



Mid-week Lenten Gatherings

5:00 to 6:00 pm- A light supper served between

5:30 to 6:15 pm- Wednesday Church School

6:15 pm- Guided conversation and worship around the table at in the fellowship hall.

Calendar and focus for the mid-week Lenten services:

- March 6 The Man with No Friends (Luke 19:1-10)
- March 13 Unbinding and Letting Go (John 11:17-44)
- March 20 The Anointing (John 12:1-19)



All Are Welcome

#641 vv. 1-3

All Are Welcome - #641 Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Music: Marty Haugen. Text and Music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #731814-A. All rights reserved.

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

L: 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.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive our sins, known and unknown, things done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

L: God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead to sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Greeting

L: 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.

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer. We come to hear your living word: it saves us from despair.

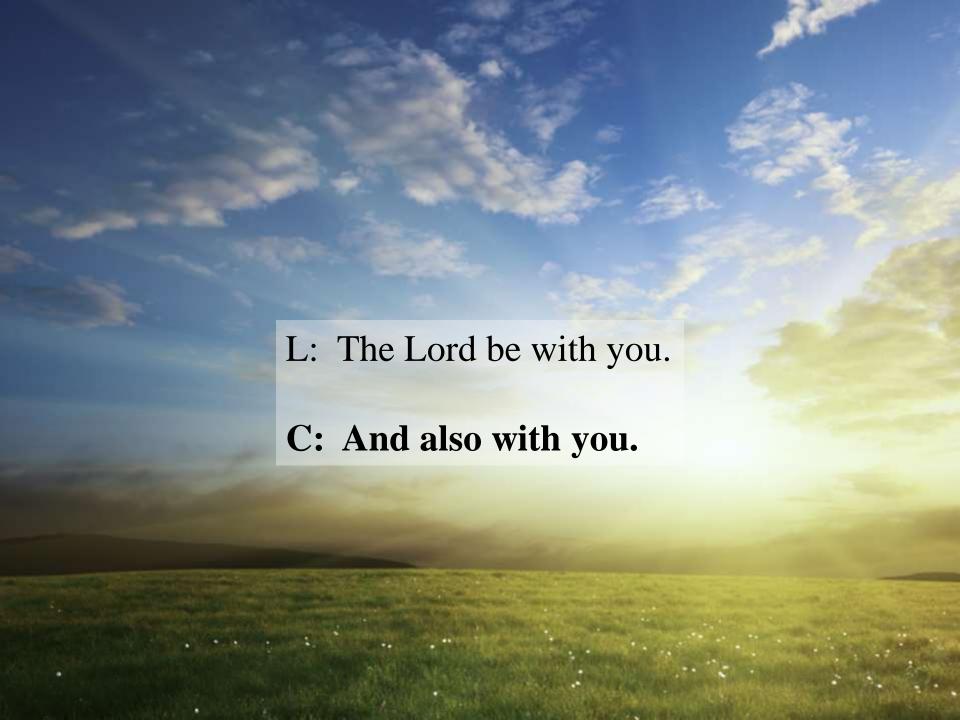
Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin. Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.

Have mercy on us, Lord; make sin and shame depart. Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

Hymn of Praise

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good-will to all the earth. Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth; we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise. Glory be to Christ forever,
Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior,
you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us;
now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us;
in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call. Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all: Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright. For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!



Prayer of the Day

L: Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19

- L: ¹The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.
- C: ²One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- L: ³Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,
- C: 4their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

- L: ⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- C: 6It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- L: ⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
- C: 8The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

- L: ⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- C: ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- L: ¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
- C: ¹²Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.

- L: ¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- C: ¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

We are turning, Lord, to hear you; You are merciful and kind Slow to anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined. L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the second chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 2:13-22

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." 18The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

"The Holy Place"

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

ELW #414 vv. 1, 2, 4

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900. Music: Kstholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774. Public Domain.

1. Holy God, we praise your name;
Lord of all, we bow before you.
All on earth your scepter claim,
all in heav'n above adore you.
Infinite your vast domain,
everlasting is your reign.

2. Hark! The glad celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising; cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising, fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:

"Holy, holy, holy Lord!"

4. Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name you, though in essence only one; undivided God we claim you and, adoring, bend the knee while we own the mystery.

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.



Arise, Your Light Has Come!

ELW #314 vv. 1, 4

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947. Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1892. Text © 1992 GIA Publication, Inc. Public Domain

1. Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.



4. Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.

Offering Prayer

L: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace.

We pray this in your name.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

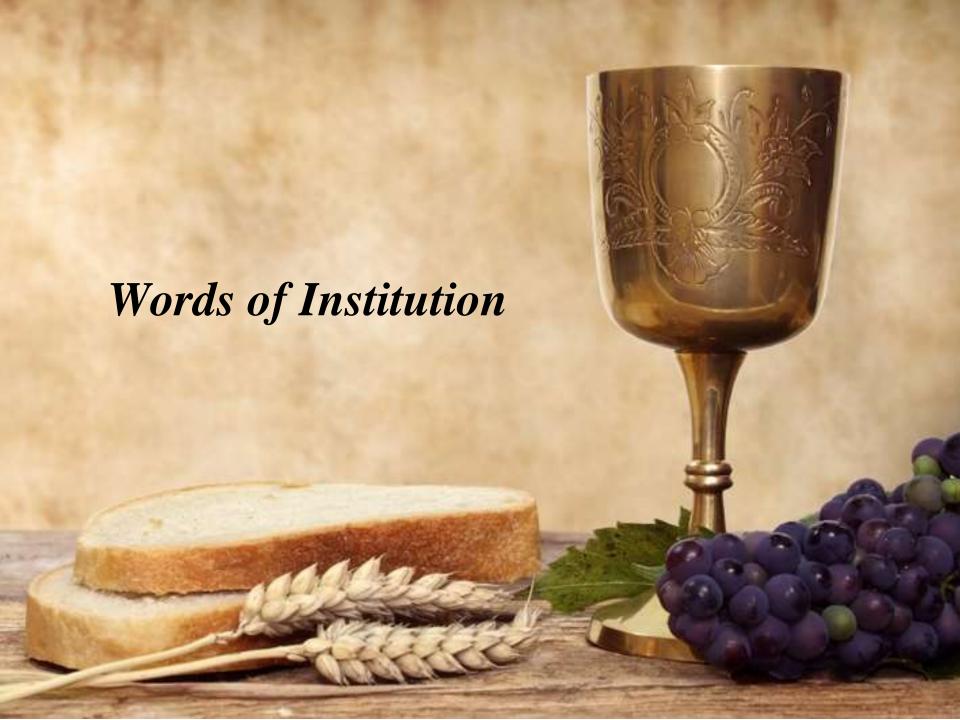
Response after each petition:

L: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.



The 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. 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.



In the Cross of Christ I Glory

#324 vv. 1-3

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872. Music: Ithmar Conkey, 1815-1867. Public Domain.

1. In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

2. When the woes of life o'er take me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy, never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.

3. When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way, from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.

Break Now the Bread of Life

ELW #515

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841-1913, alt. Music: William F. Sherwin, 1826-1899. Public Domain.

1. Break now the bread of life, dear Lord to me, as once you broke the loaves beside the sea.

Beyond the sacred page
I seek you, Lord; my spirit waits for you, O living word.

2. Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you blest the bread by Galilee.

Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall; and I shall find my peace, my all-in-all!

3. You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your holy word the truth that rescues me.

Give me to eat and live with you above; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.



Prayer after Communion

L: Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your
immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into
one bread, now make us one loaf to
feed the world; in the name of Jesus,
the Bread of life.

C: Amen.

Blessing

L: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and 中 give you peace.

C: Amen.

I Love to Tell the Story

ELW #661 vv. 1-3

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911. Music: William E. Fischer, 1849-1936. Public Domain.

1. I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because I know it's true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.



2. I love to tell the story:
 how pleasant to repeat
 what seems, each time I tell it,
 more wonderfully sweet!
 I love to tell the story,
 for some have never heard
 the message of salvation
 from God's own holy word.



3. I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story
that I have loved so long.



Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Share your bread.

C: Amen.

