

# *Order of Worship*

## *The Fifth Sunday in Lent*

*Sunday, March 22, 2026 – 8:00 a.m.*

PRELUDE

NATALIE YOUNGER, PIANIST

*“Prelude in E minor op. 28 no. 4”*  
*Frédéric Chopin*

WELCOME

*Please stand.*

OPENING HYMN

DR. CHRISTIAN GUEBERT, ORGANIST

*“Go to Dark Gethsemane”*

Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter’s pow’r;  
Your Redeemer’s conflict see, Watch with Him one bitter hour;  
Turn not from His griefs away; Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;  
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!  
Shun not suff’ring, shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.

Calv’ry’s mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,  
Mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete.  
“It is finished!” hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid His breathless clay;  
All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken Him away?  
Christ is ris’n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854

Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820-1901; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941 Text & Music: Public Domain  
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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

All: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and  
cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, Who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

#### CHAPEL CHOIR

#### *“Lamb of God Most Holy”*

Nicolaus Decius , arr. Alex Guebert

*Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus!*

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O Holy Spirit, You are a gift and a blessing. You call us from death and despair to faith and faithfulness and assure of resurrection and life in Christ, who has brought about our atonement. Enlighten our hearts that we may rejoice in the power and blessing of Your presence in and among us. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Father are one God, world without end.

All: Amen.

#### THE FIRST READING

JOHN 11:45-53

<sup>45</sup> Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, <sup>46</sup> but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. <sup>47</sup> So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. <sup>48</sup> If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.” <sup>49</sup> But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all.

<sup>50</sup> Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.” <sup>51</sup> He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, <sup>52</sup> and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. <sup>53</sup> So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## THE SECOND READING

## MATTHEW 27:11-31, 35-37

<sup>11</sup> Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” <sup>12</sup> But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. <sup>13</sup> Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” <sup>14</sup> But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. <sup>15</sup> Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. <sup>16</sup> And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. <sup>17</sup> So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” <sup>18</sup> For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. <sup>19</sup> Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream.” <sup>20</sup> Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. <sup>21</sup> The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” <sup>22</sup> Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!” <sup>23</sup> And he said, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!” <sup>24</sup> So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” <sup>25</sup> And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” <sup>26</sup> Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified. <sup>27</sup> Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. <sup>28</sup> And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup> and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” <sup>30</sup> And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. <sup>31</sup> And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

<sup>35</sup> And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.

<sup>36</sup> Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. <sup>37</sup> And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CHAPEL CHOIR

***"Lamb of God, what Wondrous Love"***

*Gabriel Fauré  
arr. Allan Robert Petker*

*Lamb of God, what wondrous love, o my soul.  
Love, such love, that thou shouldst die, that thou, for me, shouldst die.  
Lord of grace, what matchless love, o my soul.  
Son of God, Thou loving sacrifice for me.*

*Here, O Lord, am I, fearful sinful man, guilty and condemned, Thy death is surely mine.*

*Cross of God, I would to turn away, yet Love it bids me stay, o my soul.  
Can it be the very death I fear is that which draws me near, Lord, to thee?  
Lamb of God thou died for me.  
Lamb of God, what wondrous love.*

SERMON HYMN

***"See the Sign"***

See the sign: a note is etched Crudely to adorn it.  
"King" now marks the cross outstretched, Jesus having borne it.  
For his tunic lots were cast, Scripture thus fulfilling,  
Yet through Christ is death surpassed, Hope for us instilling.

Hear the din of mocking cries, Every language, reading  
"Here, your king!" Below he dies, Death itself receding.  
Not an earthly ruler found With this sign most cruel;  
Heaven's holy King is crowned, Thorn is turned to jewel.

Read the prophecy described, Jesus having filled it:  
"King of Kings," the name inscribed By the Word that willed it.  
There engraved is Christ who dies, Scripture thus completed;  
There is written "He will rise," Evil thus defeated.

Tune: "Jesus, I will Ponder Now" (JESU KREUZ, LEIDEN UND PEIN)  
Music: Public Domain Text: Christian Guebert  
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615; setting: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978  
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THE SERMON

REV. GLENN A. LUCAS

***"Journey to Easter: A King's Sacrifice"***

*Matthew 27:35-37*

## APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## OFFERING

*At this time, you may give your offering electronically.*

*Use the e-Giving Card in the pew or visit*

[www.abidingsavior.com/church/give](http://www.abidingsavior.com/church/give)

You may also place your offering in the offering plate as it passes.

## MUSICAL OFFERING

## PRAISES RING HANDBELL ENSEMBLE

### Lenten Fantasia on "Kingsfold"

*arr. Douglas Wagner*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*After each petition the prayer concludes:*

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**All: 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; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**All: Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

*"The Lamb"*

The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?  
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!

*Refrain:*

**Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.  
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. *Refrain*

The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill  
So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill. *Refrain*

He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.  
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness. *Refrain*

He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.  
His song prolong Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. *Refrain*

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POSTLUDE

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*Flower Arrangements*

The flower arrangements which grace our altar this weekend are dedicated to the glory of the Lord by **Nick and Lynda Jacobs** in loving memory of **Kevin and Marsha Shaw**.

*Keep in Your Prayers*

**Prayers for strength and healing, guidance and blessing for:**

Brian Adams  
Terri Green

Alexander Hernandez  
Jeanne Kelly

Brad Morton