

March 16-17, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Lent



**THE LORD
IS GOOD
TO ALL,**

**AND HIS
COMPASSION
IS OVER ALL
THAT HE
HAS MADE.**

PSALM 145:9, NRSV



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Fifth Sunday in Lent

*God's Compassion to Us,
God's Compassion through Us*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: God of mercy and might, we thank you for the blessings of the past week and ask you to bless us in the next. Open our eyes to the needs of others that our works of love might show them your loving care. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: In his Word, our God describes himself as, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God" (Exodus 34:6). God views us with compassion. His heart goes out to us because he knows our desperate need for a Savior. He met that need by sending his one and only Son. Not only is God compassionate to us, but he is also compassionate through us. He motivates and empowers us by his forgiving love to serve as his hands to care for our neighbors in need. What a joy it is to show compassion to others in his name!

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Guest Worship Leader: Pastor Dan Sims, Christian Aid & Relief
Piano: Madison Boerner

ABOUT OUR GUEST PREACHER: Pastor Dan Sims serves as Director of WELS Christian Aid & Relief (CAR). CAR is one of our synod's compassion ministries. Their mission is to reflect Christ's love to those who are hurting or in need. They carry out this mission through disaster relief, humanitarian aid, and personal financial grants. The mission of Christian Aid and Relief is drawn from Galatians 6:10: ***"As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."*** You can learn more about WELS Christian Aid & Relief www.wels.net/relief.

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting Four



Hymn: Holy God, We Praise Your Name

CW 953



1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of
2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel
3 All a - pos - tles join the strain as your
4 You are King of glo - ry, Christ, Son of
5 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly



all, we bow be - fore you. All on
choirs a - bove are rais - ing; cher - u -
sa - cred name they hal - low; proph - ets
God, yet born of Mar - y, for us
Spir - it, three we name you, though in



earth your scep - ter claim; all in heav'n a -
bim and ser - a - phim, in un - ceas - ing
swell the glad re - frain, and the white - robed
sin - ners sac - ri - ficed, on the cross our
es - sence on - ly one, un - di - vid - ed



bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your vast do -
cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with sweet ac -
mar - tyrs fol - low, and from morn to set of
sins did car - ry; first to break the bars of
God we claim you, and, a - dor - ing, bend the



main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
sun through the Church the song goes on.
death, you have o - pened heav'n to faith.
knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Litany of Compassion

M: You, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God,

C: slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.

M: As a father has compassion on his children,

C: so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.

M: The Lord is gracious and righteous;

C: Our God is full of compassion.

M: The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving,

C: even though we have rebelled against him.

M: Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

C: They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Merciful Father, your Son came among us to serve, not to be served, and to give his life for the sins of the world. Lead us by his love to show compassion to those in need and to serve those to whom the world offers no comfort and little help. Through us give hope to the hopeless, love to the unloved, peace to the troubled and rest to the weary; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated.

First Reading

Leviticus 19:9-16

God wants his people to take care of those in need.

⁹“When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. ¹⁰Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God.

¹¹“Do not steal.

“Do not lie.

“Do not deceive one another.

¹²“Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God.

I am the LORD.

¹³“Do not defraud or rob your neighbor.

“Do not hold back the wages of a hired worker overnight.

¹⁴“Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block in front of the blind, but fear your God. I am the LORD.

¹⁵“Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great, but judge your neighbor fairly.

¹⁶“Do not go about spreading slander among your people.

“Do not do anything that endangers your neighbor’s life. I am the LORD.


M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**


Psalm: Lamb of God

CW 403

Refrain



Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the world's sin,



Lamb of God, Lamb of God, have mer-cy up-on us.

Verses



1 As high as the heav'ns are o - ver the earth, so great is your



2 A Fa - ther's_ heart you turn to_ us; you hear us_




love for us. As far as the east is from the west, so when we call. Now, Lord, in com-pas - sion, lend your ear; you far have you re - moved our sin.


know our needs, O hear our prayer.

Refrain
Final Refrain

Final Refrain



Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the world's sin,



Lamb of God, Lamb of God, give to us your peace.

