

Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 17, 2024
8:30 & 11am Worship



Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene, OR
www.welcometocentral.org

Welcome to Worship!

Central Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Oregon Synod, is a Reconciling in Christ community: We affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's wondrous grace and unconditional love.

We celebrate both the human variation and inclusive unity of God's family. Following Jesus' example, we embrace all of God's people regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic circumstance. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, fellowship, and ministry.

Our mission is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another, nurturing faithful living, serving those in need, and sharing the Gospel.

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CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE *An Wasserflüssen Babylon (On the River of Babylon)* Naji Hakim

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(please stand as you are able)*

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

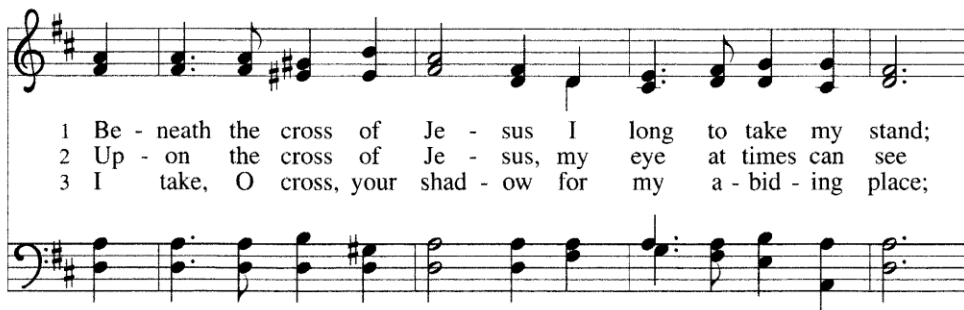
Silence is kept for self-examination.

Most Merciful God,

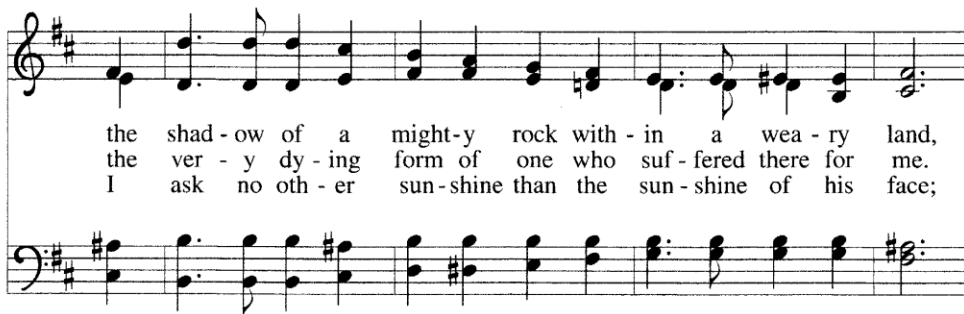
we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

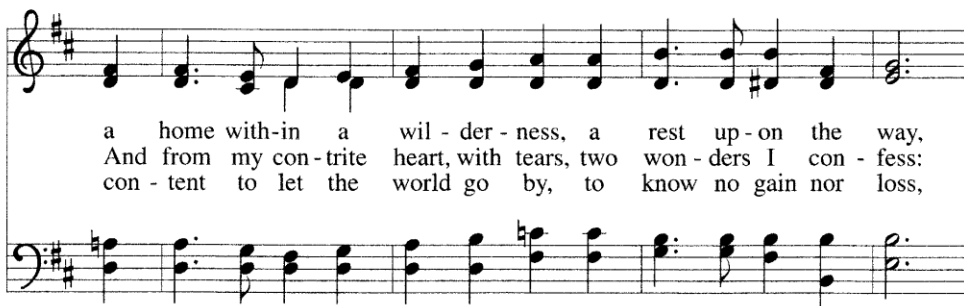
HYMN #338 Beneath the Cross of Jesus



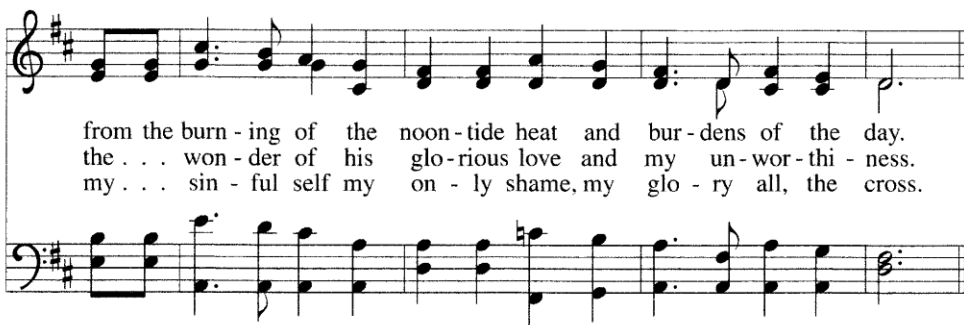
1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

