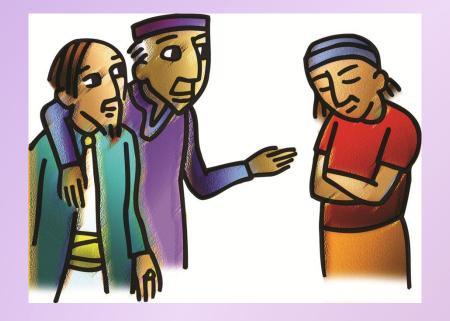
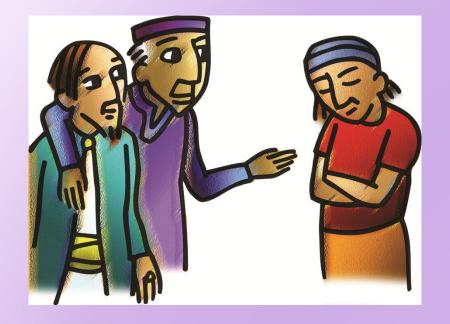
#### **Fourth Sunday in Lent**



#### March 30, 2025 Fourth Sunday in Lent 11:00 am Holy Communion

#### **Gathering Music**



#### "House of the Lord" Sound Offering

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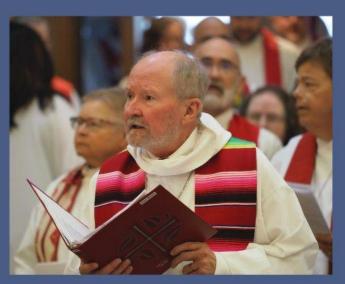


MARCH 29/30, 2025

#### THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

#### Rev. Dr. Michelle Holley Carlson, Presiding

Rev. Dr. Rick Carlson, Preaching



"Sharing Shelf" March S.A.F.E. Center **Donation: Household Cleaning Products!** Please set donated items on the shelf in the Narthex.



The S.A.F.E. Center is the Spouse/Sexual Abuse Family Education Center. The S.A.F.E. Center's mission is to provide free and confidential serves for those affected by dating violence, domestic violence, human trafficking, sexual assault, and stalking while bringing awareness and prevention efforts to all individuals across South Central Nebraska.

#### **Adult Sunday School with Pastor Rick:**

Sunday | 9:50 am March 30th - Centennial Hall April 6th - Fellowship Hall

> The Nicene Creed: Where it came from and why it still matters





# Scout Troop 339 Waffle Fundraiser

- Sunday, April 6th
- Centennial Hall
- 9:45 am 12:30 pm
- Waffles and Sausage being served
- Baked goods for sale!







#### NATALIE & FRIENDS IN CONCERT SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025 3:00 PM FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

No charge. Freewill offering accepted to support the handbell program.

Participants: Natalie Radcliffe-flute, Chancel Bells, Praiser Bells UNK Flute Choir, and Assorted Performers



First Communion Class will receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion:

- Thursday, April 17th
- 5:45 pm Photos in the Sanctuary
- 6:30 pm First Communion at Maundy Service
- 8:00pm Reception in Centennial Hall

# **Holy Week Services:**

Maundy Thursday, April 17th - 6:30 pm Good Friday, April 18th - 6:30 pm Holy Saturday, April 19th - 6:00 pm

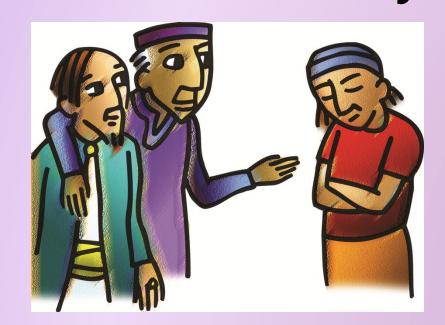


# Easter Services Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> SONrise: 7:00 am North Parking Lot 8:45 am and 11:00 am

