, Habitat for Humanity, Community Kitchen, Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, and all organizations in our community who seek to better the lives of people in need. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of infinite love and mercy, be with those who suffer and mourn. Move us to reach out to those who are homebound, lonely, grieving, or ill. We remember especially before you today Elif, Paula, Doug, Yvonne, Barbara, Steve, Brenda, Jim, Meridith, Ted, Bob, Kent, Mark, and Bill. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: God of every time and place, we give thanks for the saints whose faith inspires us. We remember those who have gone before us and now dwell with you in glory, especially Jan Ellis and Joanne Chadwick. We give you thanks for the witness of all your faithful, especially Patrick, missionary to Ireland, whom we commemorate today. Grant us faith to trust in your everlasting love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Share the peace with a wave, a bow, or maybe an elbow, checking in with your neighbor for whatever feels safe and conveys the spirit of peace and reconciliation this ritual intends.

OFFERING

*Please sign and pass the **Together In Community** pads. Make note of the names of your neighbors so you can introduce yourself after the service.*

***Gifts may be placed in the offering plate by the baptismal font**, or you can give on our website, stlconline.org. St. Thomas collects gifts to support our mission of sharing, living, and celebrating God's grace with all people. We support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners.*

An additional offering is taken today for the ELCA's International Women's Leaders Program.



8:30 a.m. only

CHOIR ANTHEM

Agnus Dei

Gabriel Fauré

11 a.m. only

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Matthew Benkert

*OFFERTORY HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song

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

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

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

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, with some ties. The bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment.

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

The third system shows the continuation of the piece. The treble staff has some longer note values and ties. The bass staff maintains the accompaniment.

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

The fourth system continues the musical progression. The treble staff has a mix of note values, including some dotted notes. The bass staff provides a consistent accompaniment.

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

The fifth and final system concludes the piece. The treble staff ends with a double bar line. The bass staff also concludes with a double bar line.

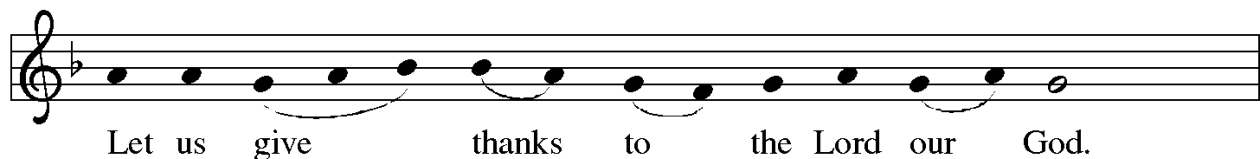
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

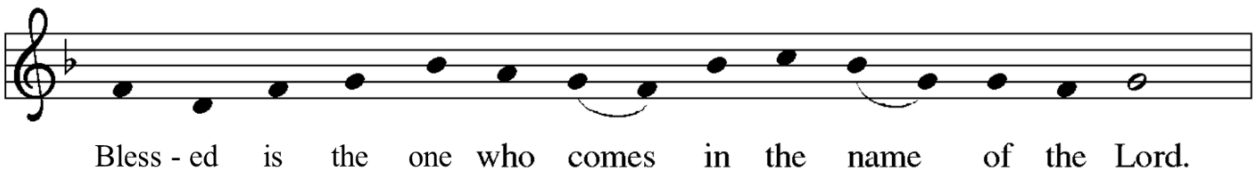
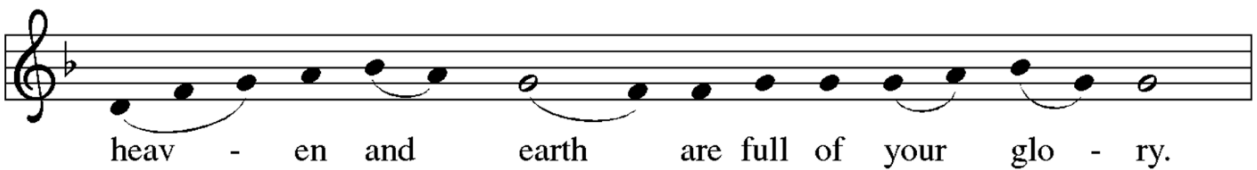
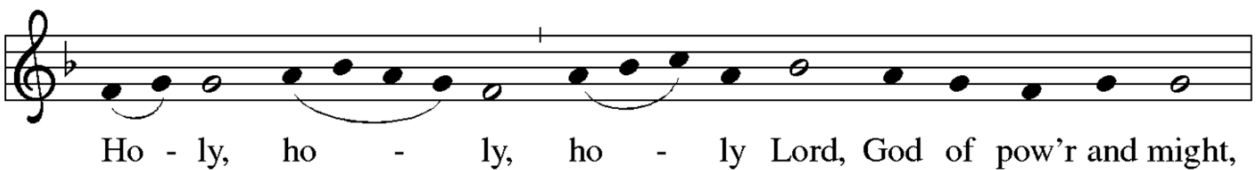
C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Speak this prayer in your preferred language. The pastor will continue when all versions are complete. Kreyòl Ayisyen is provided on the next page.

