



Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church – ELCA

"Encouraging faith and proclaiming God's love by Gathering, Growing and Giving."

4th Sunday of Lent

Communion Worship

March 19th, 2023

This worship is being livestreamed. Your presence in the sanctuary signifies your agreeing to be on our live broadcast.

*NOTE: **Bold text** indicates worshippers' response, and '*' means please stand as able.*

PRELUDE

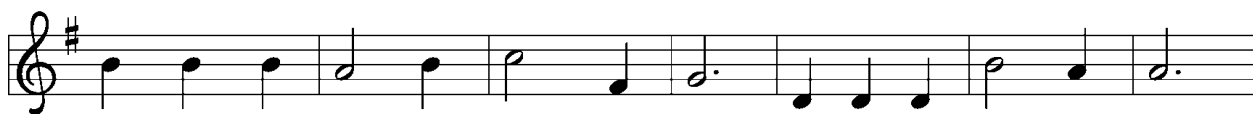
Michelle Young

WELCOME & MINISTRY MESSAGES

GATHERING

- * CONFESSION We confess our sins before God and one another. *Pause for silence and reflection.* God of grace and mercy, **we admit to you, to ourselves, and to this community that we have caused harm to others through our actions and through our failure to act. Give us the humility to accept our failings and make things right where we can. Forgive us and help us to forgive ourselves.**
- * FORGIVENESS Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. In that love God forgives you all your sin, for the sake of our savior, **✝ Jesus Christ. Amen.¹**

316 HYMN *Jesus the Very Thought of You*



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
Music: ST. AGNES, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

* GREETING The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

*KYRIE

In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for all salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of Christ, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.



☐ Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O God of the u-ni-verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul-er of all the na-tions.



Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and sing the glo-ry of your name?



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.



☐ For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One. All



na-tions will draw near and wor-ship be-fore you,



for your just and ho-ly works have been re-vealed.



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.

* P: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

* PRAYER OF THE DAY P: Let us pray. God of promise, **we wait for the time when all the world shall know your perfect peace and justice, and you shall reign over all creation in love. Keep us alert and active in your work while we wait, in Jesus name. Amen.**¹

GROWING

Please read Psalm Psalm 43:3-5 with me responsively

³O send out your light and your truth; **let them lead me;**
let them bring me to your holy hill **and to your dwelling.**

⁴Then I will go to the altar of God, **to God my exceeding joy;**
and I will praise you with the harp, **O God, my God.**

⁵Why are you cast down, O my soul, **and why are you disquieted within me?**
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, **my help and my God.**

As Jesus nears the day of his death, his messages focus more on preparing his disciples for the end of his time with them, the urgency of the work ahead of them, and the promise of the full kingdom of God coming...at some untold time. Today we hear his message for all...be prepared! THE HOLY GOSPEL according to Matthew the 22nd chapter **Glory to you, O Lord**

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/SERMON

Pastor Mary Eide

#25 Hymn of the Day *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers* pg. 6

*THE APOSTLES' CREED (*professed together*)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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**

*Or, He descended to the dead. ** universal

* PRAYERS AND PETITIONS (L: Merciful God, **All: hear our prayer.**)¹

The OFFERING PLATE is located at the entrance of the church sanctuary.

* OFFERING PRAYER Loving God, **you have showered us with abundance. Keep us ever mindful of the needs of others, that we might be inspired to share what we have. We offer now these gifts to your good work in the world. Accept them for the sake of Jesus Christ, our savior. Amen.**¹

* 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

* 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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen**

* INVITATION Jesus comes to us where we are and calls us into the wedding banquet that has no end. Come and share in the feast of rich foods, and be satisfied, for all is made ready.¹

HOLY COMMUNION – *All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the bread and wine are welcome to commune with us. Gluten-free wafers available and give "thumbs up" for grape juice. Children who do not yet receive Holy Communion may come forward for a blessing. If you or a family member would like communion brought to them, please tell an usher.*

* POST COMMUNION PRAYER Pour out upon us... **Amen.**

* ANNOUNCEMENTS/BLESSING Go now into God's world not only with the promise of being forgiven, but also the responsibility of forgiving others. Go empowered by God the Father, the Holy Spirit, ✚ and through Christ Jesus for whom we wait. **Amen.**

* #97 SENDING HYMN *Christ, The Life of All the Living* pg. 7

* CLOSING LITANY/DISMISSAL (*please respond with **bold-faced text***)

Jesus is coming! His reign is near!

