

Third Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2023

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Setting IV

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Zachary W. Johnson, Pastor

Donna Menzies, Assistant to the Pastor, Visitation & Spiritual Care

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Hannah Lee, Organist

Kate Radford, Soprano

Bob Menzies, Assistant Minister

Elsa Balding, Lector

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

"Holy Ground"

arr. Carol Tornquist

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Holy God,

we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, ✝ forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

ELW 335

1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;

till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
 Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

GREETING

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ; the love of God; and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: "Come, Let Us Sing" – Psalm 95 (adapted by Paul Heatley)

Come, let us sing to the Lord, Sing to the Lord, make a joyful noise.

Oh, let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Come, let us give him our thanks, Give him our thanks, let us all rejoice.

Let's bring our music and song to praise the King of all creation.

For the Lord God is the great God, The mighty king above all other gods.
His hand scooped out the depth of each sea, Raised up each mountain in its majesty.
And his hands formed the dry land in your land and my land,
Each lowland and highland, each continent and island.

Come, let us sing to the Lord...

Let us worship him and bow down, Let us kneel before his great renown.
The Lord God is our Shepherd, our Rock; May we his people be his faithful flock:
Heed the voice of our guardian, our hearts let's not harden,
Let's follow our master as people of his pasture.

Come, let us sing to the Lord...

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our
hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings,
knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and
character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been
poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely
will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might
actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ
died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be
saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled
to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be
saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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.

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to

his son Joseph.⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband';¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work."³⁵ Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.³⁷ For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.'³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

The Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Zach Johnson

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

ELW 777

1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
2 "Come to me, all trav-'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
3 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh-ment in this place.
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

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*

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with "Merciful God," The assembly responds with "receive our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE - *The presiding and the assembly share a virtual sign of peace.*

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Ruht Wohl"

from 'Johannes Passion' -J.S. Bach
Kate Radford - soprano

OFFERING PRAYER - *All speak the prayer together.*

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe....With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread...Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love. **Come Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

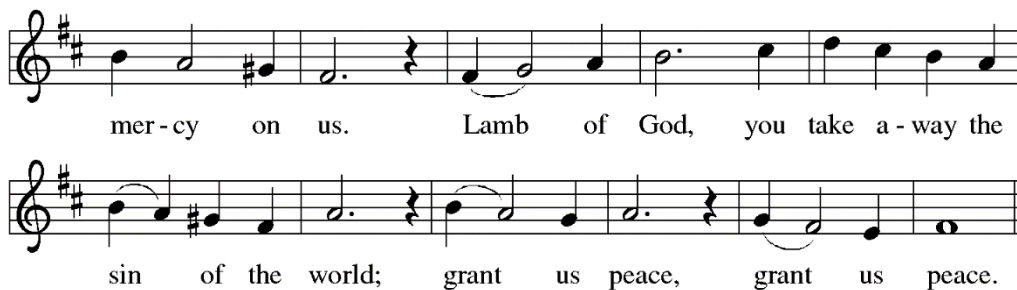
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION**LAMB OF GOD**

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are invited into a time of reflection before they receive communion. During this time, you may prepare your hearts to receive the sacrament. Once ready, you may commune yourself and those around you with the bread and wine/grape juice. A representative from each household may say the following—bread: “**The body of Christ given for you.**” Wine/grape juice: “**The blood of Christ shed for you.**”*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep in his grace, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - *All speak the prayer together.*

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

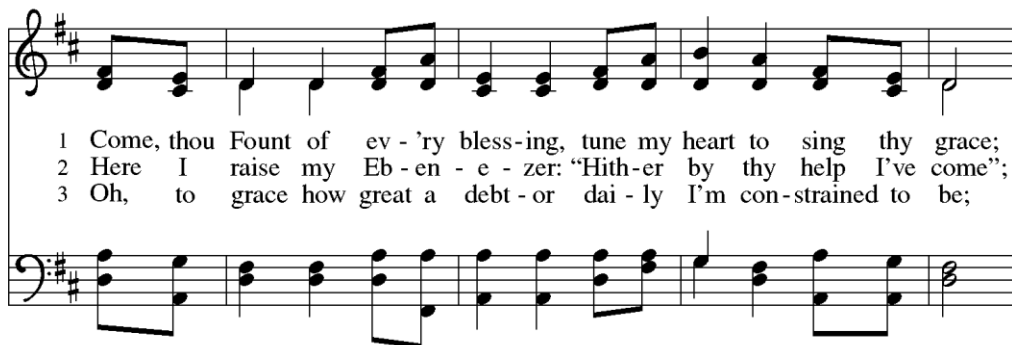
BLESSING

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✠ bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

ELW 807

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb-en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.
 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

“The Lord's Prayer”

arr. Rick Robertson

This week's altar flowers are dedicated by Karen DeGilio in honor of the birthdays of 5 special daughters of God: Millie Christensen & Jennifer Jackson 13th, Amanda Jackson & Shelly Baum 15th, & Donna Menzies 18th.

