

Third Sunday of Lent



First Lutheran Church

03/23/2025

The Third Sunday of Lent

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

BEACH SPRING

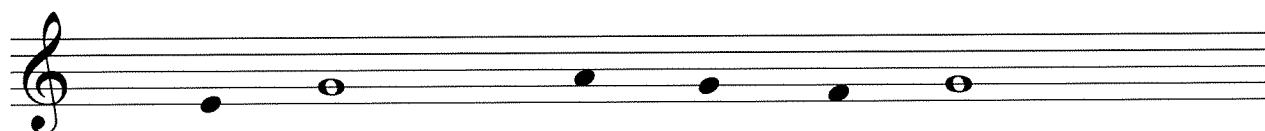
Dale Wood

Come to Me, All Thirsty Pilgrims

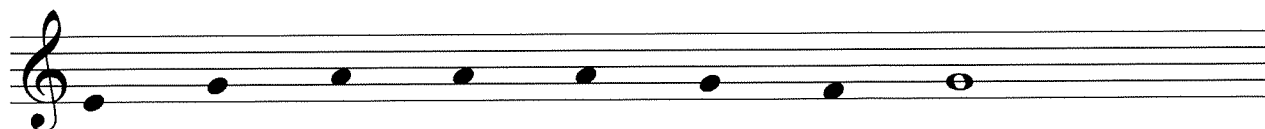
(Please stand)

MORNING PRAYER

OPENING DIALOGUE AND DOXOLOGY



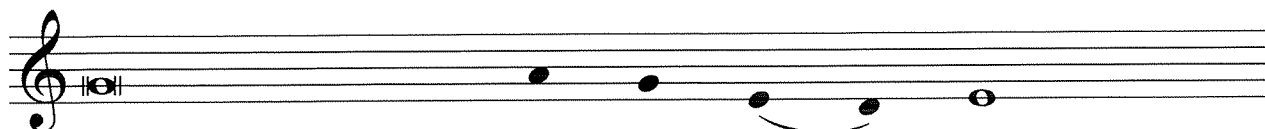
Leader: O Lord, o - pen my lips,



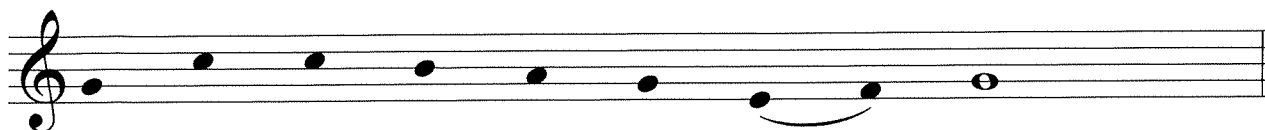
and my mouth shall pro - claim your praise.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it:



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,



and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

PSALMODY

INVITATORY

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

Oh, come, let us wor - ship and praise.

MORNING PSALM OF PRAISE

PSALM 95:1-7

Come, Let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the

rock of our sal - va - tion.

repeat the invitatory above

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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 Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

BELLS OF PRAISE

Sandra Eithun

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 55:1-9

R: A reading from Isaiah, the fifty-fifth chapter.

¹ Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,

come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

⁷ let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-13

R: A reading from First Corinthians, the tenth chapter.

¹ I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people


sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.”⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents.¹⁰ And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come.¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall.¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and


mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in

stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL

LUKE 13:1-9

P: A reading from Luke, the thirteenth chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.² [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse

sinner than all other Galileans?³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.⁷ So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it.⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”

P: The gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty



ALL	1	“Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
ALL	2	“Come to me, all trav-’lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
Women	3	“Come to me, be - liev-ers bur-dened; find re - fresh-ment in this place.
Men	4	“Come to me, re - pen-tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live.”
 Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest.”
 Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face.”
 Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name.”

Refrain



ALL: Je - sus, ev - er - flow-ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer,
come, your open hands extend." *Refrain*

6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer,
let me make in you my home." *Refrain*

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © 1992, 1996 Sisters of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN

(Please be seated)

SERMON

(Please stand)

CANTICLE FOR LENT

Refrain



Keep in mind that Je - sus Christ has died for us and is ris - en from the



dead. He is our sav-ing Lord; he is joy for all a - ges.

The Cantor will sing the verses.

APOSTLES' CREED

P: Living together in trust and hope, we profess our faith as expressed in the words of the 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.**

(Please be seated)

OFFERING AND ORGAN MEDITATION

SEELENBRÄUTIGAM

Gordon Young

Jesus, Still Lead On

(Please stand)

OFFERING SONG

Jesus, Still Lead On



1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al - though the
2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
3 When we seek re - lief from a long - felt grief, when temp - ta - tions
4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n - ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

OFFERING PRAYER

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

(Please kneel)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Each petition concludes:

P: God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

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.