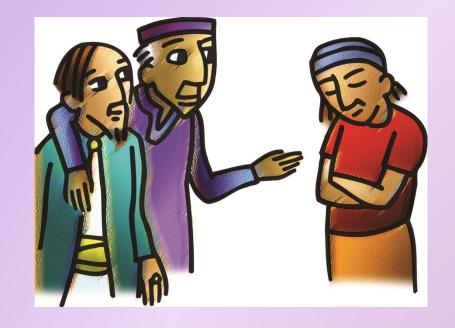
#### Greeting

#### **GREETING ONE ANOTHER**

#### We greet one another in the name of the Lord using words such as "Peace be with you."



#### **Worship Song**



#### "Hosanna (Praise is Rising)"

# Praise is rising, **Eyes are turning to You** We turn to You. Hope is stirring, Hearts are yearning for You We long for You.



### **'Cause when we see You, We find strength to face the day.**

# In Your presence All our fears are washed away, Washed away.



# Hosanna, Hosanna, You are the God who saves us, Worthy of all our praises. Hosanna, Hosanna,



### Come have Your way among us. We welcome You here, Lord Jesus!



Hear the sound of Hearts returning to You; We turn to You. In Your Kingdom Broken lives are made new. You make us new.



'Cause when we see You, We find strength to face the day. In Your presence All our fears are washed away, Washed away.



# Hosanna, Hosanna, You are the God who saves us, Worthy of all our praises.



## Hosanna, Hosanna, Come have Your way among us. We welcome You here, Lord Jesus!

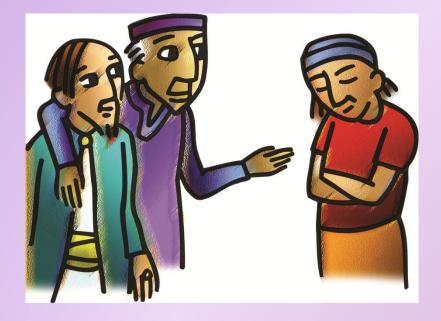


### Hosanna, Hosanna! Hosanna, Hosanna!

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#### **Worship Song**



"I See You"

God of love, God of all glory, ev'ry day I see new mercy. **Great is Your faithfulness!** God of love, God of my story, You never fail, You never forsake me. **Great is Your faithfulness!** 

I see You in the morning light, I feel You in the fire by night. I hear you say, "Child I am with You. Ev'rything will be alright."



### I see You in the tears that run, I feel You when the healing comes. I hear You say, "Beloved one I am with you" ev'ry moment of my life.



#### I see You, I see You. Oh, oh. I see You, God, I see You.



## God of love, God of new vision, ev'ry blessing You have given. Great is Your faithfulness. Oh, how great is Your faithfulness.



I see You in the morning light, I feel You in the fire by night. I hear you say, "Child I am with You. Ev'rything will be alright."



### I see You in the tears that run, I feel You when the healing comes. I hear You say, "Beloved one I am with you" ev'ry moment of my life.



#### I see You, I see You. Oh, oh. I see You, God, I see You.



I will worship through the storm, through the storm, through the storm. All my hope is in you Lord, in you Lord, in you Lord.



I will worship through the storm, through the storm, through the storm. All my hope is in you Lord, in you Lord.



## I see You in the morning light, I feel you in the fire by night. I hear You say, "Child I am with You. Ev'rything will be alright."



## I see You in the morning light, I feel you in the fire by night. I hear You say, "Child I am with You. Ev'rything will be alright."



### I see You in the tears that run, I feel You when the healing comes. I hear You say, "Beloved one I am with you" ev'ry moment of my life.



#### "I See You"

# I see You, I see You. Oh, oh. I see You, God, I see You. I see You, I see You. Oh, oh. I see You, God, I see You.

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#### Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.



- L: Let us pray.
- God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy.



#### **Prayer of the Day**

By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: Amen.



