

F I F T H

# Sunday in Lent



**Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Traditional Communion  
Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**March 29, 2020**

**9:00 a.m.**

\*Invocation

P/ In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C/ Amen.**

\*Confession and Forgiveness

P/ Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C/ Amen.**

P/ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P/ Most merciful God,

**C/ we confess that we are in bondage 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.**

P/ Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C/ Amen.**

\*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.**

\*The Kyrie

A/ In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C/ Lord, have mercy.**

A/ For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C/ Lord, have mercy.**

A/ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C/ Lord, have mercy.**

A/ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C/ Lord, have mercy.**

A/ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C/ Amen.**

P/ The Lord be with you

**C/ And also with you.**

\*Prayer of the Day

See Insert

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

Gospel Verse

*“Return to the Lord”*

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***Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,  
Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.***

\*Gospel:

**John 11:1-45**

See Insert

P/ The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, in the 11th chapter.

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

*Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.*

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” <sup>5</sup>Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup>after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” <sup>11</sup>After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all

right.”<sup>13</sup> Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep.<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead.<sup>15</sup> For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”<sup>16</sup> Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

<sup>17</sup>When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.<sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away,<sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother.<sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home.<sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.<sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.”<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”<sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,<sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”<sup>27</sup> She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

<sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”<sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him.<sup>31</sup> The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.<sup>32</sup> When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.<sup>34</sup> He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”<sup>35</sup> Jesus began to weep.<sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”<sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?”<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank

you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

<sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

P/ The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Pastor Meheret Caruthers

\*Hymn

*“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*

LBW 439

*What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!*

*What a privilege to carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!*

*Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
oh, what needless pain we bear--*

*all because we do not carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!*

*Have we trials and temptations?*

*Is there trouble anywhere?*

*We should never be discouraged--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?*

*Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?*

*Precious Savior, still our refuge--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*In his arms he'll take and shield you;  
you will find a solace there.*

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

**C/ I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and, born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

See Insert

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of life, bind your faithful people into one body. Enliven the church with your Spirit and bless the work of those who work for its. Accomplish your work of salvation in us and through us, for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of life, you love the world you have made and you grieve when creation suffers. Restore polluted lands and waterways. Heal areas of the world ravaged by storms, floods, wildfires, droughts, or other natural disasters. Bring all things to new life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of life, show redemption to all who watch and wait with eager expectation: those longing for wars to cease, those seeking election, and those in dire need of humanitarian relief. Come quickly with your hope. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of life, you weep with those who grieve. Unbind all who are held captive by anxiety, despair, or pain (*especially*). Fill us with compassion and empathy for those who struggle, and keep us faithful in prayer. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of life, we give thanks for opportunities for this congregation to collaborate with our community in caring for the needs of our neighbors. Strengthen our ties with other local congregations, agencies, and services. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

\*Benediction

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\*Recessional Hymn

*“Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross”*

TFBF-73

*Jesus, keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain;  
Free to all, a healing stream flows from Calvary's mountain.*

refrain: *In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever;*

*Till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.*

*Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;  
There the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me.*

(refrain)

*Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;  
Help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me.*

(refrain)

*Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,  
Till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river.*

(refrain)

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\*The Sending

A/ Why are we here as a people of God?

C/ **We are here to celebrate our faith, grow in faith and in God's  
Word, and reach out in service to our community.**

A/ Go in peace to celebrate, grow and serve!

C/ **Thanks be to God!**