**C: 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.**

Papa nou ki nan syèl la,
Nou mande pou yo toujou respekte
non ou.

Vin tabli gouvènman ou,
pou yo fè volonte ou sou latè, tankou
yo fè li nan syèl la.

Pen nou bezwen an, ban nou li jòdi a.

Padonnen tou sa nou fè ki mal,
menm jan nou padonnen moun ki fè nou
mal.

Pa kite nou nan pozisyon pou nou
tonbe nan tantasyon,
men, delivre nou anba Satan.

Paske, se pou ou tout otorite, tout
pouvwa ak tout louwanj, depi
tout tan ak pou tout tan. Amèn.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

We believe that God is our host and that all people are welcome to this feast of grace, community, and forgiveness. Come forward at the direction of an usher. At the 8:30 a.m. service, intinct (dip) the wafer into wine in the metal chalice or grape juice in the ceramic chalice; individual cups are available for those who are gluten-free. At the 11 a.m. service, receive bread or gluten-free wafer and wine in a common chalice or pink wine and red grape juice in individual cups. If you wish to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

AGNUS DEI

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. A - men.

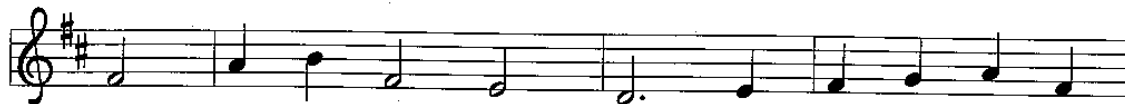
COMMUNION HYMNS

My Song Is Love Unknown

Christ, the Life of All the Living

My Song Is Love Unknown

343



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times we strew his way and his sweet prais - es
 4 We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made a -



me, love to the love - less shown that they might
 stow; the world that was his own would not its
 sing; re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas
 way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of



love - ly be. Oh, who am I that
 Sav - ior know. But, oh, my friend, my
 to our king. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is
 life to slay. Yet cheer - ful he to



for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
 friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend!
 all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.
 suf - f'ring goes that he his foes from thence might free.

5 In life no house, no home
 my Lord on earth might have;
 in death no friendly tomb
 but what a stranger gave.
 What may I say? Heav'n was his home
 but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

