

# By Faith You Are Promised Life

March 26, 2023



Fifth Sunday of Lent

**WELCOME, GUESTS!!!** We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out a guest register at the church's entrance. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Congregational responses are indicated by indent and boldened letters.

**THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS**— Jesus will raise us from death to life. The crown jewel of the coming kingdom is the resurrection of the dead. One day, Jesus will defeat the last enemy (1 Corinthians 15:27) and life will reign again in our new Eden with God. On our Lenten walk to Calvary, the Church sees the Savior come face to face with death and defeat it completely. During our Lenten walk, the Prayer of the Day asks God to help us remember that Jesus, who is resurrection and life, has made us heirs of eternal life.

**MORNING PRAYER** - Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE:** COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION— CW, p.15



## OPENING HYMN:

#99

### OH, COME, MY SOUL

**\*\*Please Stand for last verse\*\***



1 Oh, come, my soul, your Sav - ior see Nailed to your  
2 'Tis yours, my soul, the sin, the shame, The cross, the  
3 Oh, sing, my soul, sing end - less - ly The won-drous



cross on Cal - va - ry. Your pains he bears; Your thorns  
nails, the thirst, the pain; In ag - o - ny His blood  
love that sets you free; His dy - ing breath Brings life



he wears That yours a crown of life might be.  
runs free To write in heav - en's book your name.  
from death, Makes heav'n your home e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–93. © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: OH, COME, MY SOUL (88 44 8) Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–93. © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert. All rights reserved.  
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In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Kyrie*



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.



## PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### GLORY BE TO GOD

### *Gloria in Excelsis*

C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,

we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,

God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the

sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the

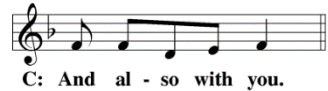
sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of

God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;

you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,

are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY



The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**\*\*Please Be Seated\*\***

### FIRST LESSON:

### Ezekiel 37: 1 – 14

*Israel in exile was as good as dead. Cut off and helpless, the Israelites were not like an army but like a valley full of bones. Yet God promises to bring this nation back to life. In raising Israel from the death of exile, God foreshadowed the great work of Christ: the resurrection of God's people from the dead.*

***The hand of the Lord was upon me. He brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley, which was full of bones. He had me pass through them and go all over among them. There were very many on the valley floor, and they were very dry.***

***He said to me, "Son of man, can these dry bones live?" I answered, "Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.'" This is what the Lord God says to these bones. I am about to make breath enter you so that you will live. I will attach tendons to you. I will put flesh back on you. I will cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you will live. Then you will know that I am the Lord. So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I was prophesying there was a noise, a rattling, as the bones came together, one bone connecting to another. As I watched, tendons were attached to them, then flesh grew over them, and skin covered them. But there was no breath in them.***

***Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the wind. Prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind that this is what the Lord God says. From the four winds, come, O wind, and breathe into these slain so that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me. Breath entered them, and they came back to life. They stood on their feet, a very, very large army.***

***Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They are saying, 'Our bones are dried up. Our hope is lost. We have been completely cut off.' Therefore, prophesy and say to them that this is what the Lord God says. My people, I am going to open your graves and raise you up from your graves and bring you back to the soil of Israel. Then you will know***

*that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live. I will settle you on your own land, and you will know that I, the Lord, have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord."*

PSALM OF THE DAY:

PSALM 116



*Refrain*

I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;\*  
he heard my cry for mercy.  
Because he turned his ear to me,\*  
I will call on him as long as I live.  
The LORD is gracious and righteous;\*  
when I was in great need, he saved me.

*Refrain*

For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,\*  
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.  
How can I repay the LORD\*  
for all his goodness to me?  
I will lift up the cup of salvation\*  
and call on the name of the LORD.  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy Spirit,**  
**as it was in the beginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Refrain*

## SECOND LESSON

## ROMANS 8: 11 – 19

*The indwelling of the Spirit proves our possession of the crown jewel of the kingdom, the resurrection from the dead. If the Spirit is in us, God will most certainly grant true and real life to our mortal bodies.*

***And if the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will also make your mortal bodies alive through his Spirit, who is dwelling in you. So then, brothers, we do not owe it to the sinful flesh to live in harmony with it. For if you live in harmony with the sinful flesh, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live.***