L: A reading from Psalm 32.



L: <sup>1</sup>Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. <sup>2</sup>Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. <sup>3</sup>While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.



<sup>4</sup>For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. <sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.



- <sup>6</sup>Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.
- <sup>7</sup>You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.



- <sup>8</sup>I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
- I will counsel you with my eye upon you. <sup>9</sup>Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
- whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,
  - else it will not stay near you.



<sup>10</sup>Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. <sup>11</sup>Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart. (Psalm 32)



# L: Word of God. Word of Life.C: Thanks be to God.



- **P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the fifteenth chapter.
- C: Glory to you, O Lord.



**P:** <sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."



<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup> "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them.



<sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need.



<sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.



<sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you;



<sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' <sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.



<sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe-the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.



<sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.



<sup>25</sup> "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing.
<sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked

what was going on.



<sup>27</sup> He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.



<sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends.



<sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.



<sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'" (*Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32*)



# P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.C: Praise to you, O Christ.



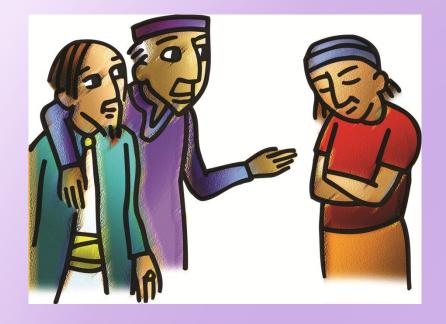
**Children's Message** 

# CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND "NOISY" OFFERING Children's Offering goes to Operation Shine





#### Sermon



# SERMON Pastor Rick Carlson

#### **Worship Song**



#### "Live Like That"

**Sometimes I think** what will people say of me, when I'm only just a memory when I'm home where my heart belongs



### Was I love when no one else would show up? Was I Jesus to the least of those, was my worship more that just a song?



I want to live like that and give it all I have, so that everything I say and do points to You.



If love is who I am, then this is where I'll stand; recklessly abandoned, never holding back. I want to live like that, I want to live like that.



Am I proof that You are who You say You are, that grace can really change a heart? Do I live like Your love is true?



# **People pass and even if** they don't know my name; is there evidence that I've been changed when they see me, do they see You?



# I want to live like that and give it all I have, so that everything I say and do points to You.



"Live Like That"

If love is who I am, then this is where I'll stand; recklessly abandoned, never holding back. I want to live like that, I want to live like that.



I want to live like I want to show the world the love You gave for me. I'm longing for the world to know the glory of the King



# I want to live like And give it all I have, so that ev'rything I say and do points to You.



# If love is who I am, then this is where I'll stand; recklessly abandoned, never holding back.



# I want to live like that, I want to live like that, I want to Live like that.

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Creed

- L: Let us profess our faith.
- C: I believe in God, the Father almighty. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord and Savior. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian
- church, the forgiveness of sins and the life everlasting.
- Amen.



## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

L: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence for reflection.



L: God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love.



L: God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life.



L: God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all.



L: God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnicspecific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all.



L: God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. We pray especially for...



**Skylar Marie Adams** Jim Anderson **Bertha Boyer** Vicki Buschelman **Gregory Carrico** Jim Catterson Wayne Deterding Terry Eirich Leonard Fowler

**Tyler Freeland** Randy Fritson Larry & Jane Giddings Chuck Gilson Linda Sue Jensen **Betty Kempf Kylie Kotrc Ron Kruse Bob Lammers** 



**Emily McArthur Bob Placzek Eileen Richter Brent Roemmich Garth Scism Denise Scott Addison Sullivan** 

**Tony Tauer Dave Vest Eunice Warner Carl Weber Misty White Dean Wiese** Miranda Wright



- L: Prayers of comfort and peace for:
- The Samuelson and Petersen families on the death of Tricia Samuelson.
- The family and friends of Doris Schroeder on her death.



L: God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died. We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found.