We've waited so long and suffered so much disappointment.

Have faith and be ready. God's promise is sure.

The world is in turmoil. We do not see justice.

Do not lose heart. Your God is with you.

How can we be prepared? There is so much else to do.

Keep your hearts kindled. Work for justice even when you don't see it.

We are tired of waiting. The fire in our hearts is running out of oil.

Don't look to the world to refill your lamps, but seek your God who sustains you in all things.

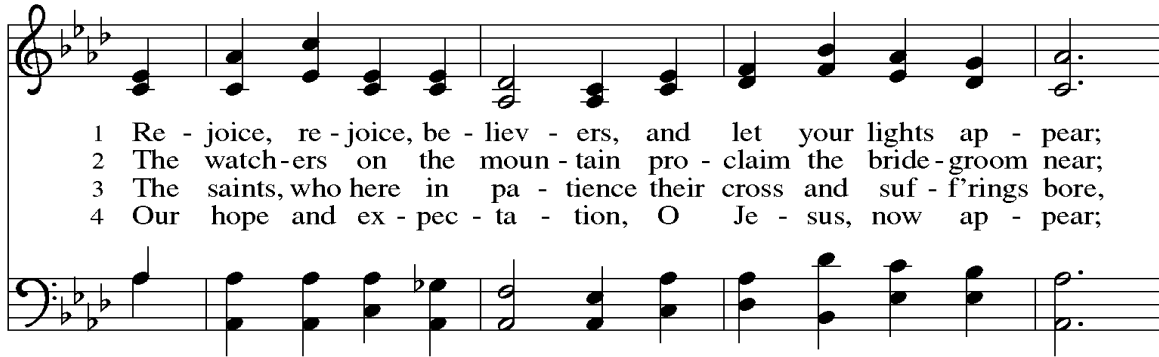
With God's help, we will be ready. Come, Lord Jesus.¹