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Calendar This Week		
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship Service
Tues 3/14/23	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wed 3/15/23	10:00 AM	Bible Study in the Chapel
Wed 3/15/23	7:00 PM	Mid-Week Lent Virtual & In-Person Service

Thurs 3/16/23	7:00 PM	Virtual Bible Study
Thurs 3/16/23	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Sat 3/18/23	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open
Sat 3/18/23	1-4 PM	Workday in the Education Bldg

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Property Cleanup – A workday is scheduled for **Saturday March 18, from 1-4 PM**. We will be cleaning out the 2nd floor of the Education building in preparation for possible rental space. We need help removing old items, gathering items for give-away, changing light bulbs, cleaning, plastering, painting, etc. Can't help with the physical cleanup but want to help? Sponsor an activity! Contact Dave Cuatt to help out!

Bible Study is back with 2 opportunities to participate: Wednesdays at 10 AM in the chapel & Thursdays at 7 PM via Zoom. Contact Pastor for the zoom link at Pastor@hillavenuegrace.org

We will have **Mid-week Lent services at 7 PM through March 29**, both in person and available via Zoom and FB live. We hope you will join us as we welcome the season of Lent and prepare to journey through Lent to the joy of Easter. The theme for Lent this year will be: "**Living Out Our Baptismal Promises**". Mid-week Lent worship will focus on the 5 baptismal promises made when we affirm our baptisms. Watch for the devotional "**Water & Spirit**" in the narthex and pick up a copy, or contact the office for a copy.

We will be using the **Holden Evening Prayer** for the mid-week Lent services. We will also have a short bulletin which will include the theme of the day, the reading of the day, and the hymn of the day.

Upcoming Events:

Midweek Lent services—Wednesdays through Wednesday, March 29

Palm Sunday—April 2, Virtual & In-Person Worship Service at 10 AM

Maundy Thursday—April 6, Virtual & In-Person Worship Service at 7 PM

Good Friday—April 7, Virtual & In-Person Worship Service at 7 PM

Easter Vigil – April 8, **at Trinity Lutheran Church** at 7 PM

Easter Sunday—April 9, Virtual & In-Person Worship Service at 10 AM

If you'd like to **participate in the Easter Virgil**, Trinity is looking for helpers to read scripture or sing with the choir. Let Pastor Zach know, and he'll contact Pastor Richter.

Join us this Sunday at 10 AM for our Virtual Worship via Zoom!

Check in a few minutes early and hear the prelude! You may also join us on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpzcU5RUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: worship

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (San Jose)

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Dial by your location

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: 4584517

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We ask that you follow these guidelines to ensure safety for everyone.

1. We ask that everyone wear a mask while in the sanctuary, including during worshipping and singing.
2. Pick up a communion set at the table and then proceed into the sanctuary. There will be 3 options for communion: bread and wine, bread and juice, and gluten-free bread and wine. Only take one set for yourself. Wait for communion instructions before opening the packet.

If you have any questions, please see one of our happy volunteers on the front patio, in the narthex, or in the sanctuary.

The service will still be available on Zoom and Facebook Live for those who prefer to remain at home. If you have questions, please let our church office know. We look forward to actually seeing you at church this Sunday!

EASTER LILIES

We will decorate our sanctuary for Easter!

If you wish to purchase an Easter Lily plant, please complete the following form and place it **AND your check** (made payable to Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran) in an envelope and place it in the offering basket or mail it to the church office.

Please mark your checks for **EASTER LILIES** in the memo line. The cost per plant will be \$15.00.



Please complete the following form by **Wednesday, April 5th.** That is the **absolute deadline.** Thank you!

I am donating \$_____ for the following:

In memory of:

In honor of:

In thanksgiving for:

Other:

Given by: (Please list names as you want them to appear in the bulletin)

Envelope Number _____

Questions? Please call the church office at 626-792-4169

or email to office@hillavenuegrace.org

