

Second Sunday in Lent

16 March 2025

HIGHWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Meeting ID: 411 134 0591 # Passcode: 592794 #



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### + HOLY COMMUNION SETTING ONE +

**ORGAN PRELUDE** “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” arr. J. G. Walther

**GATHERING** Pg. 94

**CATECHETIC MOMENT**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** Pg. 94

**GATHERING HYMN**

Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth **No. 727**

**GREETING/ KYRIE** Pg. 98

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** Pg. 150

P We pray. Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON      A Reading from the Book of Genesis

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates. (*Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18*)

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM      *Sung*      Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?

The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I | be afraid?

When evildoers came upon me to eat | up my flesh,

it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stum- | bled  
and fell.

Though an army should en- | camp against me,  
yet my heart shall not | be afraid;  
and though war should rise | up against me,  
yet will I put my | trust in him.  
One thing have I asked of the Lord; one | thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days | of my  
life;  
to behold the fair beauty | of the Lord  
and to seek him | in his temple.  
For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe | in his shelter;  
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me  
high up- | on a rock.  
Even now he lifts | up my head  
above my enemies | round about me.  
Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds | of  
great gladness;  
I will sing and make music | to the Lord.  
Hearken to my voice, O Lord, | when I call;  
have mercy on me and | answer me.  
You speak in my heart and say, | "Seek my face."  
Your face, Lord, | will I seek.  
Hide not your | face from me,  
nor turn away your servant | in displeasure.  
You have been my helper; cast me | not away;  
do not forsake me, O God of | my salvation.  
Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,  
the Lord | will sustain me.  
Show me your | way, O Lord;\*  
lead me on a level path, because | of my enemies.  
Deliver me not into the hand of my | adversaries,  
for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those |  
who speak malice.  
What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness | of the  
Lord  
in the land | of the living!  
Oh, tarry and await the Lord's pleasure;  
be strong, and he shall com- | fort your heart;  
wait patiently | for the Lord.

## **SECOND LESSON**    A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.  
(*Philippians 3:17-4:1*)

**A** The word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Let your steadfast love...

Pg. 103

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **THE HOLY GOSPEL**

**P** The Holy Gospel...

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord**

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' ".  
(*Luke 13:31-35*)

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY We Sing to You, O God

No. 791

THE APOSTLES CREED

Inside Front Cover and Page 105

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please stand as you are able.*

The response to “*Hear us, O God.,*” is “***Your mercy is great.***”

A Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

A Compassionate God, call your people to stand firm as citizens of heaven. As we are humbled by your wondrous love, nurture such mercy in our hearts and ministries. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Display your faithfulness to creation in the changing of the seasons. Orchestrate the great song of praise that comes from rivers, birds, mountains, livestock, and wind. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Drown out the terror in the world with acts of lovingkindness and generosity. Release political leaders from pride and fear to act justly and to serve citizens. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Grant solace to people who long to be parents, but have faced difficulty in bearing or adopting children. Build life-giving parent and child relationships for the sake of all. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Rush to answer those who cry out to you in time of trial. Give shelter to your vulnerable children, and cover them in the comfort of your mothering wings. Heal the sick and comfort the grieving. We pray for: Bruce Beamer, Anna Berwanger, Simret Bogale, Chrystine Cuch, Mariette Erasmus, Adeline Erick, Dolores Hollowell, Donna Harbor, Genevieve Janssen, Julie Janssen Downe, Eleanora Lahoda, Fay Larsen, Amy Lynch, Jean McCowan, Mark Mutschlechner, Bruce and Judith Nagel, Karin Olafson (Dakota, Remi and Ada), Jerry Rasmuson and family, Jim and

Joyce Rasmussen, David Sr. and Joan Richardson, Ron Sauer, Vern Schnell, Rose Sinclair, John Watt, those we name aloud ... and those we carry in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A We pray for your holy catholic Church:

- the Synod of Alberta and the Territories, synod staff, pastors, people, and Bishop Trish Schmermund
- the Southern Area Leadership Team, pastors, people, and Rev. Dr. Tim Wray, Dean
- our Synod Campus Ministries and especially for Rev. Margaret Koizumi, Chaplain for Lutheran Campus Ministry, University of Calgary, and Mount Royal University
- our synod candidates for ministry
- the synod council as they gather for their spring meeting and retreat
- Emmanuel Lutheran, Czar
- Lutheran ethnic ministries and their pastors, leaders, and people
- Divine Redeemer Congregation, Bucaramanga, Colombia
- the pastors and people of the Lutheran Church of Australia
- the pastors and people of the Anglican, Mennonite, and Moravian Churches of Canada

For all these, Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Build up your holy community of saints through the work of bishops and missionaries. Spread your word through your people for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A For all virtually gathered for this service, and those attending to the care of others and to beneficial endeavours that keep them away from worshipping. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

## THE PEACE

Pg. 106

P The peace of the Lord be always with you.

