

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

The Commemoration of St. Joseph, Guardian of Our Lord
19 March 2023



And the LORD came upon David from that day forward.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

6194 Dumfries Road
Warrenton VA 20186
www.oslc-warrenton.org

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

The presiding minister may comment briefly upon the service of the day.

The Confession of Sin

Silence for reflection may be kept.

The presider and assembly confess their sins, and pray for one another.

I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned by my own fault, in thought, word, and deed.

I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

Almighty and merciful God grant you healing, pardon, and forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned by my own fault in thought, word, and deed.

I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

Almighty and merciful God grant you healing, pardon, and forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

Gathering Hymn *O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate (st. 1-2, 4)* *ELW 722*

1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate,
bore ev'ry human pain.
Its beating was the pulse of God;
its breadth, God's vast domain.
The heart of God, the heart of Christ
combined in perfect rhyme
to write God's love in human deeds,
eternity in time.

2 As once you welcomed those cast down
and healed the sick, the blind,
so may all bruised and broken lives
through us your help still find.
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep
that none may weep alone,
and help us bear another's pain
as though it were our own.

4 O Love that made the distant stars,
yet marks the sparrow's fall,
whose arms stretched wide upon a cross
embrace and bear us all:
come, make your church a servant church
that walks your servant ways,
whose deeds of love rise up to you,
a sacrifice of praise!

*Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923
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Apostolic Greeting

The presiding minister greets the assembly in the words of 2 Corinthians 13:4.

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

(“All Creation Sings,” Setting 12)

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, 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.

Amen.

Children’s Sermon

First Reading: I Samuel 16:1-13

A reading from First Samuel.

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.”

²Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.”

And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” ⁴Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem.

The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?”

⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord."

⁷But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."

⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one."

⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one."

¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?"

And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep."

And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 (KJV)

¹The Lord is my shepherd; **I shall not want.**

²He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: **he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

³He restoreth my soul: **he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: **for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**

⁵Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: **thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.**

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: **and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

Epistle: Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from Ephesians.

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for 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.

Gospel Verse: Return to the Lord

(Joel 2:13)



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Gospel Reading

John 9:5-7

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (st. 1-3)* ELW 779

- 1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.
- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

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

Creed

We confess our faith in the words of the 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 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.

Prayers of Intercession

An assisting minister invites the assembly into prayer with these or similar words.

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world,
and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of
Christ forever in baptism. Inspire Elizabeth and Robert our bishops, all
pastors and deacons, and the members of this church as we strive for jus-
tice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest springtime bud. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials, including Joseph our president and Glenn our governor. Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God our shepherd, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; tend all who are sick and comfort those who grieve (*especially*). Merciful

God of the ages, we remember our ancestors in faith (*including ... and Joseph, Guardian of Jesus*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

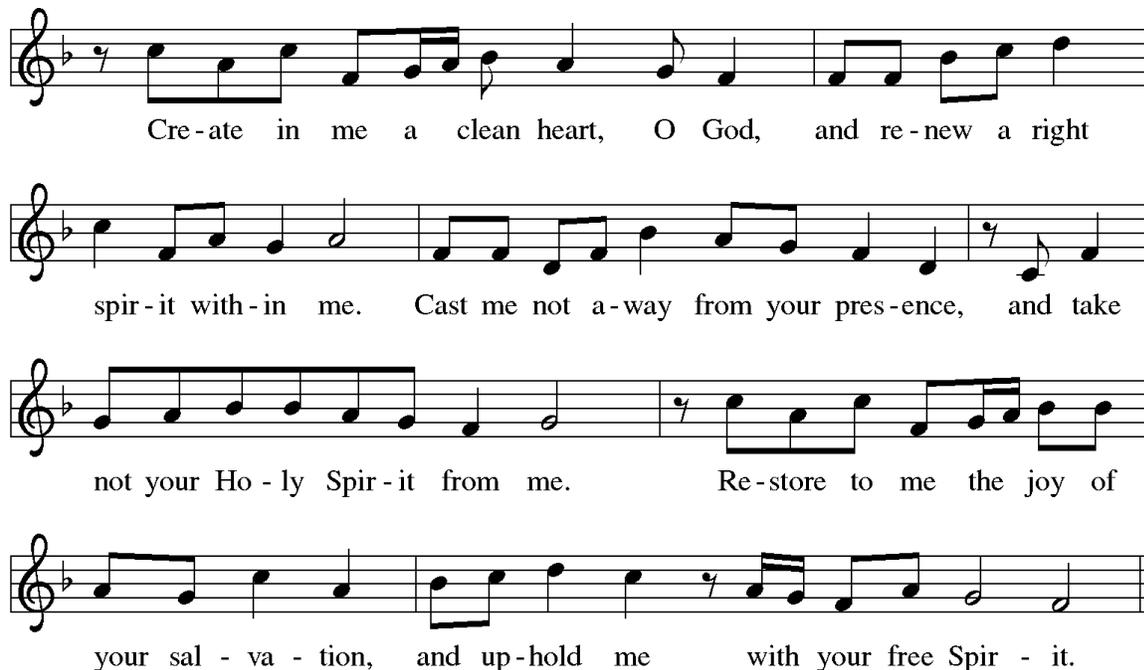
An offering is received for the mission of the church here and through the world.

