

**Lent 3: Living Water of salvation, be the fountain of each soul;
springing up in new creation, flow in us and make us whole, flow in us and make us whole.**

The Reading: Luke 15:1-32 (*you may be seated*)

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ²But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴“Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. ⁸“Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins[a] and loses one. Doesn’t she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ ¹⁰In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” ¹¹Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³“Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ ²⁰So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹“The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²“But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate. ²⁵“Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸“The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹“‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

P: This is the Word of the Lord,

C: Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

Sermon: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

Hymn of the Day & Offering: *Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlugegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.*

“There Is A Longing In Our Hearts, O God” ACS #1078

Refrain: There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.

Vs 1: For justice, for freedom, for mercy: hear our prayer.

In sorrow, in grief: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Vs 2: For wisdom, for courage, for comfort: hear our prayer.

In weakness, in fear: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Vs 3: For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer.

In sickness, in death: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Vs 4: Lord, save us, take pity, light in our deepest night.

We call you; we wait: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Offertory Response: *“Give Thanks” W&P 41 (ushers bring offerings forward)*

Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.

Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son. And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.

Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.

Offertory Prayer:

L: Let us pray.

C: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others. Through our Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.

Baptism of Lily Jean Reese, the daughter of Cassandra Reese

The Prayers: (*call and response*)

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

We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters, human conflict, and sickness especially Keith Brown, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Shawn Fredrixon, Marc Bode, Harlan Reese, Gage Miller, Alex Stehr, Perry Fitzgerald, Tanya Bakken, Nicole Anderson, Henry Strauss, Diane Krenke, Steve Pabst, Bob Eppen, & Chase Hanson. Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly, called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless food pantries, community gardens and kitchens, clean water projects, and all ministries that address human hunger and thirst. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended. May their witness inspire our own. God, in your mercy, **receive 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.**

Sharing the Peace: P: The peace of Christ be with you always, **C: And also with you.**

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 Him thanks & praise.**

The Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer: 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.

Meal and Hymns: (*you may be seated*) *All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine. Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.*

“Rock Of Ages” ELW 623

Vs 1: Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood,
from thy riven side which flowed, be of sin the double cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.

Vs 2: Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law’s demands; could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Vs 3: Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to thy cross I cling. Naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

Vs 4: While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death, when I soar to worlds unknown,
see thee on thy judgment throne, Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

“The Old Rugged Cross” CCLI Lic.

Vs 1: On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest & best for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain: So I’ll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.

Vs 2: O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world, has a wondrous attraction for
me; for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above to bear it to dark Calvary. [Refrain]

Vs 3: In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, a wondrous beauty I see,
for ‘twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died, to pardon and sanctify me. [Refrain]

Vs 4: To that old rugged cross I will ever be true, its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then he’ll call me some day to my home far away, where his glory forever I’ll share. [Refrain]

Communion Prayer: *(Please stand as you are able)*

P: Let us pray,

C: God of our Table, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables
of love and grace in our own homes, that your liberating love might go forth from this place into our
own homes and community. Through our Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.

Blessing:

P: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, & claimed us as children of the light, strengthen
you on your journey into life renewed. May the Lord bless you & keep you. May the Lord’s face shine
upon you & be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favor & give you + peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” ELW #618

Vs. 1: Guide me ever great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow’rful hand: bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

Vs. 2: Open now the crystal fountain, where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through: strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
shield me with your mighty arm, shield me with your mighty arm

Vs. 3: When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death, & hell’s destruction,
land me safe on Canaan’s side: songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forever more, I will raise forever more.

Dismissal: P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Welcome

We’re Glad You’re Here

St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson
Third Sunday in Lent • 9:30AM • March 23, 2025

Prelude: “The Blessing” by violinist, Melanie Lodermeier and soloist, Jessica Flotterud

Welcome & Announcements

Quarterly Financial Update: *Scott Peterson*

Lenten Greeting: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: Friends in Christ, we gather during this season of Lent to remember Jesus’ Passover from death to life.
We journey through this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God’s grace. We
are created to live in joyful communion with God and one another, but we oftentimes wound our
relationship with God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.
As disciples of Jesus, we long for repentance leading to change.

C: God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess
our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek your will for our lives.

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: With honesty of heart, we confess our sin together. Merciful God,

C: Lord, forgive us. Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free. We have spoken when we should
have kept quiet. We were silent when we should have said something. We were still when we should have
moved. We moved when we should have been still. For the wrong we have done, & for the good we have
failed to do, have mercy on us & bring us new life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

P: Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces us in tender care. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet
us again this day. In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. You are free from sin and death. Live anew with
God and each other today. **C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: “Eternal Father, Strong To Save” ELW #756

Vs 1: Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm has bound the restless wave, Who bade the mighty ocean
deep it’s own appointed limits keep; Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in peril on the sea!

Vs 2: O Savior, Whose almighty word the winds & waves submissive heard, Who walked upon the foaming
deep, & calm amid the storm didst sleep; Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in peril on the sea!

Vs 3: O Holy Spirit! Who didst brood Upon the chaos dark and rude, & bid its angry tumult cease, & give,
for wild confusion, peace; Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in peril on the sea!

Vs 4: O Trinity of love & pow’r, all trav’lers guard in danger’s hour; From rock & tempest, fire & foe, Protect
them wheresoe’er they go; Thus evermore shall rise to Thee Glad hymns of praise from land & sea.

Prayer of the Day: P: Let us pray together.

C: Rejoicing Father, You celebrate when one of your lost children is found because no one is worthless
to you. We stand humbled and in awe that you would count us among your most prized possessions.
Give us eyes to see the priceless value of every living soul, for the sake of the one who became human
for the sake of our souls, Jesus Christ our seeker. Amen.

Praise for the Word: *(stand as you are able)* “Tree Of Life” Vs 1-3 & Lent 3 ELW #334

Vs 1: Tree of Life and awesome myst’ry, in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of hist’ry, still you rise with ev’ry morn, still you rise with ev’ry morn.

Vs 2: We remember truth once spoken, love passed on through act and word;
ev’ry person lost and broken wears the body of our Lord, wears the body of our Lord.

Vs 3: Christ, you lead and we shall follow, stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow, we the river, you the sea, we the river, you the sea.

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