

FOURTH SUNDAY^{IN} LENT



March 30, 2025
Scout Sunday
8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Henrik Sonntag, Pastor
120 N. Easton Road
Glenside, PA
215-884-3005

GATHERING

THE PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (Nettleton)

Aaron David Miller

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, **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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen. OR**

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. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

No. 807 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith - er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.



GREETING

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

KYRIE

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In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



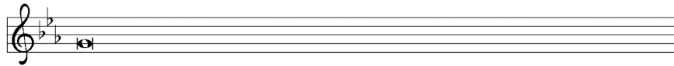
Lord, have mercy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mercy.



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 mercy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mercy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

Joshua 5:9-12

⁹ The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 32

8:00 The Psalm will be read responsively with the assembly reading the verses in bold.

*10:30 The antiphon is introduced by the choir, then is sung by all. The assembly sings the verses in **bold print.***



Be glad, you righ-teous, and re-joice in the LORD.

Psalm 32:11

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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¹Happy are they whose transgressions ¹ are forgiven,
and whose sin is ¹ put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the LORD im- ¹ putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there ¹ is no guile! R**

³While I held my tongue, my bones with- ¹ ered away,
because of my groaning ¹ all day long.

⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me ¹ day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the ¹ heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- ¹ ceal my
guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you
forgave me the guilt ¹ of my sin.

⁶**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you
in ¹ time of trouble;**

**when the great waters overflow, they ¹ shall not reach
them. R**

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve ¹ me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts ¹ of deliverance.

⁸**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that ¹ you
should go;**

I will guide you ¹ with my eye.

⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no ¹ understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will ¹ not stay
near you."

¹⁰**Great are the tribulations ¹ of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust ¹ in the LORD.**

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice ¹ in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are ¹ true of heart. **R**

THE SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view;
even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know
him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new
creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become
new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ,
and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was
reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against
them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal
through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

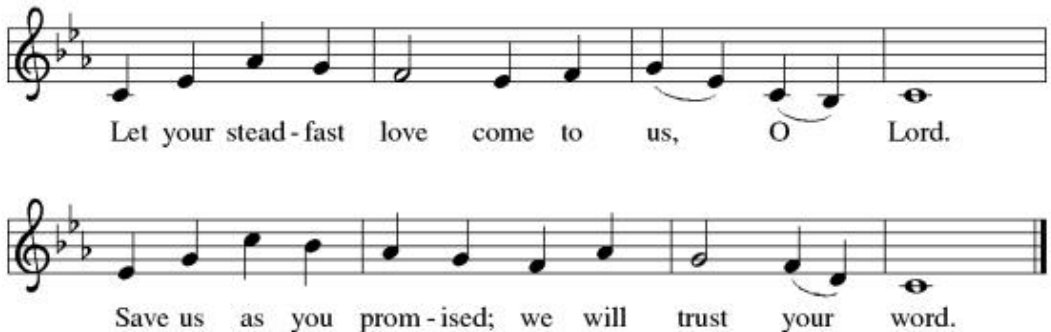
²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

Please stand as you are able.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the Fifteenth Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven

and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

10:30 only *Bless Now, Oh God, the Journey*

Sylvia Dunstan/Anne Krentz Organ

The Youth Singers

Susie Pierce Mills, piano

SERMON

Vicar Daniel Marrone

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

No. 608 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

Thompson

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain
watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!"

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please kneel or sit for the prayers: This week's response is: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion especially all those on our prayer list. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, on this day we thank you for Scouting at St. Paul's. We thank you for the generations of young people that are participating with scouting organizations at St. Paul's. Thank you for the leadership and the changed lives in this community and beyond. Bless the troop and scout organization as they teach young people the values of scouting. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died (*especially*). We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.
Amen.

Please stand as you are able

THE PEACE

*The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**
During Lent all are invited to silently meditate on the Peace of God. The
peace will be shared again on Easter Sunday.*

Please be seated

MEAL

OFFERING

8:00 AM: Organ selection

10:30 AM *Lead Me Out of the Wilderness*

Brad Nix

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY No. 186 Create in Me a Clean Heart Richard W. Hillert

