

# FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2023  
8:00 AM and 10:30 AM



Gathering Hymn.....I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (611)  
Hymn of Day.....You Make the Beautiful Things  
Communion.....Blest Be the Tie that Binds (656)  
  What Wondrous Love is This (666)  
Sending Hymn.....Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow  
  (327)

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*In God's Grace, Ascension Creates Faithful Community.*

# Prelude      Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

arr. Dale Wood, Sacred Music Press 1992

## Announcements

### + Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who created us in love, who redeems us by grace, who calls us through faith.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God.

*(Silence for reflection.)*

Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy. We come to you today seeking forgiveness and life.



We confess to you the sins we commit – words and deeds that harm our neighbor, greed and distrust of one another, values and priorities that leave others impoverished and alone.



We confess to you the sin of deeds left undone – turning a blind eye to those in need, not living into our callings, missed opportunities of kindness and courage.



God of grace and mercy, we come to you seeking forgiveness, that our sin and shame might give way to new life in you.

**Amen.**

## Assurance of Forgiveness

### Gathering Hymn

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889  
Music: Thomas Tallis, 1505-1585

### I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (611)

### 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.**

### Prayer of the Day

*Lord Christ,*

**bend your ear to our prayers and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

### Special Music

"O Love"

Women's Ensemble

SSA and cello by Elaine Hagenberg

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### Reading

### Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.”

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23

*The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.*

**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

*You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.*

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of  
death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod  
and your staff, they comfort me.**

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.*

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the  
days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of  
the LORD forever.**

## + Gospel Acclamation



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

## Gospel Reading

**John 9:1-12**

*The Holy Gospel according to John.*

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

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam"

(which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children's Sermon**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Daniel Smith**

**Hymn of the Day**

**Beautiful Things**



1 All	this	pain;		I	won - der	if	I'll
2 All	this	earth;		...	could	all	that is
3 All	a	round,		...	hope	is	spring - ing



ev - er	find	my	way.	I	won - der	if	my
lost	ev - er	be	found?	...	Could	a	gar - den
up	from	this	old	ground.	...	Out	of
						cha - os,	



life	could	real - ly	change	at	all.
come	up	from	this	ground	at
life	is	be - ing	found	in	you.

*Refrain*

You make beau-ti-ful things, you make beau-ti-ful things out of the dust.

You make beau-ti-ful things, you make beau-ti-

ful things out of us.

### +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 into hell.  
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

Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need.

*(a brief silence)*

**After each petition:**

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

*Those remembered in prayer this week ...*

*Marilyn Benson, Mary Ann Bond, Brad Buhler, George Candea, Bob Dillow, Michael Foret, Elaine Glover, Eileen Hedstrom, Stewart Hellem, Bob Kelly, Karalee Kleehammer, Pam Landry, Carol Passon, Cerne Rieves, Rick Rogers, Fran Schumacher, Jeff Sebben, Cassie Shaffer, Cathy Stanley, Ron Stoneback, Bruce Thompson, Carol Thompson, all our men and women serving overseas, especially Anthony Calderon and all others we lift up to you at this time.*

## **Sharing of the Peace**

*The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

**And also with you.**

## **Offering “Finale for Sonat VI”**

Felix Mendelssohn, public domain

## **Offering Song**



1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of  
2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in



earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your  
trust from you all that you give; help us in



boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,  
love to share, teach us like you to care



that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.  
for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

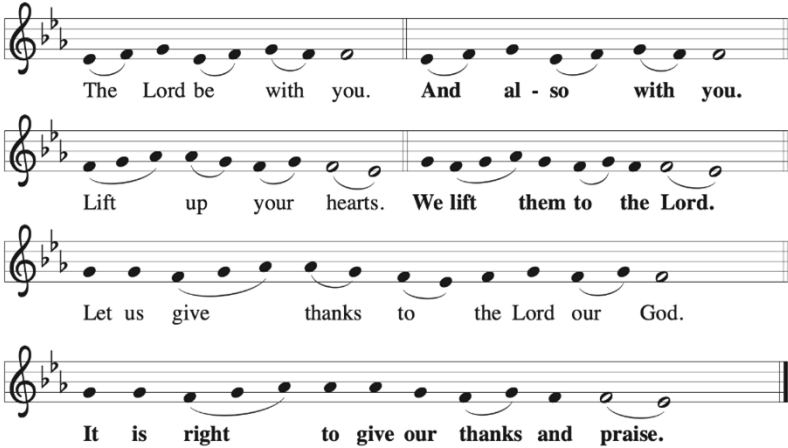
Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

## Offering prayer

God of goodness and growth,  
all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, the source of our life. Amen.