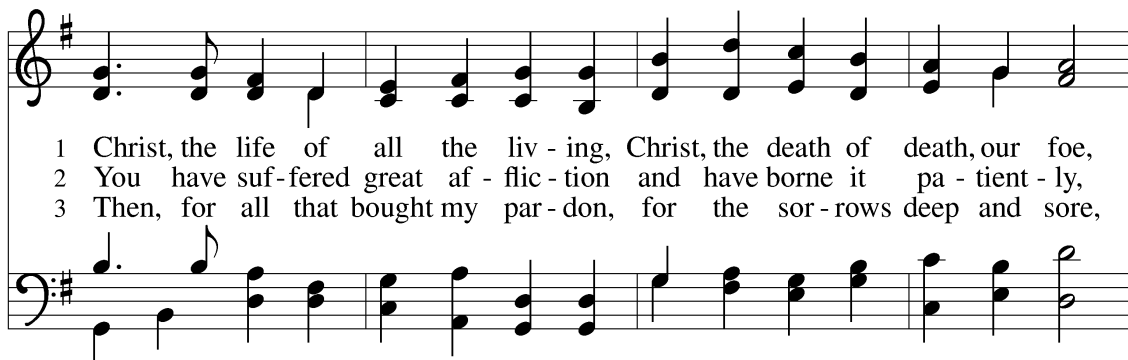
6 Here might I stay and sing—
 no story so divine!
 Never was love, dear King,
 never was grief like thine.
 This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
 I all my days could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, 1624–1683, alt.
 Music: John Ireland, 1879–1962
 Music © 1924 John Ireland, admin. The John Ireland Trust

LOVE UNKNOWN
 666448

Alternate tune: RHOSYMEDRE

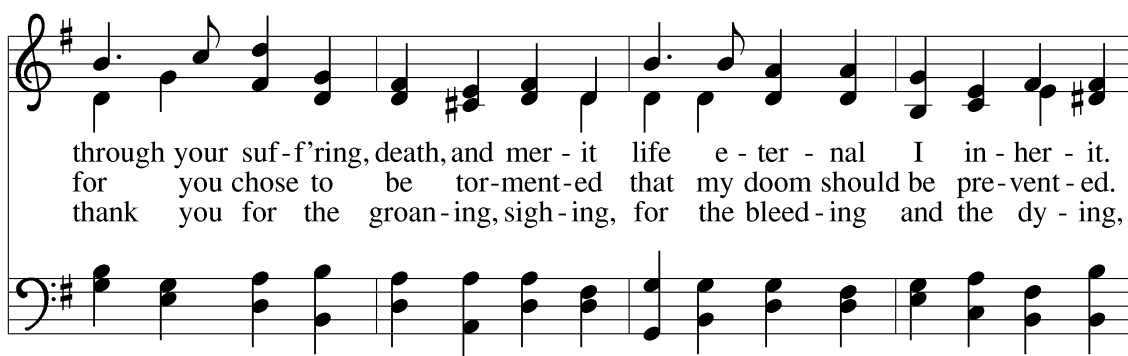
Christ, the Life of All the Living



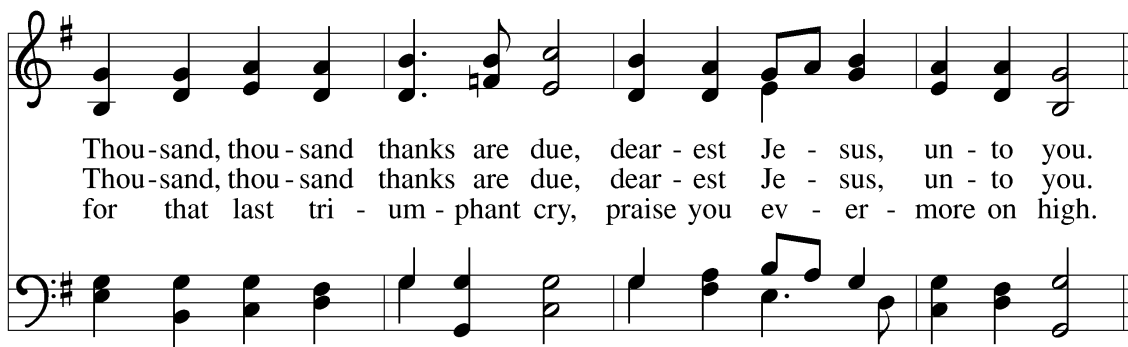
1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

*EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

*BENEDICTION

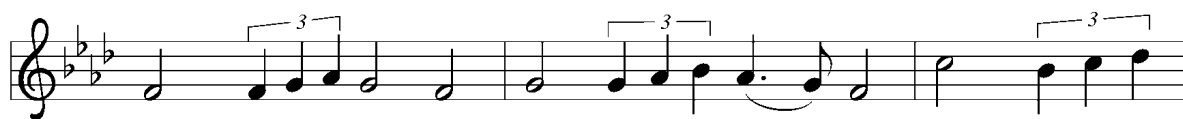
P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✚ give you peace.