(Please stand)

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

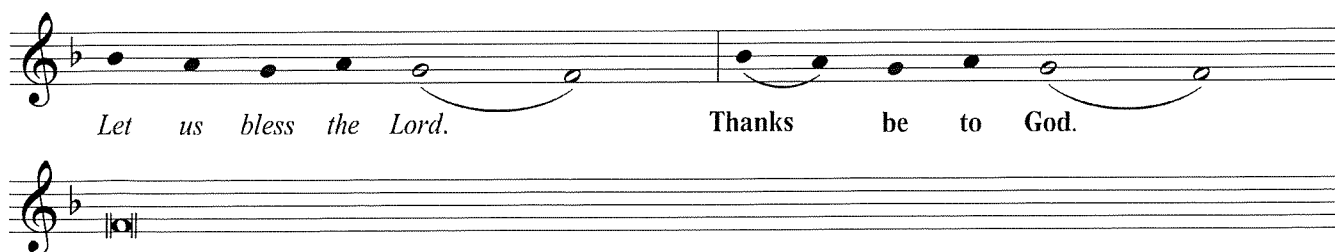
C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

C: Oh God,
your everlasting love for us is always trustworthy and sure.
We are grateful for the goodness you have shown us through the years,
and we ask now for confidence to go forward into the future.
Bless our community of faith, bless our healing,
bless the changes that are before us,
bless our call process and the pastoral leaders
who will shepherd us through this time of transition.
We thank you now for the wisdom you will show us
as we align with your will, and servant or servants
you are already preparing to send us in your blessed time.
Help us to keep looking to you to define our ministry and our future.
In his name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.

BLESSING



God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, + bless you



SENDING SONG

Bless Now, O God, the Journey



- 1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
- 2 Bless so - journ-ers and pil - grims who share this wind-ing way;
- 3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
 your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus-tains the day.
 We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun-tain round,
 We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
 but wait-ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
 to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
 Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

LLANGLOFFAN Aaron David Miller
 Bless Now, O God the Journey

Events in Review

Sunday **March 23**
10:00AM Church Service

Monday **March 24**
10:00AM Bible Study @Willows
5:15PM Bells of Praise

Wednesday **March 26**
5:45pm-6:30pm Lenten Supper
7pm Lent Service

Thursday **March 27**
9:00am LifeLine Screening
1:00pm Food Bank

Friday **March 28**
5pm Hanna/Doran Rehearsal

Saturday **March 29**
3:30pm Hanna/Doran Wedding

Sunday **March 30**

Eccumenical Service

At

Trinity United Church of Christ

131 E. Perry Street

Tiffin

Events for Lent Celebration

Mid-Week Lenten Service

Need volunteers to provide the Lenten soup, bread and dessert.

Sign up sheets on the Dietz Windows.

Easter Lily/Daffodil order forms are

Also located on the table in the hallway



Cookie Sign up sheets are located on the Dietz Room wall. Fellowship time is before and after Church Service. Approximately 4 dozen cookies are needed each week.



WOFB

March 27th

starting at 1 pm

Contact Us



First Lutheran Church

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419-447-1323

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firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com

Interim Pastor

Pastor Mark Schuring (740) 360-2306
theskipster55@gmail.com

Emergency Pastor

Pastor Doug DeVos (419) 271-6770
ddevos@buckeye-express.com

Our Worship Leaders

Altar Guild: Sandy & Ron Mellott
Cantor: Elijah Shiley
Facebook Camera: Tim Ross
Host: Nominee Family
Reader: John Kobelt
Worship Assistant: John Kobelt
Director of Music: Curtis L. King
Pastor: Pastor Doug DeVos

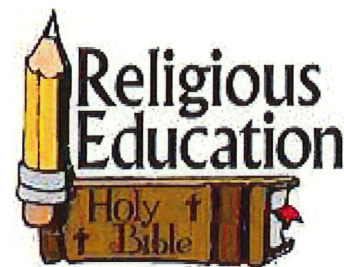
Catechism Classes

Rick Greene and Mike Porter will be hosting Catechism Classes. If anyone is interested

Please contact either one at

Rick Greene: canacab@sbcglobal.net or 419 937-7378

Mike Porter: Michael.r.porter12@gmail.com



Our Mission Statement

“God is among us!”

“We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive, reconcile and trust God for all that we need.”

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