## The Great Thanksgiving

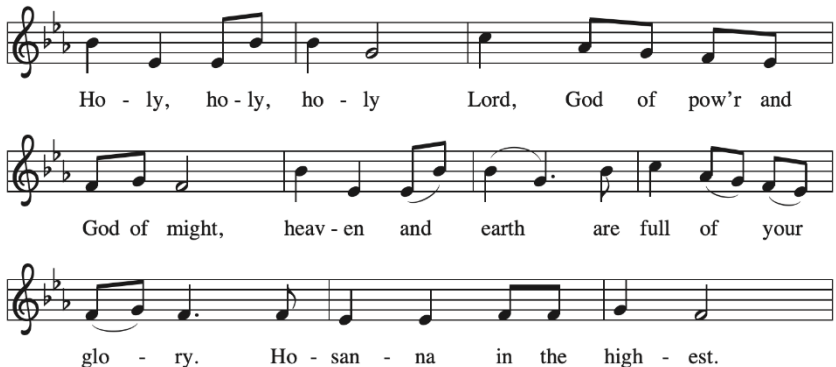


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## The Preface to the Sanctus

*It is indeed right ... and join their unending hymn:*

## The Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and  
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.





Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### **The Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution**

Holy God, mighty and merciful, your people praise you, saying:  
Your mercy endures forever.

**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you bound yourself to the earth and all its creatures, granting them life and calling them to flourish, setting the sign of your rainbow in the clouds, the colors of your love and faithfulness.

**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you bound yourself to your people of old, blessing them with family and calling them to be a blessing to others.

**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved, grafting us into your living Vine, and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-giving love.

**Your mercy endures forever. Amen.**

In the night in which he was betrayed ...

With this bread and cup we remember his life laid down and lifted up as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

With all the saints in light, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

### **Invitation to Communion**

*For those worshiping in the sanctuary, come forward to the altar to receive the bread and wine. Gluten free bread and white grape juice are available.*

*God's love and this meal are for all, including children. If your child is not ready to receive, they may receive a simple blessing such as "May the Lord bless you and keep you."*

*For those worshiping at home, when invited by the pastor we encourage you to eat and drink trusting that this is God's free gift of grace for you.*

### **Lamb of God**



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.

## Communion Hymns

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.

Music: Johann G. Nageli, 1773-1836, adapt.

## Blest Be the Tie that Binds (656)

## What Wondrous Love is This (666)

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: @. @lker, Southern Harmony, 1835;

arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914-1997, alt.

Arr. c. 1955 Augsburg Publishing House

## Prayer after Communion

Tender and merciful one,

**you fed us at your feast, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to mend broken hearts, work for justice, and strive for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## Sending Hymn Praise he One Who Breaks the Darkness (843)

Text: Robert Grant, 1779-1838, alt.

Music: William Croft 1678-1727

## Benediction

Amen

## Sending Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow (327)

*Go in peace, serve the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude “Emperor’s Fanfare”

Antonio Soler, public domain

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**THOSE SERVING ASCENSION’S WORSHIP TODAY**

**Ushers: 8:00-** Craig Kelly, Brad Chewakin, Cheryl Fritsch  
**10:30:** Seth Baun, Eddie Calderon  
**Worship Deacon: 8:00-** Alice DeLoughry **10:30-**John Hayes  
**Lector: 8:00-** Bill Ayen **10:30-**Ingrid Daniel  
**Communion Assistant: 8:00-**Bill Ayen  
**10:30-** Arlayne McKee  
**Cantor:** Choir  
**Communion Bread:** Marcia Foret  
**Communion Prep:** Cindy Gaona  
**Communion Clean Up:** Judy Leiseth

**CHURCH STAFF**

**Pastor Dan Holt** **Pastor Daniel Smith** **Deacon Mary Stoneback**  
Office Administrator.....Ruth Albrent-Runnells  
Director of Children’s Learning Center.....Teresa Adams

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

Director of Music .....Scott Christiansen  
Choir Director.....Megan Miller

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