Second Reading

1 John 3:16-18

God's active love produces in us a love that acts for those in need.

¹⁶This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be that person? ¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Mark 8:1-9

Jesus compassionately feeds thousands

¹During those days another large crowd gathered. Since they had nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples to him and said, ²"I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. ³If I send them home hungry, they will collapse on the way, because some of them have come a long distance."

⁴His disciples answered, "But where in this remote place can anyone get enough bread to feed them?"

⁵"How many loaves do you have?" Jesus asked.

"Seven," they replied.

⁶He told the crowd to sit down on the ground. When he had taken the seven loaves and given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people, and they did so. ⁷They had a few small fish as well; he gave thanks for them also and told the disciples to distribute them. ⁸The people ate and were satisfied. Afterward the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. ⁹About four thousand were present.

After he had sent them away,

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn: Son of God, Eternal Savior

CW 729



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and
2 Bind us all as one to - geth - er in your Church's
3 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and



truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us,
sa - cred fold, weak and health - y, poor and wealth - y,
oth - ers live. Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed;
truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us



hal - lows all our hu - man race, you our head, who, throned in
sad and joy - ful, young and old. Is there want or pain or
free - ly may your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and yours the
hal - lows all our hu - man race, by your pray - ing, by your



glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead: fill us with your
sor - row? Make us all the bur - den share. Are there spir - its
sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea; we but stew - ards
will - ing that your peo - ple should be one, grant, O grant our



love and pit - y, heal our wrongs and help our need.
crushed and bro - ken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.
of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Sermon

Based on Mark 8:1-3

"Jesus' Stomach Churns for People in Need"

Please stand after the sermon.

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty.**

From there 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.**

Be seated.

Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



Prayer of the Church

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

Hymn: In Unity and Peace

CW 732

Refrain



How good it is and how pleas-ant to live in u-ni-ty and peace.



How good it is and how pleas-ant to live to-geth-er in one Lord.

(Last time only)



to live to - geth - er in one Lord.



1 In the name of our Lord— Je - sus Christ, a -
2 Live a life that is wor - thy of your call, be
3 Share the love that has joined— us as one, u -



gree in ev - 'ry-thing you say.____ May there— be no di-
hum - ble, gen - tle, and pa-tient. Bear with each oth - er in
nite in spir - it and i - deals.____ Nev - er be ri - vals, do



vi - sions a - mong you, but be u - nit - ed in one mind.
ways that are lov - ing, pre - serve the u - ni - ty of faith.
not be con - ceit - ed, but look to oth - ers in their need.

Refrain



For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all.
For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all.
For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Salem School Update—Principal Ryan Klatt

Acknowledgments

Setting Four from Christian Worship

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Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:15 am in the kindergarten room. Pastor Sims will share a presentation on the work of Christian Aid & Relief at the same time in the fellowship hall downstairs.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Sunday of the Passion—Rethinking Real Strength

Bible Readings: Mark 11:1-10, Mark 14:1-15:47

Hymns: 412, 542, 406, 429, 414, 432



Midweek Lenten Services 4:00 pm and 6:30 pm, meal between

March 20

Pastor Mark Wessel—Christ, North St. Paul

Palm Sunday Weekend (March 23/24) Regular Worship schedule

Maundy Thursday (March 28) 6:30 pm Worship with Communion

Good Friday (March 29)

10:00 am Good Friday Worship

6:30 pm Good Friday Tenebrae

Easter Sunday (March 31)

NO SATURDAY SERVICE on March 30th.

7:00 am Easter Dawn Worship with Communion

8:00 - 10:30 am Easter Breakfast

9:00 am Easter Festival Worship

10:45 am Easter Festival Worship

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

For our guests

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help!

Please take note of a few helpful things:

- ✦ Restrooms with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to donate you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

For those with young children

We love to see families worship together, and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, on the wall opposite the sanctuary entrance. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If you or your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live on a TV in the room.
- ✦ On Sunday mornings, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the children's message. Parents are welcome, too!

**Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.**

