

A WELCOMING FAITH COMMUNITY. GROWING, CARING, SERVING,

-

MARCH 22/23, 2025 3RD SUNDAY IN LENT



Welcome to Worship

If you are a visitor please stop at the Welcome Desk in the lower level for a visitor bag.

PREACHING: Pastor Sue Wallager ASSISTING: SAT Deb Oas Koepsell SUN Pastor Connie Tiede READER: 5 PM Judy Bendiske 8 AM Deb Oas Koepsell 9 AM Kathy Quade

ORGANIST: Mary Jo Gothmann

Unbroken: A Living Faith

When so many people identify themselves as Christian how can we spend some time thinking deeply about what we really believe? What is the what? What are the foundational beliefs and how are they living and moving with us as we change and grow?

Faith is passed down from generation to generation - it's an unbroken line of ancestry that connects us all the way back to Jesus. The powers of the world wanted to break Jesus and yet this faith that we rest on is strong enough that they couldn't do it. We are a part of this great tradition that will not and cannot be broken.

Using the seven teachings from the emerging work of A Living Catechism, through worship and practice, this Lent we will explore how we are and always have been God's people:

- 1. God becomes human for us in Jesus Christ.
- 2. God meets us in bread, wine & water.
- 3. God feels our pain & suffering
- 4. God delights in our goodness and judges sin.
- 5. God speaks to us through Scripture and Spirit.
- 6. God compels creation toward mercy.
- 7. God loves us eternally.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

God of all grace, be near in the midst of our brokenness, turning us from the things that keep us from a right relationship with you, ourselves, and one another. Compel us toward compassion as we confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and are strengthened to serve in your name.

Amen.

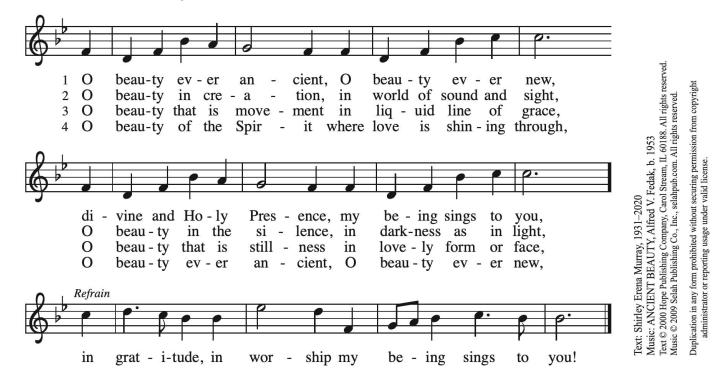
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

A moment of silent reflection

God of mercy, you delight in goodness and judge sin. Give us open and honest hearts to recognize the ways we have turned from you, from our own belovedness, and from one another. We see the world through the lens of scarcity instead of your lens of abundance. We see people as "us" and "them", instead of one body in you. We participate in the brokenness of the world, caught in webs beyond individual choices of right and wrong. Quiet our inner and outer strife, O God, and draw us into your forgiveness and wholeness. Through your divine love, transform all that threatens to destroy the good that you have created.

Beloved people of God: At a table that Jesus sets, God forgives us and feeds us with eternal love. In water and promise, God brings us to new life and breathes into us gifts to serve the world. You are forgiven, in the name of Christ †, who calls us into the coming of God's reign where all are supported, nourished, and loved. **Amen.**

BANNER HYMN: O Beauty Ever AncientACS 1100

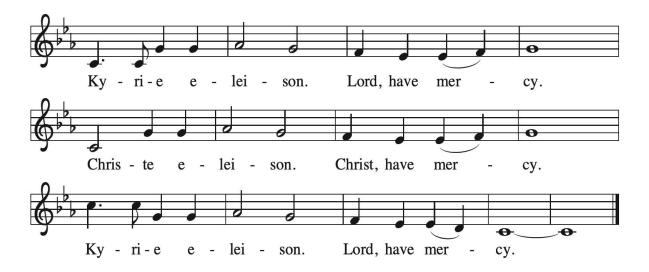


GREETING:

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY:

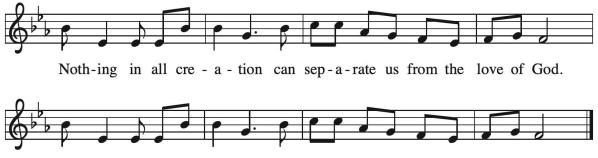
God of truth, you come to us through Christ to share in our sorrows and our joys, our suffering and our delight. Walk alongside us as we journey together, and remind us that even in our hopelessness, your love sustains us. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WORD

WORD FOR KIDS (9 AM)

LESSON: Isaiah 55:1-9

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.