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

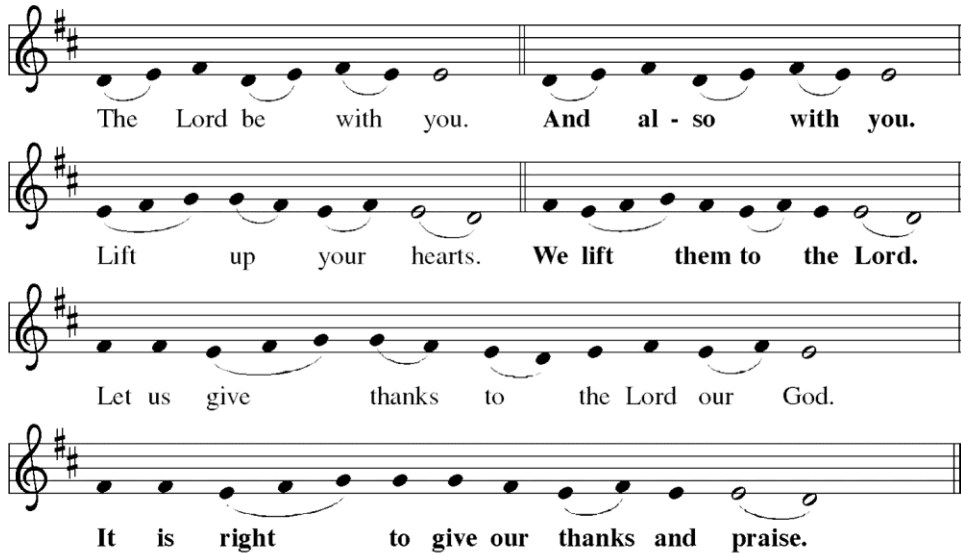
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THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Concludes with ... **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

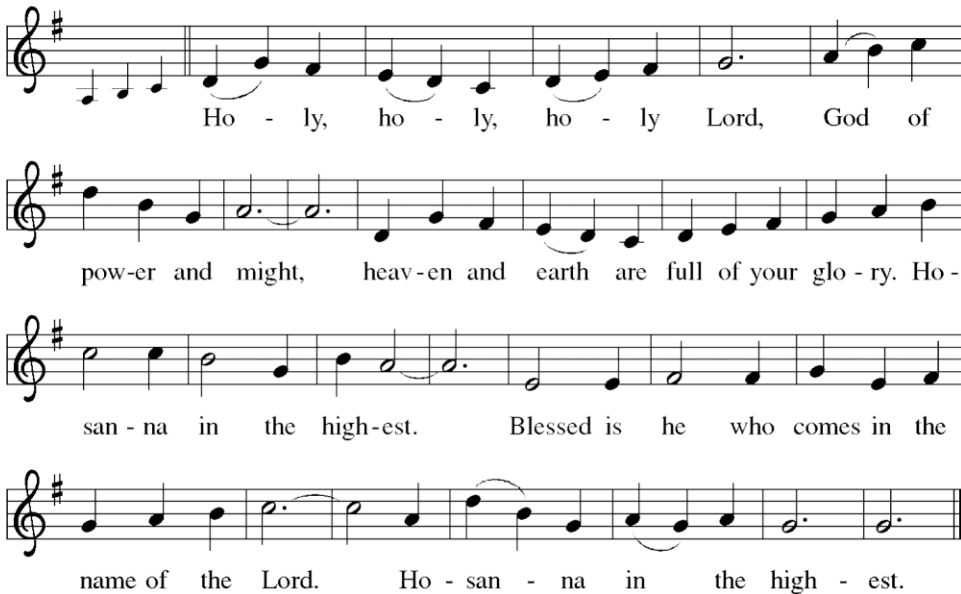
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The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE SANCTUS

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Sung)

(During Lent we will be singing the Lord's Prayer on Sunday mornings. Copies are available at the entrance along with the bulletin. Please return this copy to where you picked it up for use again next week. Thank you.)

The Lord's Prayer

Albert Hay Malotte Malotte



Our Fa-ther, which art in heav-en, hal-low-ed be
Thy name. Thy king-dom come, Thy will be
done on earth as it is in heav-en.
Give us this day our dai-ly bread, and for-give us our debts as
we for-give our debt-ors. And lead us not in-to temp-ta-lon, but de-
liv-er us from e-vil, for Thine is the King-dom and the
Pow-er and the Glo-ry, for-ev-er. A - men.

Please be seated.

THE COMMUNION

“Lamb of God”

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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, grant us peace.

No. 779 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

New Britain

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

Please stand as you are able.

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

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

THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Now Lord, You Let Your Servant Go in Peace

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Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Concludes with **Amen.**

SENDING


THE BLESSING

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THE SENDING HYMN

No. 763 My Life Flows On in Endless Song *How Can I Keep From Singing*

My Life Flows On in Endless Song




1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Please be seated for the announcements.

PARISH NOTICES AND JOYS

SENDING: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in D

David Johnson