C **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

OFFERTORY “The Lord is My Light” by Christopher Walker

*Setting of the altar and reception of the Offerings.*

*Please be seated.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER (Lent)

Pg. 64

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pg. 107

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Version II)

Pg. 112

THE FRACTION

P When we eat this Bread, we share the Body of Christ;  
when we drink the Cup, we share the Blood of Christ.

C **Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,  
as once you revealed yourself to the disciples.**

LAMB OF GOD

Pg. 112

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

*Please be seated. Assistants and those in need commune first.*

COMMUNION HYMNS

Restore in Us, O God

No. 328

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

No. 321

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (Lent)

Pg. 65

*Please be seated.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

BENEDICTION

Pg. 114

SENDING HYMN O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate

No. 722

DISMISSAL

Pg. 115

P Go in peace...

C **Thanks be to God!**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” arr. J. Krebs

**WELCOME** to all gathered here today. Join us for refreshments and conversation downstairs after worship, Questions? Ask one of today's servants or speak with the pastor.

**WE THANK TODAY'S SERVANTS**

|               |                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Usher:        | Jarrold Hanson, Remi Mitchell |
| Lector:       | David Wong                    |
| Assistant:    | Cam Schneider                 |
| Altar Guild:  | Helen Sandau                  |
| Refreshments: | Grace Karsten, David Wong     |
| Zoom Host:    | Phil Tang, Ahmed Conteh       |

**OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE**

|               |               |          |             |
|---------------|---------------|----------|-------------|
| Last week     | Ash Wednesday | 9 March  | Budget 2025 |
| Current       | \$ 140        | \$ 1,810 | \$2,911     |
| Benevolence   | 0             | \$ 25    |             |
| Building Fund | 0             | \$ 0     |             |
| Other         | 0             | \$ 2,840 |             |
| Attendance    | 17            | 39       |             |

**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**

|           |        |          |                             |
|-----------|--------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Today     | 16 Mar | 11:45 PM | Fellowship and Refreshments |
|           |        | 2:00 PM  | CFMA Worship                |
| Monday    | 17 Mar | 7:00 PM  | Council                     |
|           |        | 7:00 PM  | 12 Step Program             |
| Tuesday   | 18 Mar | 6:30 PM  | S.A.F.E. Place Peer Support |
| Wednesday | 19 Mar | 10:00 AM | 12 Step Program             |
|           |        | 7:00 PM  | 12 Step Program             |
| Thursday  | 20 Mar | 6:00 PM  | Community Meeting           |
| Friday    | 21 Mar | 7:00 PM  | 12 Step Program             |
| Saturday  | 22 Mar | 9:00 AM  | House of Hope Worship       |
| Sunday    | 23 Mar | 10:30 AM | Third Sunday in Lent        |

**ETERNITY FOR TODAY** booklets for April, May, and June have arrived and are in the Narthex and downstairs.

**STS RETREAT** – Pastor Mike will be away on Retreat 17 – 18 March 2025. Please leave a message if you need assistance.

**HOTSHOTS**— has been cancelled this month and rescheduled to 15 April 2025.



**CLEANING BEE** – Please join us as we prepare for Easter, on Tuesday 25 March at 1:00 PM to clean the church, pews and inside windows. Cleaning supplies will be provided.

**HIGHWOOD HIGHLIGHTS-** Submissions for the April issue are accepted until 18 March 2025. Email items to [secretaryhlc@outlook.com](mailto:secretaryhlc@outlook.com)

**FOOD BANK DRIVE** – The Elders are excited to announce that our Food Bank Drive has officially started! Our goal is to gather donations and have everything ready for the Second Sunday in April so we can deliver them to the distribution centre. We encourage you to drop off your non-perishable items or food box donations at the Narthex. Every contribution counts, and your support is greatly appreciated! Thank you for your generosity and commitment to helping those in need.

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE** – If you need a ride to church, contact Elizabeth Anderson 587 897 0548 or Bill Strand 403 239 9894

|                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b> | Third Sunday in Lent |
| Isaiah 55:1-9               | Psalms 63:1-8        |
| 1 Corinthians 10:1-13       | Luke 13:1-9          |