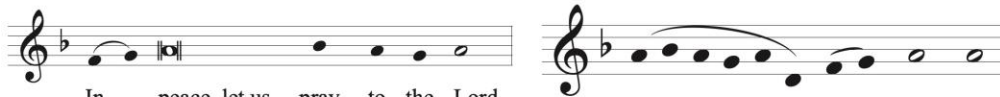


from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.


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 (11:00)




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



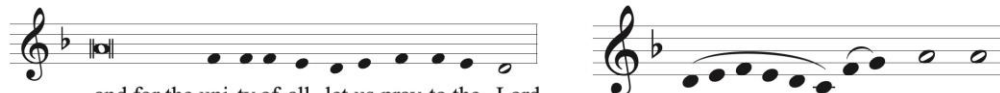
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.




Lord, have mer - cy.




For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God,



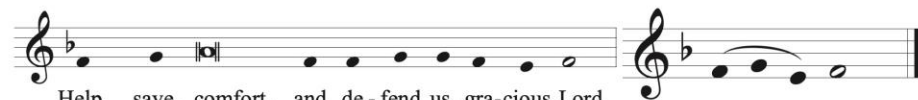
and for the uni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer-cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer 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.

The Canticle of Praise is omitted during Lent

KYRIE (8:30) Louis Vierne (1870-1937) Central Chorale
Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christe eleison. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy upon us.

From the French Cathedral tradition, this Kyrie employs the two musical forces in dialogue that was available in the French Cathedrals: the Grand (very large) organ in the rear gallery, and the Cathedral Choir and a smaller organ in front by the altar. Louis Vierne, the blind organist at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris (he died on the organ bench at Notre Dame playing a concert) composed an entire Mass (from which this Kyrie is taken) for Choir and two organs. As we do not have a choir organ, we will use the members of the Central Brass Ensemble.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.** *(please be seated)*

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall

be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 51:1-12

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through | from my wickedness, and cleanse me | from my sin.**

³For I know | my offenses, and my sin is ev- | er before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my | mother's womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me, and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.

⁸**Let me hear | joy and gladness; that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face | from my sins, and blot out | all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean | heart, O God, and renew a right spir- | it within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away | from your presence, and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of | your salvation and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.**

Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son, and to the | Holy Spirit.

As it was in the begin- | ning, is now, and will be fore- | ver. Amen.

SECOND READING Hebrews 5:5-10

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you;”

⁶as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.” ⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

LENTEN ACCLAMATION (*please stand*)

Handbells

Glor - ry and praise

to you, O Lord Je - sus Christ.

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The first staff is for handbells, with notes and rests. The second staff is for a vocal line, with lyrics underneath. The music is in a simple, rhythmic style.

Cantors: Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains a ¹ single grain;* but if it dies, it ¹ bears much fruit. **(Repeat Antiphon)**

GOSPEL John 12:20-33

The Gospel according to John, the twelfth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.

²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. ²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”

³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.”

³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Laurie A. Jones

HYMN OF THE DAY #506 The Word of God Is Source and Seed

(please stand)



1 The Word of God is source and seed; it comes to
2 The Word of God is breath and life; it comes to
3 The Word of God is flesh and grace, who comes to

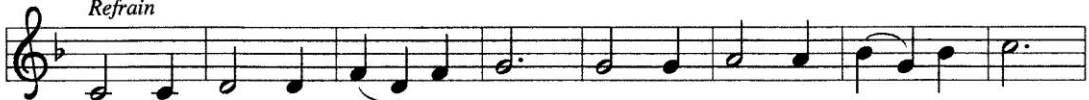


die and sprout and grow. So make your dark earth
heal and wake and save. So let the Spir - it
sing, to laugh and cry. So dare to be as

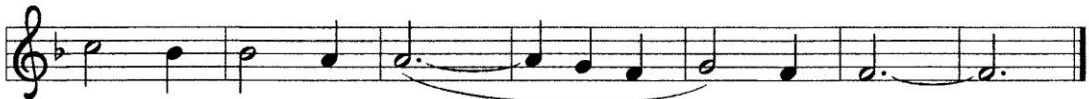


wel - come warm; root deep the grain God bent to sow.
touch and mend and rouse your dry bones from their grave.
Je - sus was, who came to live and love and die.