***Indeed, those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery so that you are afraid again, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we call out, “Abba, Father!” The Spirit himself joins our spirit in testifying that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, we are also heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, since we suffer with him, so that we may also be glorified with him.***

***For I conclude that our sufferings at the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. In fact, creation is waiting with eager longing for the sons of God to be revealed.***

### VERSE OF THE DAY

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.  
(Mark 10:45)

***\*\*Please Stand\*\****

## GOSPEL

## JOHN 11: 17 – 27, 38 – 45

*Jesus performed the greatest miracle of his ministry to prove to us the certainty of his greatest promise. Death has hounded mankind since the garden and caused misery that God never intended for his children.*

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



***When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. Many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them concerning their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, while Mary was sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha replied, “I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the Last Day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even if he dies. And whoever lives and believes in me will never perish. Do you believe this?” “Yes, Lord,” she told him. “I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.”***

*Jesus was deeply moved again as he came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. "Take away the stone," he said. Martha, the dead man's sister, told him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, because it has been four days."*

*Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone.*

*Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." After he said this, he shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The man who had died came out with his feet and his hands bound with strips of linen and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus told them, "Loose him and let him go." Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary and saw what Jesus did believed in him.*



#### NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***\*\*Please Be Seated\*\****

## HYMN OF THE DAY:

#116

IN THE HOUR OF TRIAL



1 In the hour of tri - al, Je - sus, plead for me  
2 With for - bid - den plea - sures Should this vain world charm  
3 Should your mer - cy send me Sor - row, toil, and woe,  
4 When my life is end - ing, Though in grief or pain,



Lest by base de - ni - al I un - wor - thy be.  
Or its tempt - ing trea - sures Spread to work me harm,  
Or should pain at - tend me On my path be - low,  
When my bod - y chang - es Back to dust a - gain,



When you see me wa - ver, With a look re - call,  
Bring to my re - mem - brance Sad Geth - sem - a - ne  
Grant that I may nev - er Fail your cross to view;  
On your truth re - ly - ing, Through that mor - tal strife,



Nor for fear or fa - vor Ev - er let me fall.  
Or, in dark - er sem - blance, Cross-crowned Cal - va - ry.  
Grant that I may ev - er Cast my care on you.  
Je - sus, take me, dy - ing, To e - ter - nal life.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.  
Tune: ST. MARY MAGDALENE (65 65 D) John B. Dykes, 1823–76.

## SERMON TEXT

ROMANS 8: 11 – 19

## SERMON:

ADOPTION MADE GLORIOUS

### CREATE IN ME



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -





**\*\*Please Be Seated\*\***

**OFFERING** — Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

### THE PRAYER FOR LENT

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

**We confess that without your love we are lost.**

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

**Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.**

Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

**By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.**

Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

**Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.**

Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

**Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

***\*\*Please Be Seated\*\****

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

**#452**

**LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS**



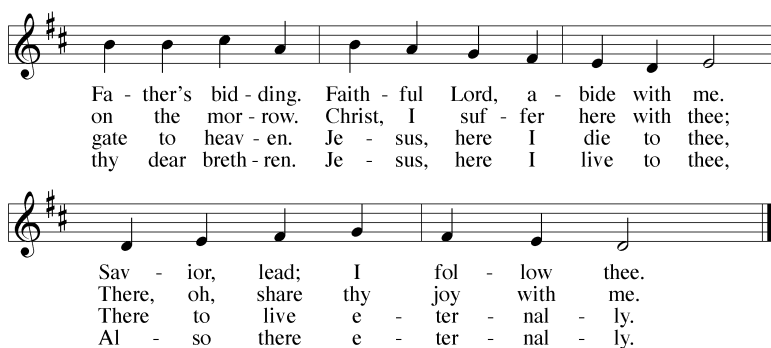
1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low his ex -  
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, To his im - age  
 3 Let us al - so die with Je - sus, His death from the  
 4 Let us glad - ly live with Je - sus; Since he's ris - en

am - ple pure, Flee the world which would de - ceive us  
 e'er con - form; Heav - en's glo - ry soon will please us,  
 sec - ond death, From our soul's de - struc - tion, frees us,  
 from the dead, Death and grave must soon re - lease us.