C: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow ELW#327

Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow



1 Through the night of doubt and sor - row, on - ward
 2 One the light of God's own pres - ence on the
 3 One the strain that lips of thou - sands lift as
 4 On - ward, there - fore, sis - ters, broth - ers; on - ward,



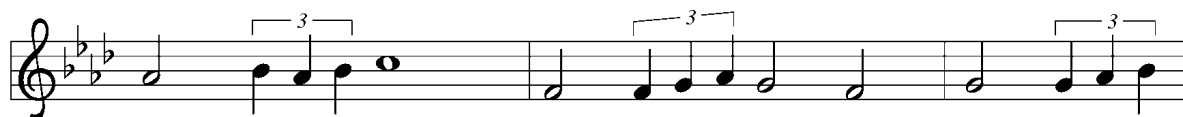
goes the pil - grim band, sing - ing songs of ex - pec -
 ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the gloom and
 from the heart of one; one the con - flict, one the
 with the cross our aid. Bear its shame, and fight its



ta - tion, march - ing to the prom - ised land. Clear be -
 ter - ror, bright - 'ning all the path we tread. One the
 per - il, one the march in God be - gun. One the
 bat - tle till we rest be - neath its shade. Soon shall



fore us through the dark - ness gleams and burns the
 ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the faith which
 glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the far e -
 come the great a - wak - 'ning; soon the rend - ing



guid - ing light; pil - grim clasps the hand of
 nev - er tires, one the ear - nest look - ing
 ter - nal shore, where the one al - might - y
 of the tomb! Then the scat - t'ring of all



pil - grim step - ping fear - less through the night.
 for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.
 Fa - ther reigns in love for - ev - er - more.
 shad - ows, and the end of toil and gloom.

***DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*We depart in peace to continue our worship
in lives of witness to Christ's love
in work, play, service, and care for creation.*

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Today's readings are selected from the Revised Common Lectionary. The texts for the scripture readings are from the *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*, emendations are provided by the pastoral staff of St. Thomas.

At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas

Sunday March 17

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Adult Forum: *Making Sense of the Cross*

11 a.m. Worship

12:30 p.m. Council Meeting

Monday March 18

9:45 a.m. Worship at Bell Trace

1 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study

Tuesday March 19

10 a.m. Property Committee Work Day

Wednesday March 20

7 p.m. Lenten Evening Worship

Thursday March 21

7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Sunday March 24 Palm Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:30 a.m. LuMin Lunch: Grab & Go

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Adult Forum: *Making Sense of the Cross*

11 a.m. Worship

12 p.m. LuMin Lunch: Grab & Go

1 p.m. Easter Basket Mission Project

Welcome Child of God!

Today we celebrate the baptism of Roman Kagemann, son of Jonathan & Emily, brother of Charlotte, grandchild of Tim & Jennifer Garl, nephew of Wyatt & Haley Hatton and Meg & Nick Watson, and cousin of Fletcher Watson.

Condolences

The St. Thomas community offers condolences to the family of Janet Ellis upon her death, which occurred on March 12. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her.

Next Steps

Looking for a way to get involved at STLC? Try this next step:

Acolytes

Assist the pastors and assisting minister throughout the service by lighting and extinguishing candles, and helping with communion. This role is best for children and tweens in grades 2-8.

Sign up on the bulletin board next to the west bathrooms if you have been trained for this role. Contact the church office if you are interested in receiving training.

parishadmin@stlconline.org

Announcements

LuMin Grab and Go Lunch

Our next lunch for IU students will be on **Sunday, March 24**. Thanks to everyone who has contributed food and drink to our lunch cart. We've had such a good response that we're now asking folks to bring at least 12 servings of each item and ideally 15. Look for the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Desk.