Refrain



Gau-de - a - mus Do - mi - no, gau - de - a - mus Do - mi - no,
In the Lord let us re - joice, in the Lord let us re - joice,



gau - de - a - mus Do - mi - no!
in the Lord let us re - joice!

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our Christian faith using the words of 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. *(please be seated)*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE

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

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

OFFERING

You may bring your offering forward during communion and place it in the plate.

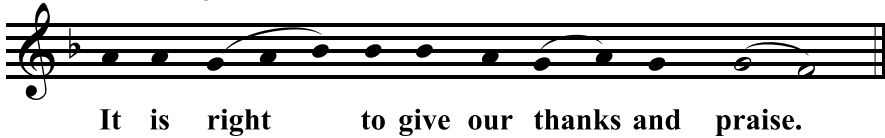
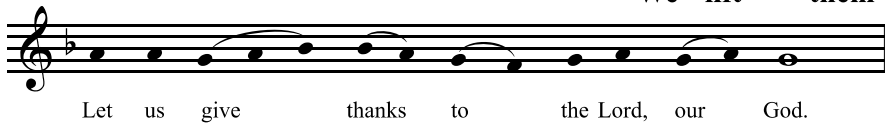
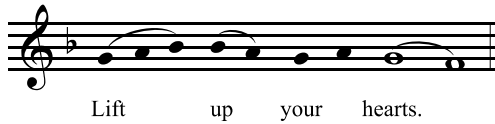
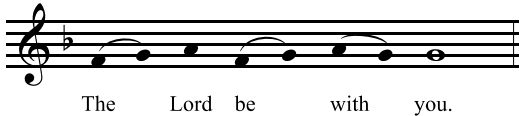
ANTHEM (8:30) *All My Hope on God Is Founded* Steve Rodgers Chorale

ANTHEM (11:00) *Humbly, I Adore Thee* Mark Schweitzer Jr. Cantors

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(please stand)*

Let us pray. Gracious and merciful God, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your 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.**

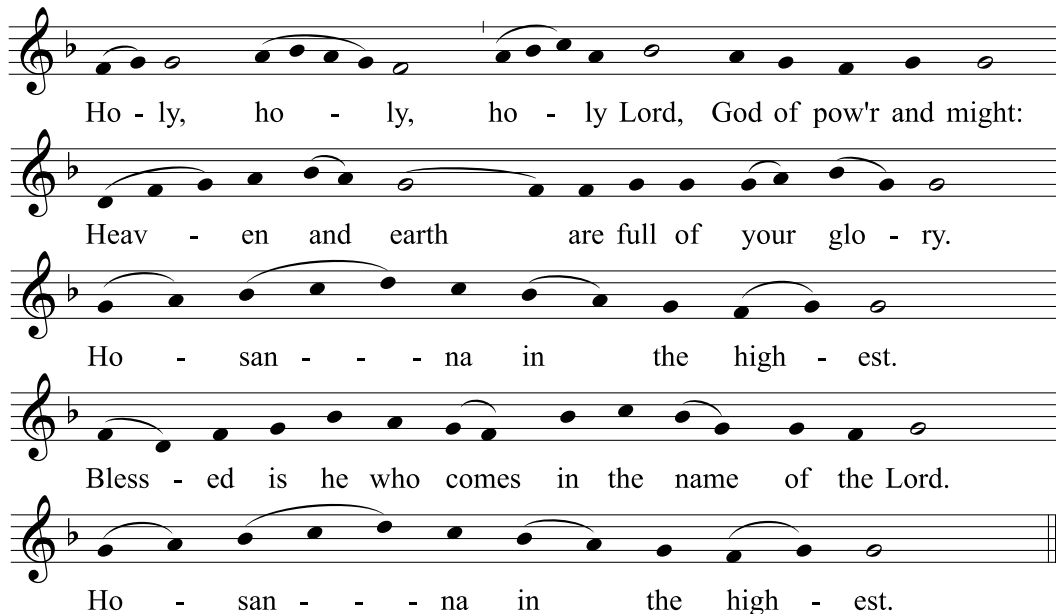
GREAT THANKSGIVING



PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav - en 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.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is in a common time signature (C). The lyrics are placed below the notes on each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Ho - ly Spir - it let us pray as Je - sus taught us.