**P:** 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.

## C: Amen.



Meal

# OFFERING "Holy Spirit Rain Down" Sound Offering

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**Communion Servers**,

please come forward at this time.



Please stand as you are able.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
C: Amen.



**P:** Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

### Silence is kept for reflection.



- P: Compassionate One,
- C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
- but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.

We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.



We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.

Amen.



- P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide
- to welcome the wandering ones home.
- In + Christ your sins are forgiven.
- You have a place in God's house forever.
- C: Amen.



### **Offertory Prayer**

### L: Let us pray. Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world.



### **Offertory Prayer**

As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.** 



P: The Lord be with you.C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.C: We lift them to the Lord.



### **The Great Thanksgiving**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.



### **Words of Institution**

P: In the night in which he was handed over, 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.



### **Words of Institution**

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.



**Words of Institution** 

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
C: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.



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

**P:** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.



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

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.

**P:** All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

Please be seated.



### Communion

We practice open communion at First Lutheran. All are welcome to receive the elements. Please let the Pastor know if you need a gluten-free wafer. The wine is red, and the grape juice is clear in the trays.



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#### **Table Grace**

Please stand as you are able.

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: Amen.



#### **Prayer after Communion**

- L: Let us pray.
- Generous Host,
- you have shared your feast with us and made us new.



#### **Prayer after Communion**

- Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
- that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
- in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.

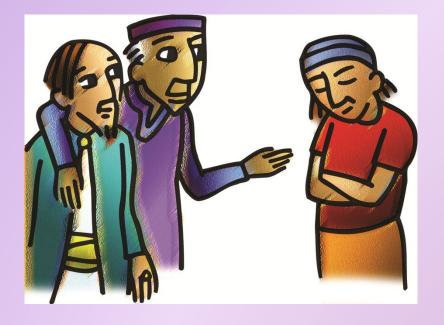


#### Blessing

- P: God our tender caregiver,
  God the crucified one,
  God the reconciling Spirit,
  + bless you now and forever.
- C: Amen.



#### **Worship Song**



"Jesus Thank You"

# Thank you for your goodness Thank you for your kindness Thank you for all the things you do Jesus, thank you.



Jesus I can hardly count the times Your grace has pulled me out Sin and shame had left me bound I once was lost, but now I'm found I once was lost, but now I'm found



# Thank you for your goodness Thank you for your kindness Thank you for all the things you do Jesus, thank you.



"Jesus Thank You"

Thank you for the blessings Thank you for a million little things Thank you for the ways that You've come through, Jesus, thank you.



# Looking back all I can see Is a history of miracles I know if You're here with me Then nothing is impossible.



# Thank you for your goodness Thank you for your kindness Thank you for all the things you do Jesus, thank you.



#### Jesus, thank you, Jesus, thank you Jesus, thank you, thank you, thank you



### I can't say it enough I can't say it enough I can't say it enough



#### I can't thank You enough I can't thank You enough I can't thank You enough



"Jesus Thank You"

Thank you for your good ness Thank you for your kindness Thank you for all the things you do Jesus, thank you.



"Jesus Thank You"

Thank you for the blessings Thank you for a million little things Thank you for the ways that You've come through, Jesus, thank you



# Jesus, thank you, Jesus, thank you Jesus, thank you, Thank you, thank you.

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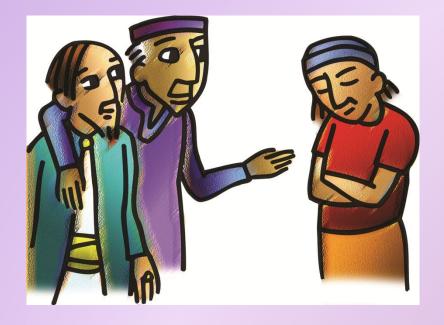


#### Dismissal

# L: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.C: Thanks be to God.



#### **Sending Music**



#### **Sound Offering**