THE SERMON TEXT The Holy Gospel according to Luke 13:1-9 Glory to you, O Lord. The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON: "God Feels Our Pain and Suffering" by Pastor Sue Wallager



There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of 1 the sea; 2 There is wel-come for the sin - ner, and a prom-ised grace made good; broad-er than the mea-sures of God is 3 For the love of our mind: 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some-thing more than all:



God's jus - tice which is there's a kind-ness more than lib - er - ty. in with the Sav-ior; there is heal-ing in there is mer - cy his blood. the E - ter - nal most won-der - ful - ly kind. and the heart of is great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer-cy through the fall.

There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n. There is grace e - nough for thou-sands of new worlds as great as this; But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own; Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg-ment giv'n. there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss. and we mag-ni - fy its strict-ness with a zeal God will not own. and our lives will be thanks-giv - ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt. Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent. 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: After each petition Lord of the Cross... Hear us we pray, your mercy is great.

SHARING THE PEACE: The Peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

(Share the peace with a wave and word of peace.)

MEAL

MANY WAYS TO GIVE TEXT: 763-710-2209 ONLINE www.zionanoka.org click on "GIVE TODAY" ELECTRONIC GIVING https://cutt.ly/ziongivetoday or

OFFERING

ANTHEM (8 & 9 AM):

"Like a Tree" arr. Edwards

Adult Choir; Jonathan Campbell, dir; Mary Jo Gothmann, Piano

I put my trust in Christ alone because he loves me so. His love has taken root in me, and He will help me grow.

Refrain: Like a tree planted by a stream, when the days are hot, all its leaves are green. In a year without a drop of rain there's no fear, it remains planted by a stream.

And as I learn to trust God more, the Spirit makes me strong, and helps me know God's deep, deep love, how wide and high and long. Refrain.

Rooted, grounded in God's love, feeding on his word. By His Spirit growing strong and bearing fruit. Let my roots grow deep into God's Word, for the Word is always sure.

When the wind grows high, and storms arise, my remains secure. Like a tree planted by a stream, when the days are hot, all its leaves are green.

OFFERTORY: When it Seems the Day Will End, vs 1 ACS 1034



Music: HUMBLE WALK, Justin Rimbo Text and music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

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OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Generous God, you have blessed us with gifts of abundance and joy. Open our hearts so that we may share your goodness with all who hunger for bread, for safety, and for belonging. In Christ's name we pray.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:
The Lord be with you.
And also 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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, forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company.

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Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Music: BLAENWERN, William P. Rowlands, 1860–1937

POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER:

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the abundance of your steadfast love. As we are filled with your grace and mercy, send us out into the world to participate in your reign of peace. In the name of Christ, the holy one, we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP

Hearing Assistance Units Available

Hearing assistance units are available at the sound booth at the back of the Sanctuary.

Mobility Concerns

We have areas in the Sanctuary where a wheelchair or walker will fit. Ushers can assist you.

Children Welcome

Activity bags are available outside the Sanctuary. We have two "pray grounds" in the Sanctuary with plenty of places just outside the Sanctuary as well where children can sit and play.

LIVE STREAM

SUNDAY 9 & 11 AM www.zionanoka.org (click "Worship Online") - orwww.facebook.com/ ZionLutheranChurch AnokaMn AVAILABLE ANYTIME

CABLE TV Metro Cable Network Channel 6 SUNDAY | 10 AM & 5 PM

RADIO BROADCAST 106.1 BOB FM Sundays | 9:10 Am

OFFICE HOURS M - Th: 9 Am - 5 Pm Fri: 9 Am - 12 Noon

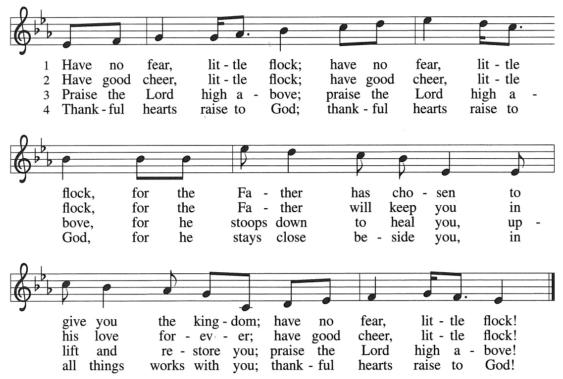


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BENEDICTION

May the God who delights in your goodness bless you, keep you, and hold you in the depths of love and mercy. In the name of the Triune God (Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit).

Amen.



Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2–4 Music: Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930 Text and music © 1973 Concordia Publishing House

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace, know you are loved. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE