

2023 Sunday, March 12, 2023

3rd Sunday in Lent

WELCOME to Emanuel's Lutheran Church!

It is our joy to have you worship with us today.

This morning we conclude our 5-week sermon series entitled,
"Discerning an Exotic Species: A Lutheran Evangelist."



PRELUDE

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

p.95

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

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

C: 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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

ELW 335

GREETING

P: 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

AM: Let us pray together.

C: 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.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

PSALM 95:1-7

The congregation is invited to read the bold verse.



Let us shout for joy to the rock of our sal - va - tion.

¹Come, let us sing | to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.

**²Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.

**⁴In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.

**⁶Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | LORD our maker.**

⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of
God's hand.

Oh, that today you would | hear God's voice!

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Romans 1:8-16

P: A reading from Romans.

⁸First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world. ⁹For God, whom I serve with my spirit by announcing the gospel of his Son, is my witness that without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers, ¹⁰asking that by God's will I may somehow at last succeed in coming to you. ¹¹For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you — ¹²or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. ¹³I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as I have among the rest of the Gentiles. ¹⁴I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish ¹⁵— hence my eagerness to proclaim the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Lutheran and Evangelism – Compatible?”

Karen Weinstein

HYMN OF THE DAY

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

ELW 611

APOSTLES CREED

AM: Let us confess the faith of the church, using the words of the Apostles Creed.

C: 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

AM: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. We pray for your church. Bless partnerships with other Christians and inter-religious dialogue. Guide the daily work of denominational and congregational leaders. Strengthen our combined witness for the sake of the gospel, that all experience your life-giving love.

Response to each petition: AM: Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

AM: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you. **C: And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING HYMN

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

ELW 647

OFFERING

Giving information is located on the back of the bulletin.

OFFERING PRAYER

AM: Let us pray.

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. **C: Amen.**

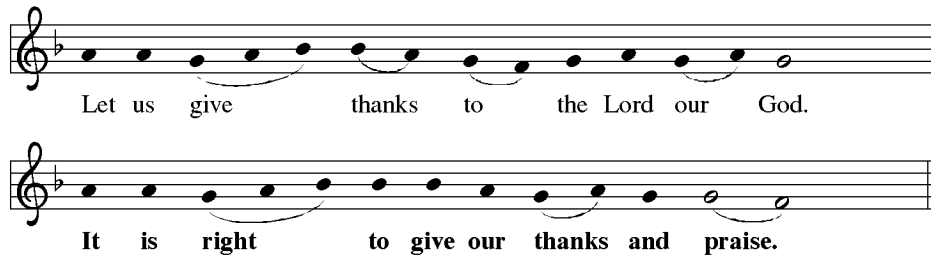
GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 144

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

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first two phrases: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.' The second staff contains the melody for the next two phrases: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.' The lyrics are written below the notes.



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

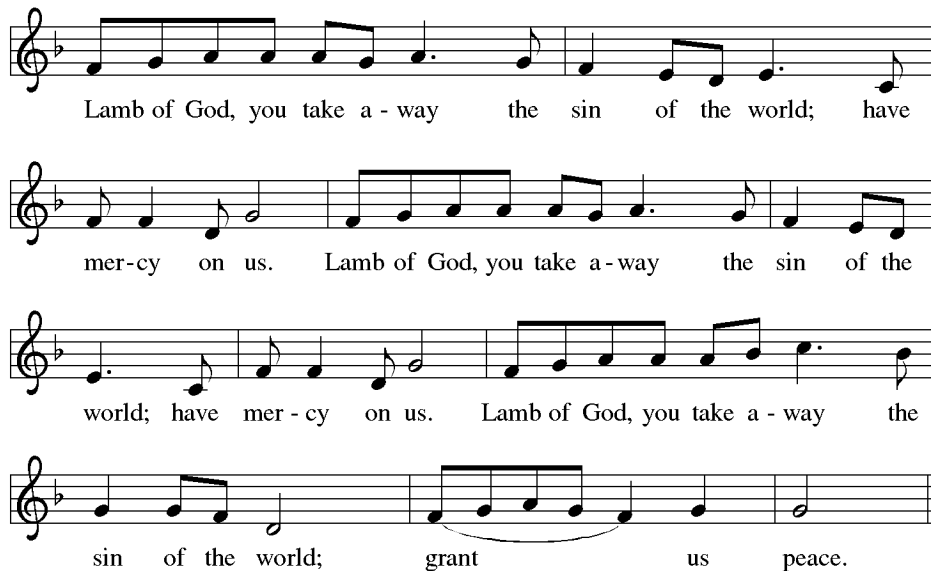
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

AGNUS DEI

"Lamb of God"

p.146



COMMUNION

Communion will take place via continuous line (right side) and continuous kneeling (left side). We welcome all baptized persons to the Lord's Table who believe Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. Children are also welcomed to be brought forward to receive a blessing. For those taking communion via continuous line, please make your way up the right-hand side of the main aisle. Participants will be offered a wafer and invited to eat with these words, "the body of Christ given for you." If you would like a gluten free wafer, please ask the pastor or communion assistant for one and

they will present you with a plate where you may retrieve the wafer. Each will then step, to the right, to the silver tray that contains glasses of white grape juice at the center and outer empty glasses for wine. Lastly, participants will step to the last assistant who will pour the wine and share these words, "the blood of Christ shed for you." Place your glass in the small silver bowl at the end of the first pew as you return to your seat. If you wish to come forward and not receive either element, please cross your arms for a blessing. For those kneeling for communion, please make your way up the left-hand side of the main aisle. The bread and wine will be presented to you as you kneel, following the outline above. Please place your communion glass in the small tray on the back side of the kneeler after you have drunk the juice or wine before departing from the rail as you are ready and return to your seat.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Eat This Bread"

ELW 472

TABLE BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

AM: Let us pray.

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. **C: Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **C: Amen**

SENDING HYMN

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

ELW 807

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve in love. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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SANCTUARY FLOWERS and RADIO BROADCASTS are sponsored by Emanuel's members. If you would like to remember or honor a loved one in this way, please call the church office, or sign up on the calendar in the office. Thanks to all who participate in this memorable ministry.

2023 SUMMER CAMP at Chrysalis, Ebert Ranch, and Port Aransas: If you have a youth who has completed 1st grade through 11th grade, and they are interested in attending one of our Synod's camping programs, please reach out to Pastor Marcus ASAP. This ministry is a wonderful chance to experience God in incredible ways. We want everyone to go who wishes too!

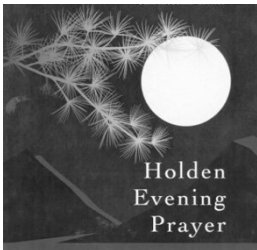
IGNITE YOUTH AND FAMILY ZDT PLAY DAY! Our Education Team invites you to join us for an afternoon of fun at the ZDT Park on Kingsbury Street on **Saturday, March 25** from 12-4:00pm. The first 15 youth get free "extreme" wristbands to enjoy the afternoon on us. Bring extra money for food and drinks! A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex or you can reach out to one of our Vicars or Pastor Marcus. Come join us!

LARGE PALMS NEEDED. Palm Sunday will feature a beautiful procession of palms and singing, as it always does! This year, Pastor Marcus would like to add large branches to the procession, in addition to the small ones we traditionally carry. If you have access to or own trees that could be pruned close to April 2, please reach out to Pastor Marcus so that we can coordinate getting the palm branches to the church.

DEVOTIONS FOR LENT are available now in the narthex and church office. In honor of the 250th anniversary of the writing of "Amazing Grace," these Lenten devotions by theologian Michael Hoy tie the words of the beloved song (and the history surrounding it) to our lives today and to the lives of those in the Bible who experienced the amazing grace of God revealed most profoundly in the salvation of Jesus. "God's Grace Is Great! - Amazing Lenten Devotions for Children" is also available for ages 6-10.

EASTER LILIES! Emanuel's will welcome Easter with beautiful lilies at our 10:30 worship service. You may donate Easter lilies as you rejoice the season, or in memory or honor of loved ones. Plants may be taken home following the service on Sunday, April 9. Return forms (available in the narthex, church office, and online) with payment by March 28. Each plant is \$15.

2023 LENT & EASTER OFFERING supports the Christian Cupboard and their work providing food and other basic need items to those living in Guadalupe County. Donations may be made in any amount, payable to Emanuel's Lutheran Church with *Christian Cupboard* in memo line. Forms available online and in the narthex and are due by March 28 for acknowledgment in the Easter bulletin. Shelf stable food (sugar or flour, canned beans of all kinds, dry beans, travel-size personal items, canned fruit, peanut butter, oatmeal, cereal, spaghetti sauce and pasta, vermicelli, canned soups, canned/pkg. tuna or chicken, Hamburger/Tuna Helper) may also be dropped off in the bin at the pulpit.



WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

March 1 – 29

Please join us for a light supper at 6pm in the Women's Ministry Room before Holden Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary at 7pm.

Please use the space below for notes regarding **"Discerning an Exotic Species: A Lutheran Evangelist."** Then join us March 19 & 26 as we gather to unpack our topic further in the Family Life Center during the education hour.

EMANUEL'S CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President, Rissa Springs, *Worship Ministry*
Vice President, Emily Prochnow, *Outreach/Service Ministry*
Secretary, Lindsay May, *Outreach & Service Ministry*
Treasurer, Susan Yeatts, *Congregational Care Ministry*
Melissa Barbre, *Worship Ministry*
Bryce Kennedy, *Outreach & Service Ministry*
Sarah Kennedy, *Outreach & Service Ministry*
Aaron Jenke
Garry Miller, *Stewardship Ministry*
Debby Richardson, *Stewardship Ministry*
Gwyneth Tallier, *Education Ministry*

ALL MINISTRY TEAM NIGHT

Monday, March 20, 2023

6:30 p.m.

Women's Ministry Room

All of Emanuel's Ministry Teams now gather on a single evening each month to collaborate, plan, and schedule upcoming events and ministry projects. Council Members act as team leaders/coordinators, but Ministry Teams are open to, and run by, everyone in the congregation. Please join us!

EMANUEL'S STAFF

Senior Pastor, The Rev. Marcus Bigott, 830-377-8643 cell, pastormarcus@elcsequin.org
Visitation Pastor, The Rev. John Van Deusen, pastorjohn@elcsequin.org
Director of Music, Thomas Engler, thomas@elcsequin.org
Day School Director, Katie Brawner, dayschool@elcsequin.org
Visitation Pastor- San Antonio, The Rev. Darwin Huartson, dhuartson@porterloring.com
Bereavement and Senior Care Coordinator, Donna Simmons, donna@elcsequin.org
Office and Campus Administrator, Sherry Hardwick, sherry@elcsequin.org
Accountant and Bookkeeper, Jeni Payton, jeni@elcsequin.org
Vicar, Jordana Gutierrez, vicarjordana@elcsequin.org
Vicar, Paul Burow, vicarpaul@elcsequin.org
Church Custodian, Pauline Zunker

GIVING AT EMANUEL'S: Donations and tithes to the church may be given by envelopes in the pews, mailed to the church, online, or scanned with QR Code below.



Emanuel's Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

206 North Travis Street | Seguin, Texas 78155

(830) 379-5046 | info@elcsequin.org

Church office is open Monday-Thursday from 8-5

www.EmanuelLutheranChurch.com

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

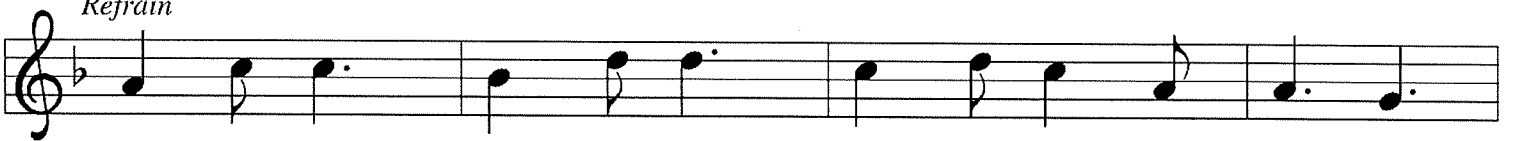


1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



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

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing - place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav - 'ling days are done.

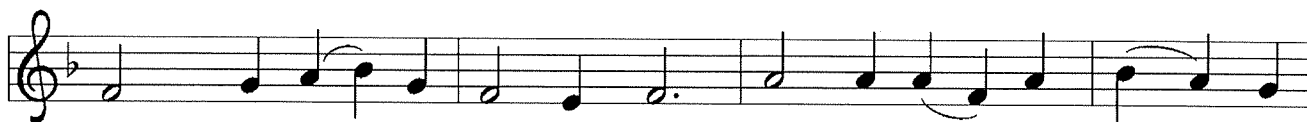
Glorious Things of You Are Spoken



1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e -
3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, see the cloud and
4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a



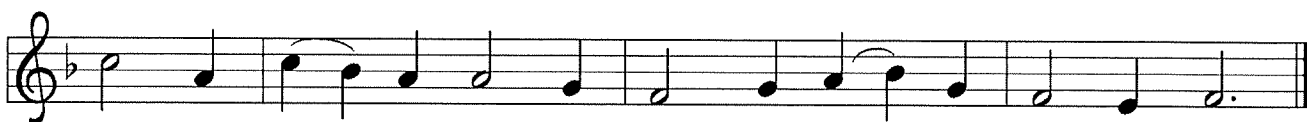
of our God! He whose word can - not be bro - ken
ter - nal love, well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters,
fire ap - pear for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring,
mem - ber am, let the world de - ride or pit - y,



formed you for his own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges
and all fear of want re - move. Who can faint, while such a
show - ing that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their
I will glo - ry in your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain



found - ed, what can shake your sure re - pose? With sal -
riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace which,
ban - ner light by night and shade by day, safe they
plea - sures, all their boast - ed pomp and show; sol - id



va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, you may smile at all your foes.
like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
feed up - on the man - na which God gives them on their way.
joys and last - ing trea - sures none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.

Music: BLAENWERN, William P. Rowlands, 1860–1937

Eat This Bread

Jesus Christ, Bread of Life

Refrain

“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR *Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.*

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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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;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813