



HOLY COMMUNION

with prayers for healing

Fourth Sunday in Lent

The parable of the forgiving father

March 14, 2010 + 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Central - in the heart of the city, welcomes all people to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ

Christ the path leads all people to God's mercy

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away ... the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

*The Holy Spirit gathers
us in unity
on the first day
of the week, the day of
Christ's resurrection*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Prière des Orgues" from the *Messe des pauvres*

Erik Satie

The carillon calls the assembly to worship.

At the sound of the carillon, the assembly stands and faces the entrance.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Our Father, We Have Wandered"

(hymn) 606

stanza 2 in harmony

GREETING

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

AD 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 u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



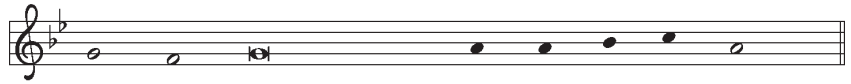
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men.

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

*By celebrating the Passover
and eating the produce of the
promised land instead of the
miraculous manna that had
sustained them in the desert,
the Israelites symbolically
bring their forty years of
wilderness wandering to an
end at Gilgal.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☩ ...who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

🔊 Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children are invited to come forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.

FIRST READING *Israel eats bread and grain, the produce of the land* Joshua 5:9-12

The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.



Word of God, word of life.

All Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord. (32:12)* Psalm 32

Choir Refrain

All Refrain

Be glad, you right-eous, re - joice in the Lord.
Shout for joy, you true of heart!

Choir Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!
Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.
For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

All Refrain

Choir Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and did not conceal my guilt.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you
in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

All Refrain

Choir I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.
Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

All Refrain

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

The mystery and ministry of reconciliation

Paul writes:

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view;
even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him
no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has
given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was
reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them,
and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

*One way to describe the gospel
is the promise that in Christ
everything is transformed into
newness. All mistakes, all
deliberate sins, all old history
is reconciled with Christ's
resurrection. This is Paul's
strong message to the
congregation in the city of
Corinth.*

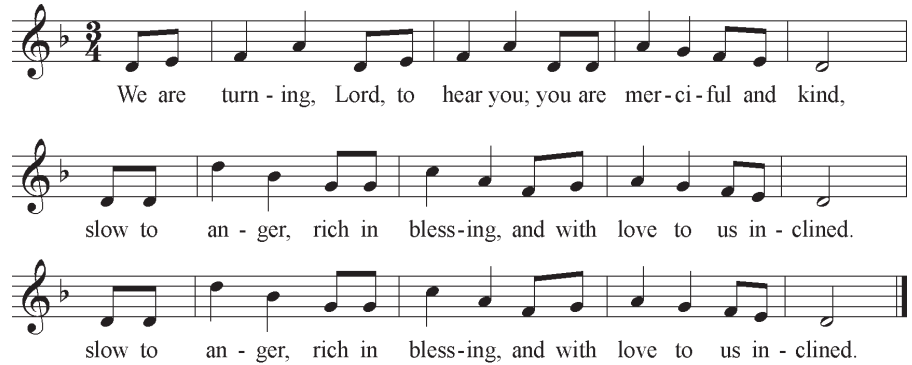
²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Word of God, word of life.

AI Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE

The assembly welcomes the Gospel singing:



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind,
slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.
slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

Text: Gracia Orindal, based on Joel 2:13
Music: KAS DZIEDAJA, Latvian folk tune
Text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The parable of the prodigal father and the repentant son

The holy gospel according to Luke.

AI Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believed it was his obedience that earned his place in the father's home.



Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.]

²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ¹¹ "There was a man who had two sons.

¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them.

¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living.

¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs.

¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger!

¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fattest calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied,

'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattest calf,

because he has got him back safe and sound.’²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.
²⁹But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’
³¹Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

The gospel of the Lord.

AI Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Kristen Jacobson

“Turning Around, Starting Anew: Coming Home”
silence for reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY

“We Sing to You, O God”

(hymn) 791

stanza 3, choir/solo

CONFESSION

*The assembly stands to face the baptismal font at the front for the confession.
The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism:*

P Trusting in the word of life given in baptism,
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
silence is kept

P Merciful God,

AI we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and are not worthy to be called your children.
Have mercy on us and turn us from our sinful ways.
Bring us back to you as those
who once were dead but now have life,
through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

P The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
Through the Holy Spirit, God gives life,
freedom from the power of sin,
and resurrection from the dead.
In the name of † Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
Live in newness of life.

AI Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

A In Holy Baptism we have been made God's people,
redeemed and forgiven. Turning around and starting anew,
let us respond in faith.

A Do you believe in God the Father?

AI I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

A Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

AI 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.

- A** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
AI 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

After each bid is announced, a period of silence is kept during which the assembly may offer prayers.

- A** Gathered by the Spirit, let us return to the Lord our God.
and pray for the church, the world, and all who yearn for new life.

The assembly responds after a period of silence:

- Renew us, O God,
AI your mercy is great.
- P** Hear our prayers, merciful God,
and transform our lives by your grace.
Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your abundant mercy, through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
- AI** Amen.

MEAL

PEACE

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
AI And also with you.
The assembly is invited to share God's peace with one another.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, bread, wine, money, and other gifts are brought forward. The assembly stands as the procession reaches the chancel.

"Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land" (8:30) *African American spiritual*

"Like As a Father" (11:00) *Luigi Cherubini, arr. Lovelace*
*Like as a father, filled with compassion, pities all his children,
so the Lord has mercy on those who fear him.*

*God feeds us
with the presence
of Jesus Christ*

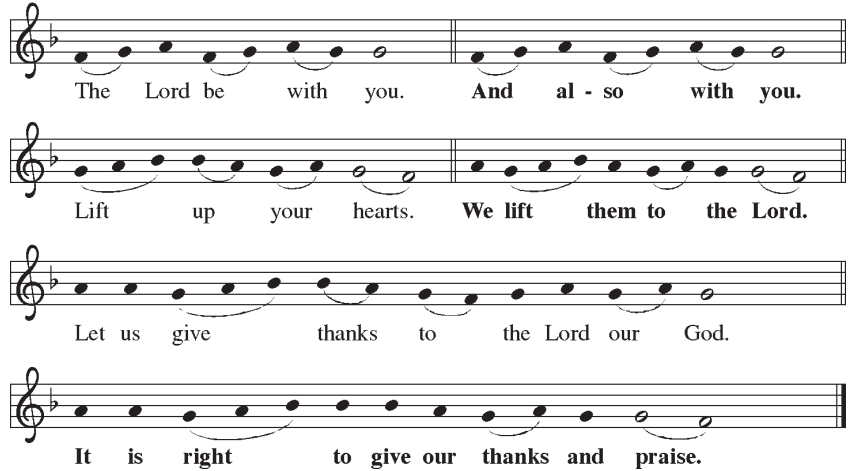


Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray together:

All **Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish the whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

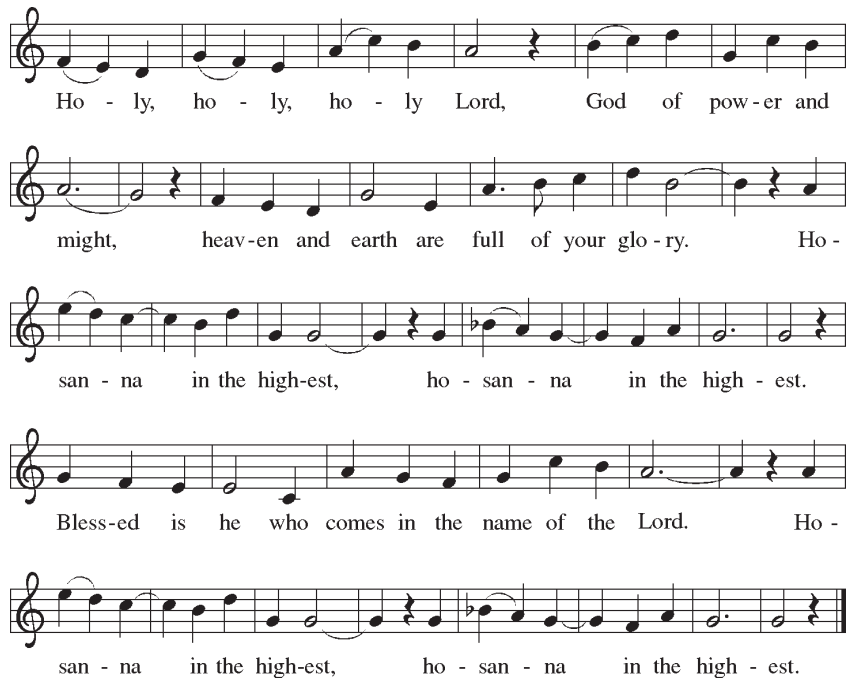
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

... we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All **Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

P ... blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer (1975)

All 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.

All are invited to receive these gifts of God.

Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

Communion at this service is served kneeling (as you are able) by individual chalices.

Grape juice and gluten-free bread are available upon request.

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to the Table

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.

Music

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

African American spiritual

please remain seated

Prayer after Communion

All God of pilgrimage,
in this meal you nourish us
with the gifts of faith and hope.
Sustain us on our journey that,
refreshed by your grace,
we may reach the promised land,
the Easter feast of victory,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

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



SENDING

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

Malcolm Williams

INVITATION TO ANOINTING AND PRAYER FOR HEALING

BLESSING

- ☐ Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
- ☞ Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

(hymn) 543

DISMISSAL

Please face the entrance for the dismissal.

- ☐ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

*Following the dismissal the assembly is invited to the communion rail
for prayer for healing.*

The carillon sends the assembly into mission.

Please gather for fellowship following worship in fellowship hall or south commons.

Brief sanctuary tours will be offered this morning following the postlude.

POSTLUDE

“Air” from the *Suite in D*

J. S. Bach



Chancel flowers today are given in memory of the recent death of Elsie Thorson, former Central member, Fine Art Ministry Team member, and dear friend of many.

Sunday worship is broadcast locally on WDGY 740 AM at 11 a.m.; or listen online from anywhere at wdgyradio.com. To sponsor a Sunday morning radio broadcast or refreshments in honor or memory of a loved one or a special occasion, contact Barbara Brown at 612.767-9210.

SERVING TODAY



Pastor Rick Nelson *presiding*
Pastor Kristen Jacobson *preaching*
Kris Stedje *assisting minister*
Mark Sedio *cantor/organist*
Jane Lien *associate cantor*
Thomas Dreeze *soloist*

Ann Oyen *reader, 8:30*
Brad Boogren *crucifer, 8:30*

Kris Schoephoerster *reader, 11:00*
Rick Johnston *crucifer, 11:00*
Männerchor *choir, 11:00*

Richard Stegall *sacristan*
David Molvik, Mark Brodin *sound operators*
Harold Clough *radio announcer*
Bob Tufford,
Jean Matheson, Bob Ylvisaker *lead ushers*

Karin Lilleodden, Bruce Bergeson,
Barb Hoernemann, Judy Berge,
Ann Oyen, Rick Johnston *communion ministers*

Mary Gunderson, Dave & Pat Forse,
Arlene Murphy, Bob & Judy Erdman *hosts and greeters*
Cheryl Erickson *docent*

Dick Hilden, Phil Holst,
Steffen Meyer, Kris Stedje,
Richard Stegall, David West,
Michael Wickman *seasonal worship team*

WORSHIP LIFE

Prayers for Healing



We get hurt. We wear out. The lungs, the eyes, the memory, and any of the many limbs and organs that compose us break or ache. Relationships fracture or break. Those we love move away from us or die. Gloom comes over us: pity for ourselves, sorrow, depression, anger. But hope can come, too, and courage, and sometimes peace. There are none who live without the need for healing.

With a word and a deed, with touch and breath and spit and mud, Jesus heals those who ail. In every time and place, we who are the church remember and tell stories of healing, anoint the sick, share the bread of life. Thus the sick and the healthy, the homebound and the spry, saints and sinners are made one and remain one, a single body of many parts.

Times for extended prayers or services for healing are marked on the calendar of our life together. Many congregations offer these prayers near St. Luke's Day (the physician) in the autumn, or during Lent in the spring. This week Jesus told the parable of the prodigal son – a parable of healing relationships, both spiritual and human. Next week Jesus is anointed with oil by those who love him – a healing balm foreshadowing the pain to come.

So let us pray today for healing, for one another, for ourselves, and our families, and for our whole community. Every worshiper is invited to consider presenting themselves at the communion rail for laying on of hands and anointing during the postlude, following the dismissal. (You will not be asked to speak.) In our mutual ministry of healing as we surround one another with prayer, scripture, song, touch, and silence, we strengthen one another in the bonds of love and faith that are stronger than the most lethal disease, the deepest depression, the most profound grief, and more powerful even than death.



Large print service folders,
assisted listening devices, and access seating
are available to aid your participation in worship.
Please inquire with an usher.



WELCOME!



Everyone is welcome. As a community of the people of God, the members of Central Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male or female” (Galatians 3:28). Christ has made us one.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. We invite guests to complete the “Welcome to Central” card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please speak to a staff member or call the church at 612-870-4416.

Children are welcome at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at sanctuary entrances. If you would prefer to use Central’s nursery (available for children ages four and younger), you will find it up the steps from the information desk at the south entrance (across from the fellowship hall). An usher or greeter will be glad to assist you.

Welcome to the Lord’s Table. All are welcome at the Lord’s Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

We envision becoming a thriving, vibrant model of urban Lutheran ministry for the 21st century. This lofty vision requires us to ask each day if our goals for worship, learning, and service are clearly reaching a diverse neighborhood and city in language and action that reflect the world as well as our heritage.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
*in the heart of the city, welcomes all people
to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ*
333 South Twelfth Street · Minneapolis, MN 55404
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