Go now and share the Good News of Jesus' return. **Thanks be to God.**

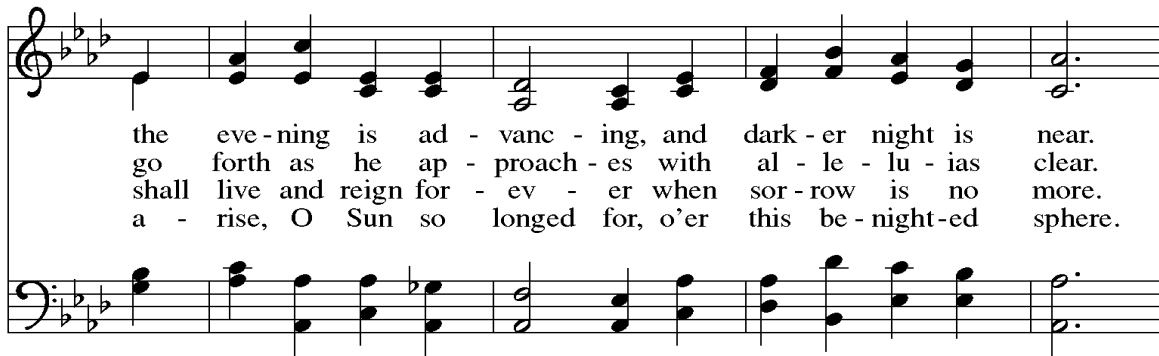
BELLS/POSTLUDE

Michelle Young

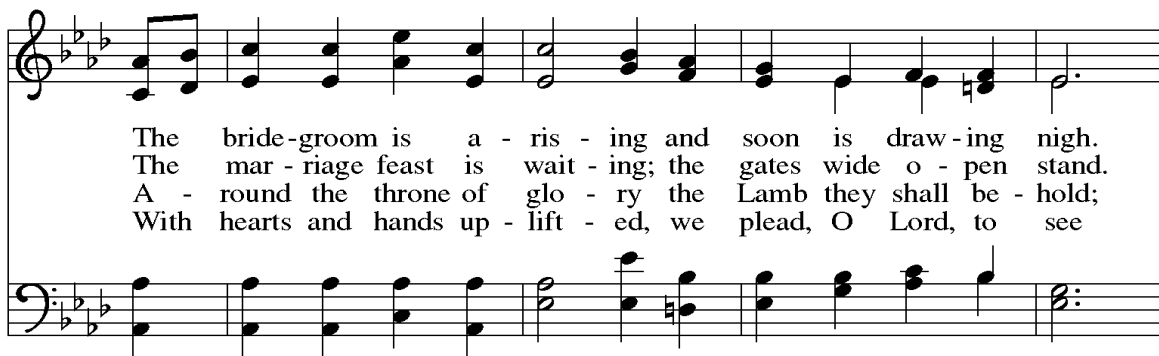
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that se

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Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
 Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

Christ, the Life of All the Living

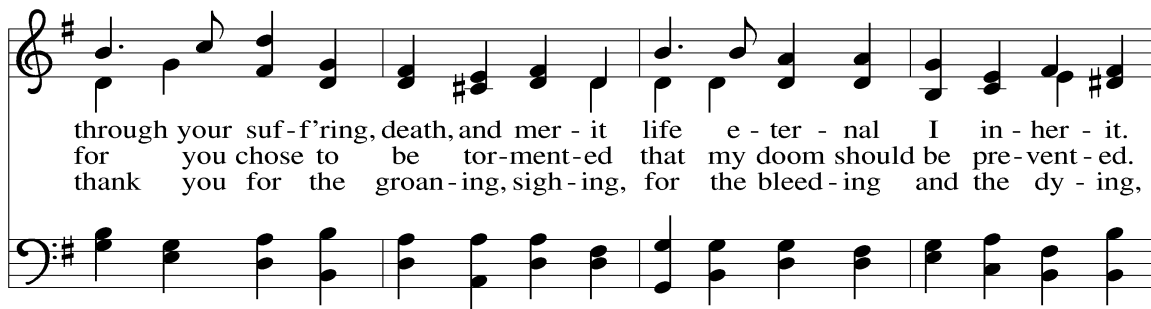
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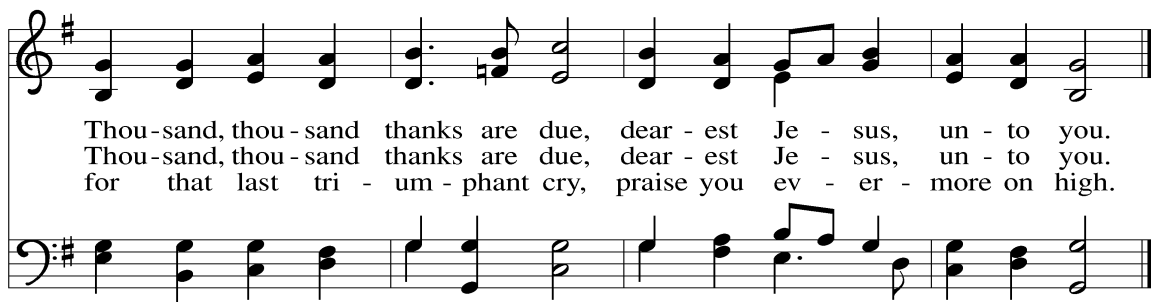
1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
2 You have suf-fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
3 Then, for all that bought my par-don, for the sor-rows deep and sore,



Christ, your-self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
for the an-guish in the gar-den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf-f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
for you chose to be tor-ment-ed that my doom should be pre-vent-ed.
thank you for the groan-ing, sigh-ing, for the bleed-ing and the dy - ing,



Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687