Our_ Fa - ther in heav - ven hal - lowed be___ your name,

your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.

Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we

for-give those who sin_ a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al

and de - liv - er us from e - vil, For the king - dom, the pow'r

and the glo - ry are yours, now and for-ev - er. A - men.____

INVITATION TO COMMUNION *(please be seated)*

You are invited to come forward with hands outstretched to receive the bread in the form of a wafer and then intinct (dip) the wafer into the cup with red wine or white grape juice, as you hear the words: "The body of Christ, given for you" and "The blood of Christ, shed for you." (Gluten-free wafers are also available.)

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

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. A-men.

ANTHEM (8:30) *Stabat Mater (At the Cross, Her[Mary's] Station Keeping)*
Chorale

ANTHEM (11:00) *As the Winter Days Grow Longer* Cantor

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

(Note: at the 11am service the Benediction arranged by Steve Rodgers will be sung by our Junior Cantors)

HYMN Go Now in Peace

* Round begins on 2nd Stanza



1. Go now in peace though friends must part, Your pre-sence lives in ev' - ry heart.
2. Go now in hope, and hope - ful stay, Though shad-owed val-leys hide your way;



Your gifts to us no words can tell: Go now in peace, in Christ go well.
Through good and e - vil, joy and pain, With God in Spir - it, you re-main.

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Text: Brian Wren

DISMISSAL

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

ORGAN VOLUNTARY (8:30) *Passacaglia, BWV 582* Johann Sebastian Bach

One of the great monuments of organ literature, the **Passacaglia** has served as the benchmark for composers writing theme and variations genres. Several composers in their sets of variations have approached the breath and magnitude of Bach's masterpiece but in 250 years, no one has surpassed it. The **Passacaglia** is based upon a theme, which is first presented alone softly in the pedal part. Following the introduction of the theme, Bach presents 20 variations during which the theme is present in either a specific voice of the texture or implied through the chordal structure. The Fugue which follows will not be heard today.

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Central Brass Ensemble at 8:30am Cornet: Chris Peters; Horns: Sheri Pyron, Frances Pinkham, Roger Welch; Bass Trombone: James Meyers

Cantor at 11am: Steve Rodgers

New Members will be received at both services on Palm Sunday, March 24th. Please let Pastor Laurie or Pastor Ben know if you'd like to learn more about our life together at Central.

Central Lutheran Church 2024 Schedule for Lent thru Easter

Date	Lent / Holy Week / Easter
February 14 Ash Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Worship at noon & 7:30pm in the Sanctuary
February 18, 25 March 3, 10, 17	Sundays in Lent Worship at 8:30am & 11am with Education between services 9:45-10:45am
February 20, 27 March 5, 12, 19 Together Tuesdays	Soup Supper at 5:15pm; Music Together & Children's Choir at 6pm; Interactive Worship at 6pm with Holden Evening Prayer at 6:45pm
March 24 Palm Sunday	Reception of New Members at 8:30am & 11am
March 28 Maundy Thursday	Worship at 7:30pm
March 29 Good Friday	Worship at noon & 7:30pm in the Sanctuary
March 31 Easter Sunday	The Resurrection of Our Lord Festival Worship at 8:30am & 11am (w/Easter Egg Hunt at 10:15am)

“Journeying with God through our Wilderness”
Based on Exodus chapters 15-20

Together Tuesday topics for Interactive Worship:

Feb 20: Joy of freedom & the anxiety of vulnerability in the Wilderness

Feb. 27: Groundlessness, despair, lament, & complaint in the Wilderness

Mar 5: Theology of need rather than abundance in the Wilderness

Mar 12: Sabbath in the Wilderness, gift and challenge

Mar 19: Caring for others in the Wilderness