Offertory Hymn *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* *Sung by Jim Lowell*

ABOUT THE HYMN: *Thomas Dorsey (1899-1993) wrote the hymn while grieving his wife, lost in childbirth, and his first-born son a day later in August 1932. Dorsey was a Baptist choir director in Chicago for over 40 years, writing over 1,000 gospel songs. Although his lyrics came from personal grief, they were inspired; ringing true in the season of Lent and for those struggling in everyday life - seeking God's guidance and help in dark times.*

Offertory Song

As the offering is brought forward, we stand to sing.



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.

Offering Prayer

A Let us pray. *[Brief silence.]*

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Dialogue

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

Preface

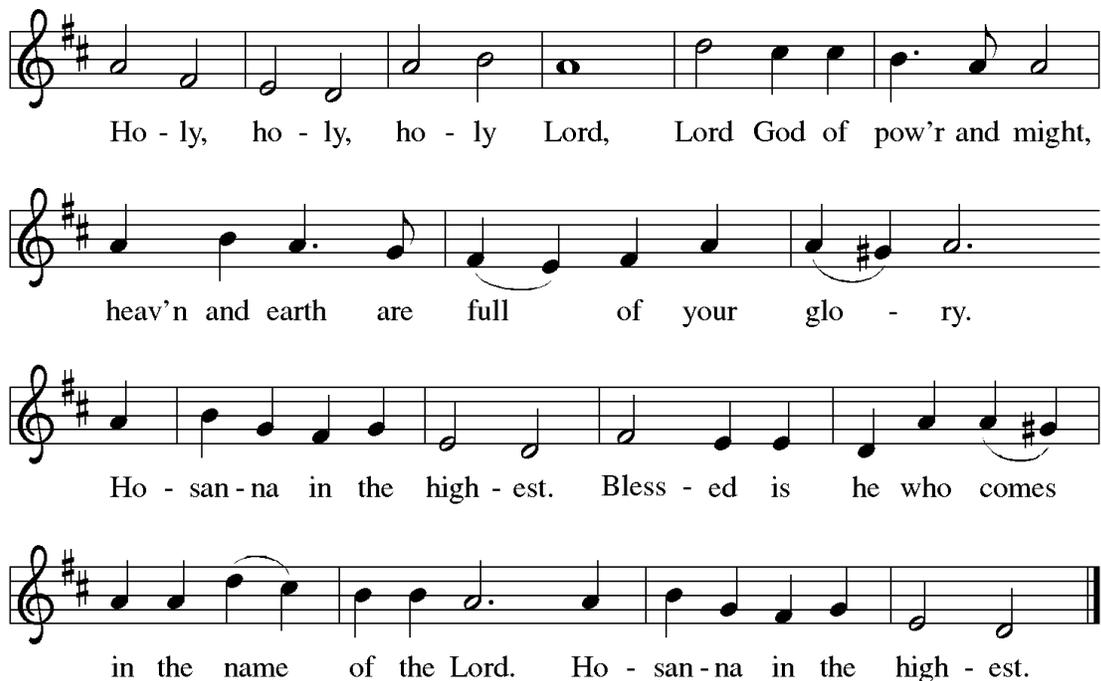
The presiding minister continues:

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:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

The presiding minister gives thanks on behalf of the assembly.

Holy God,

our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

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.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food

and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

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.

Invitation to Communion

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

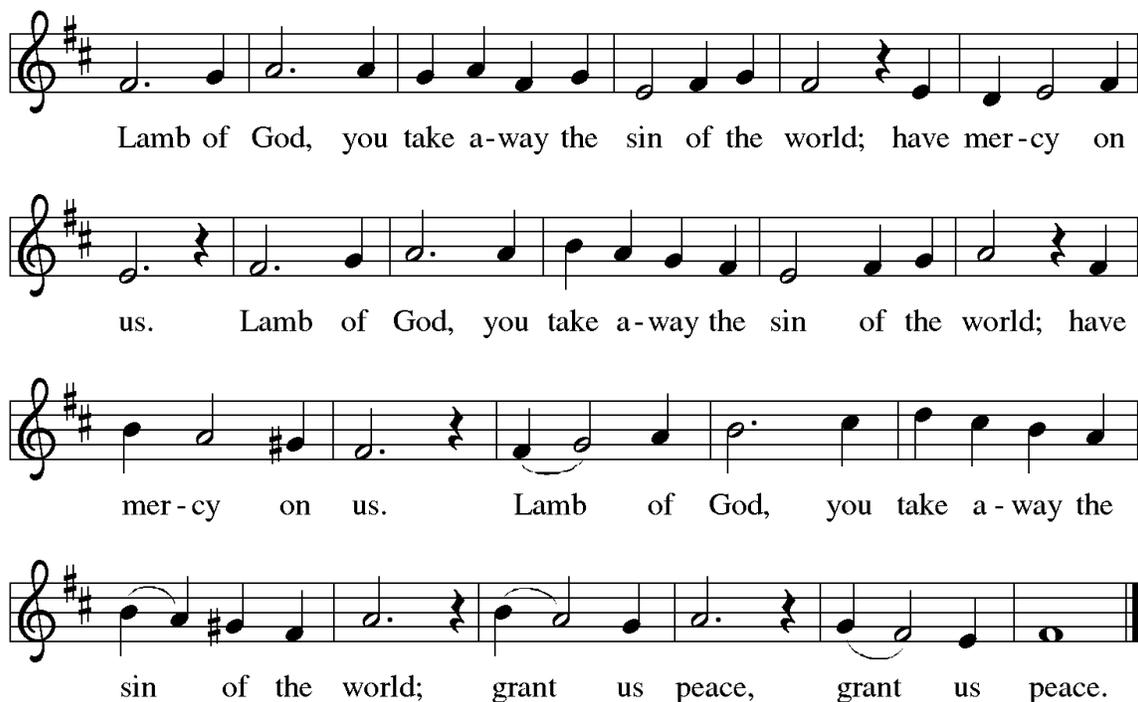
Holy things for a holy people.

One is holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ to the glory of God the Father.

Communion

All baptized Christians are invited to the Lord's Table. Those who do not receive may come forward, arms crossed, for a blessing. If you are interested in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, please speak to a pastor.

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.

Music During Communion

Prayer after Communion

- A Let us pray.
Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C **Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing

- P Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Announcements

Sending Song

Be Thou My Vision

ELW 793

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931

Dismissal

- A Go in peace. Remember the poor.
- C **Thanks be to God.**



Bible Readings

for Daily Prayer (March 21-27)

Monday

Psalm 146
Isaiah 59:9-19
Acts 9:1-20

Tuesday

Psalm 146
Isaiah 42:14-21
Colossians 1:9-14

Wednesday

Psalm 146
Isaiah 60:17-22
Matthew 9:27-34

Thursday

Psalm 130
Ezekiel 1:1-3; 2:8-3:3
Revelation 10:1-11

Friday

Psalm 130
Ezekiel 33:10-16
Revelation 11:15-19

Saturday

Psalm 130
Ezekiel 36:8-15
Luke 24:44-53

Sunday

Fifth Sunday in Lent
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

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