And to sin our souls al - lure. Ev - er in his  
 Sun - shine fol - low on the storm. Though we sow in  
 Quick - ens us with life's glad breath. Let us mor - ti -  
 Je - sus, thou art now our head. We are tru - ly

foot - steps tread - ing, Bod - y here, yet soul a - bove,  
 tears of sor - row, We shall reap in heav'n - ly joy,  
 fy, while liv - ing, Flesh and blood and die to sin,  
 thine own mem - bers; Where thou liv - est, there live we.

Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the  
 And the fears that now an - noy Shall be laugh - ter  
 And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the  
 Take and own us con - stant - ly, Faith - ful Friend, as



Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful Lord, a - bide with me.  
 on the mor - row. Christ, I suf - fer here with thee;  
 gate to heav - en. Je - sus, here I die to thee,  
 thy dear breth - ren. Je - sus, here I live to thee,

Sav - ior, lead; I fol - low thee.  
 There, oh, share thy joy with me.  
 There to live e - ter - nal - ly.  
 Al - so there e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Sigmund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. J. Adam Rimbach, 1871–1941, alt.  
 Tune: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN (87 87 877 877) Georg G. Boltze, 18th century, alt.

**\*\*Please Stand\*\***

### THE SACRAMENT



C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Lift up your hearts.



C: It is good and right so to do.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and host in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -  
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -  
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

C: A - men.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

*Agnus Dei*

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

**\*\*Please Be Seated\*\***

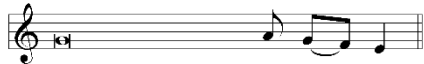
### DISTRIBUTION

*DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul’s guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: “For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord’s body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself.” Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.*

**\*\*Please Stand\*\***

### SONG OF SIMEON

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing  
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-  
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the  
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

### CLOSING PRAYER

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

### BLESSING

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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

***\*\*Please Be Seated\*\****

### CLOSING HYMN:

**#608**

#### I FALL ASLEEP IN JESUS' WOUNDS



1 I fall a - sleep in Je - sus' wounds; There par - don for my  
2 In peace and joy I now de - part; God's child I am with



sin a - bounds. Yea, Je - sus' blood and right - eous - ness  
all my heart. I thank you, death, for lead - ing me



My beau - ty are, my glo - rious dress. In these be - fore  
To that true life, where I would be. So cleansed by Christ,



my God I'll stand When I shall reach the heav'n - ly land.  
I fear not death. Lord Je - sus, strength - en now my faith.

Text: attr. Paul Eber, 1511–69; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: VATER UNSER IM HIMMELREICH, DER DU (88 88 88) attr. Martin Luther, 1483–1546.

### **What We believe:**

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God and is the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life, and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment and destroy this present world.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Easter Lilies** – Thank you everyone who signed up for Easter Lilies, last week we had 22 lilies committed for our Easter celebration. If you missed signing up to bring them you can still bring one, all lilies need to be at church on April 8 we will be setting up church from 4 – 5:00 pm. If that does not work, you can still bring them Easter morning. Once again thank you our Grace family.

**Lenten Services** –We have a Midweek opportunity just for you to be in God’s word on **TUESDAYS** at 7:00 pm. Our final Midweek service will March 28. Maundy Thursday: April 6 @ 7:00 pm; Good Friday: April 7 @ 7:00 pm. Palm Sunday and Easter will be at the standard service times. Can we get your feedback? What did you think of the Tuesday service and the time? Let the pastor know.

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** –What are your questions about the book of Acts? I challenge you to bring me your questions. Come and go as you wish! We start around 9:00 am; reading is always voluntary; bring your questions.

**Midweek Bible Study** – We have again paused our Midweek Bible Study. However, you are encouraged to use the daily devotions until April 11, when we will resume our study of Romans.

**Council Meeting** – Grace is your church! Please inform Charlie Vandelicht if you would like a copy of our minutes from last month’s meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled 6:00 pm April 14 at Gene’s home.

**Strategic planning** – It is hard to believe but it has been two years since we have done our last strategic planning with the congregation. And we need more feedback. There will be a survey sent to you in the next few weeks please look for this and send it back in so we can compile and prepare for our strategic planning.

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