Easter Breakfast—HELP NEEDED

Every year, St. Thomas provides a delicious breakfast on Easter Sunday. It is a time of fellowship, to welcome new folks to the community and visitors, and is quite helpful for those of us hosting out of town guests. Sign up online here <https://bit.ly/4c3nP3a> or on the poster in the Narthex to bring egg casseroles, coffee cake, fruit, or drinks and to help with preparing, serving, and cleaning up. Most of all, we need 1-3 people to be in charge at the event.

Easter Basket Mission Project

St. Thomas and Trinity Episcopal are working together this year to provide Easter Baskets for children living in Middle Way, New Hope and Crawford Shelters. Throughout Lent we will be collecting small toys and games to fill the baskets. We especially need items for babies and teens. Shop our Amazon wish list at <https://amzn.to/49e0kCJ>, or buy local and drop off at church. The deadline for bringing items in is by noon on March 24, Palm Sunday. We also need volunteers of all ages to gather in Heritage Hall on **Sunday, March 24 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** to assemble the baskets. This is a wonderful opportunity to spread the joy of Easter to children in need.

Easter Lilies

You are invited to purchase a lily for adding beauty to the sanctuary on **Easter Sunday, March 31**. Lilies will be available to take home following the 11 a.m. worship service, or in the days following Easter. 15 lilies are available for purchase at a cost of **\$16 each**.

Lenten Midweek Services

On Wednesdays in the seasons of Lent, pray around the cross for the healing of creation, the nations, and ourselves. Worship will be held in **Heritage Hall beginning at 7 p.m.**

Holy Week at St. Thomas

Palm Sunday, March 24

Wave your palm branches and cheer alongside the crowds before walking with Jesus to the cross. Hear Passion Narrative from Mark's gospel. The choir will offer special music from Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem* at both services. Pr. Lecia will offer a children's message, and Pr. Adrienne will preach at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross are a visual representation of Jesus's passion. Beginning on Passion Sunday, stations based on events during the past year and special connections to St. Thomas will be available to pray in Heritage Hall. Visit before or after any of the week's services or during office hours on **weekdays, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Wednesday in Holy Week Healing Service, March 27

As we continue to ponder our Lord's passion, our own brokenness and need for healing is often exposed. At this gentle service, prayer and the laying on of hands are offered to all who are in pain, bereaved, feeling hopeless, needing forgiveness, or wanting to show mercy. Pr. Adrienne will preach at **7 p.m. in Heritage Hall.**

Maundy Thursday, March 28

As Jesus gathered with his disciples on the evening before his death, we gather to wash feet and hands, share the Holy Meal, strip the altar, and so begin the Great Three Days that lead through the cross to the empty tomb. Pr. Lecia will offer a children's message, Pr. Adrienne will preach, and the choir will sing at **7 p.m. in the Worship Space.**

A Love Supreme: the Passion According to John Coltrane, Midday Good Friday, March 29

When John Coltrane recorded *A Love Supreme* in 1964, it was immediately recognized as a masterpiece. The album—its four movements—is emotional, full of both lament and hope. Weaving through the pieces will be readings from the Passion according to John, poems and passages, and reflections by Pr. Adrienne at **12 p.m. in Heritage Hall.**

Good Friday, as Darkness Falls, March 29

On this day, we look to the cross, where Jesus draws all people to himself. In the evening, readings from the Passion according to John are complimented by songs and growing darkness. The service concludes with prayers of every widening circles as we pray for the world for which Christ died and honor the cross as the sign of forgiveness, healing, and salvation. Pr. Lecia will offer a children's message, Pr. Adrienne will preach, and the choir will sing at **7 p.m. in the Worship Space.**

Easter Vigil, Saturday, March 30

Be immersed in the story of the church and add your voice to our first Easter alleluias! You are invited to join us for an **Easter Vigil at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 30**. At this most fun, unique, and unexpected worship service of the year, we gather around fire, water, bread and wine to tell the story of salvation. We proclaim the stories of God's faithfulness and salvation throughout history as we proclaim Christ, the one who brings life out of death.

