

# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE

### Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
**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.**

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.**

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 Song

*Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church*

Hymn 321

Eternal Lord of love, behold your church  
walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent,  
led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,  
moved by your love and toward your presence bent:  
far off yet here—the goal of all desire.

So daily dying to the way of self,  
so daily living to your way of love,  
we walk the road, Lord Jesus, that you trod,  
knowing ourselves baptized into your death:  
so we are dead and live with you in God.

If dead in you, so in you we arise,  
you the firstborn of all the faithful dead;  
and as through stony ground the green shoots break,  
glorious in springtime dress of leaf and flow'r,  
so into life and glory shall we wake.

## 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

Holy God of all creation, every breeze, tide, and tectonic shift is known to you. All times and places are held within your infinite expanse of grace. Guide us in your mercy to perceive our place of rest in your faithfulness, which you have revealed to all through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. To him, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

## First Lesson

Isaiah 58:6-12

<sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? <sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? <sup>8</sup>Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. <sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, <sup>10</sup>if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. <sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. <sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

## Psalm

6:2-9

<sup>2</sup>Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am faint;  
heal me, Lord, for my bones are in agony.  
<sup>3</sup>**My soul is in deep anguish.**  
**How long, Lord, how long?**  
<sup>4</sup>Turn, Lord, and deliver me;  
save me because of your unfailing love.  
<sup>5</sup>**Among the dead no one proclaims your name.**  
**Who praises you from the grave?**  
<sup>6</sup>I am worn out from my groaning.  
All night long I flood my bed with weeping  
and drench my couch with tears.  
<sup>7</sup>**My eyes grow weak with sorrow;**  
**they fail because of all my foes.**  
<sup>8</sup>Away from me, all you who do evil,  
for the Lord has heard my weeping.  
<sup>9</sup>**The Lord has heard my cry for mercy;**  
**the Lord accepts my prayer.**

## Gospel

Matthew 15:29-38

<sup>29</sup>After Jesus had left that place, he passed along the Sea of Galilee, and he went up the mountain, where he sat down. <sup>30</sup>Great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the maimed, the blind, the mute, and many others. They put them at his feet, and he cured them, <sup>31</sup>so that the crowd was amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.

<sup>32</sup>Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way." <sup>33</sup>The disciples said to him, "Where are we to get enough bread in the desert to feed so great a crowd?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus asked them, "How many loaves have you?" They said, "Seven, and a few small fish." <sup>35</sup>Then ordering the crowd to sit down on the ground, <sup>36</sup>he took the seven loaves and the fish; and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. <sup>37</sup>And all of them ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. <sup>38</sup>Those who had eaten were four thousand men, besides women and children.

## Partner Presentation

### Response Hymn

*When Pain of the World Surrounds Us*

Hymn 704

When pain of the world surrounds us with darkness and despair,  
when searching just confounds us with false hopes ev'rywhere,  
when lives are starved for meaning and destiny is bare,  
we are called to follow Jesus and let God's healing flow through us.

We see with fear and trembling our aching world in need,  
confessing to each other our wastefulness and greed.  
May we with steadfast caring the hungry children feed.  
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's justice flow through us.

We praise you for our journey and your abundant grace,  
your saving word that guided a struggling human race.  
O God, with all creation, your future we embrace.  
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's changes flow through us.

### Responsive Prayer

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, **have mercy on us.**

**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.**

**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.**

O Lord, I cry to you for help.

**In the morning my prayer comes before you.**

Let my mouth be full of your praise  
**and your glory all the day long.**

Every day will I bless you,  
**and praise your name forever and ever.**

Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,  
**O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
**and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.**

You redeem my life from the grave,  
**and crown me with mercy and steadfast love.**

Lord, hear my prayer,  
**and let my cry come before you.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

**Dismissal**