Worship will begin outside as we light the new fire and then move into Heritage Hall for a time of storytelling and Holy Communion. This worship is well suited for children to participate with the focus on telling stories. Worship will be followed by s'mores around the fire and an Easter egg hunt.

We are looking for someone to help stuff Easter Eggs and facilitate the egg hunt. If you are able to help with one of these items, please contact Pastor Lecia.

Resurrection of our Lord, Sunday, March 31

With shouts of joy we proclaim the crucified Christ, risen from the dead, which secures our own victory over death. Together we look for signs of new life which emerges even when things appear uncertain. Pr. Lecia will offer a children's message, Pr. Adrienne will preach, the choir will sing "Christ the Lord is Risen Again" by Philip Stopford, and brass will accompany our worship. Between services, enjoy an Easter breakfast. **Join us at 8:30 a.m. or 11 a.m.**

Gather around the Tree of Life!

*"But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
whose confidence is in him.
They will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.
It does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green.
It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit." Jeremiah 17:7-8*

Trees deserve so much respect! They provide homes and food, prevent soil erosion, provide oxygen and so much more. Join us as we grow together and are rooted in stories about trees in God's creation.

Vacation Bible School at St Thomas Lutheran Church will be **Tuesday, May 28 through Thursday, May 30 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** for children entering kindergarten through sixth grade. Students in seventh through twelfth grade are invited to help. Lunch will be provided. The cost will be \$20/child, with a \$50/family maximum. Aftercare will be available each day as long as at least four children are registered. The cost for aftercare will be \$10/child/day with a \$25/family/day maximum. Financial assistance is available. Registration is online here <https://bit.ly/3TAbIsM> through May 1. Please plan to make payment by May 15 by check (write VBS in the memo) or online here: <https://stlconline.org/donate-to-st-thomas-ministries/> More information is on our website here: <https://stlconline.org/grow/vacation-bible-school/>

For any questions, to volunteer or to request financial assistance, please contact Pastor Lecia, Pastor of Youth & Christian Nurture.

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns

Elif Ogan, Paula Ionescu, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Barbara Peterson, Steve Caudill, Brenda Caudill, Jim Wallace, Meridith Galstad, Ted Berlin, Bob Shuck, Kent Unger, Mark Wilkes, and Bill Barr.

Contact the church office for inclusion in this list of concerns and to be included in the Sunday prayers.

A separate, confidential prayer chain is also available. Contact **Susan Colston** at skcolston@aol.com to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

A rose is placed on the altar today
in honor of Charlotte Louise,
daughter of Margaret and Matt Ruwe
born on March 8.

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Care: Gail Seegert

Bread & Wine: Robin Hershberger

Coffee Crew: Drew Balcam, Matt Meier

Prayer Writer: Dawn Bakken

A/V Tech: Johnathan Frank

8:30 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Carolyn Sowinski

Lectors: Kathleen Boggess, Debbie Selk

Ushers: Susan Kinzer & Spencer Anspach

Greeters: Mike & Jaydene Laros

Council Coordinator: Kari Esarey

11 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Amanda Ghaffarian

Lectors: Janine Drake, Noelle Drake

Acolyte: Julianna Drake

Lord's Prayer Leader: Nathalie Drake

Ushers: Kim Filiatrault & Dennis Baurle

Communion Steward: Sharon Fawbush

Greeters: Tim & Jennifer Garl

Council Coordinator: Mike Witt

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Partners in ministry with
**Lutheran Church of
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Linked with
Sister Parish
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Izabal, Guatemala

In covenant with
**LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY
AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY**
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Rev. Adrienne Meier
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Rev. Lecia Beck
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Matthew Benkert
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Kathryn Davidson
Adult Choir Director
choir@stlconline.org

Melissa de Graaf
Children's Choir Director

**St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU
are Reconciling in Christ Ministries**