

March 15, 2020

3rd Sunday in Lent

Liturgical Color: Purple*Liturgical colors can orient us to the season of the church year and help to engage the sense of sight in worship. Purple marks the seasons of penitence and preparation, Advent and Lent.***SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

8:15am Chapel Communion Service

9:15am Sunday School

10:30am Sanctuary Worship Service

*Nursery available at all services and Sunday School.***MISSION**

Responding to God's
astonishing grace,
we are moved to love God,
love each other,
and love our neighbors
near and far.

VISION

Boldly following Jesus,
we will love all people
and work to build a compassionate,
just, and peaceful world.

WELCOME, GUESTS!

DURING the Welcome, please print the requested information on the Friendship Pad and pass the Friendship Pad down the pew.

AFTER worship, please join us outside the Sanctuary where our Pastors or a church officer will be available to answer questions and provide you with a loaf of freshly-baked bread.

FOR MORE information about our programs, ministries or membership, please contact one of our Pastors at 770.393.1424, or visit our website: slpres.org.

THAT ALL MAY WORSHIP

ASSISTIVE A hearing loop is accessible by switching hearing aids to T-coil. Also, large print hymnals and back cushions are available. Please contact an usher for further assistance.

CHILDREN are precious to us, and we welcome them in worship. Activity sheets and tactile activities are available in the back of the sanctuary. Each week, children are invited to join us for "Tell Us Our Story." Afterwards, they may remain in worship, go to Faithful Friends (PreK-1st) or go to child care.

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS We welcome children, youth and adults with special needs. If someone in your family could benefit from having a buddy during their time here today please ask an usher or greeter for assistance.

SENDING

Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547

1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.

Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.

In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-
Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his
Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort

ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime.
His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22-27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might
be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.

TEXT: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983
MUSIC: Welsh melody
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

AR HYD Y NOS
8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4

In Preparation for Worship

"If you look for truth, you may find comfort in the end; if you look for comfort you will not get either comfort or truth only soft soap and wishful thinking to begin, and in the end, despair."
- C. S. Lewis

Presentation of Colors

Valentina Thelen, Bonnie Ruggiero, Maggie Ridl,
Emma Rabren, Sarah Jane Shipley, Charlotte Ferretti, Ansley Wassell

Pledge of Allegiance

Bonnie Ruggiero

Gathering Prayer

Charlotte Ferretti

Prelude

I'm Just a Poor, Wayfaring Stranger Festival Ringers
arr. Hart Morris Grace Strickland, oboe

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Valentina Thelen

At this time, please print the requested information on the Friendship Pad and pass it down the pew.

Moment for Girl Scouts

Niki Rabren

Call to Worship*

Bonnie Ruggiero

Leader: We are travelers.
People: **We sing songs and say prayers.**
Leader: We give thanks and break bread.
People: **We wrestle with life, death, and everything between.**
Leader: We struggle together along this Lent journey.
All: **In our worship, God, remind us once again that we do not travel alone.**

Opening Hymn #32*

I Sing the Mighty Power of God arr. Carol Lynn Mizell

Call to Confession*

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession*

from Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Maggie Ridl

O God, the struggle of our calling is great,
and so every morning we turn and cry to you.
Help us to pray and to concentrate our thoughts on you;
We cannot do this alone.
In each of us there is darkness, but with you there is light;
We are lonely, but you do not leave us.
We are feeble in heart, but with you there is help.
We are restless, but with you there is peace.
In each of us there is bitterness, but with you there is patience;
We do not understand your ways, but you know the way.
Restore us, and enable us to live in the way of Jesus Christ.
Whatever this day may bring, may your name be praised. Hear also the personal
confessions on our hearts...
(Silence is kept for personal reflection.)

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.
People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness*

Song of Praise #581*

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
World without end. Amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ*

Ansley Wassell

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

Ansley Wassell

Scripture Reading

Mark 12:1-12

Bonnie Ruggiero

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Girl Scouts

*After Tell Us Our Story, parents may walk children 3 and younger to their classrooms in Sheppard Hall.
Pre-K, K and 1st graders may gather in the narthex, get a nametag, and walk together to The Harbor for
Faithful Friends.*

Anthem

Shepherd Me, O God David Haas

Chancel Choir

All: Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart 688



1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
4 Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh.
5 Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,

wean it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
Teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;

stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
no an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling,
to check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh.
the bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,

and make me love thee as I ought to love.
but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

This reflection on Galatians 5:25 was written by a literary Anglican clergyman whose preaching drew people of many social classes to one of the formerly poorer London churches. The tune was created for "Abide with Me" (no. 836) but more often appears with the present text.

TEXT: George Croly, 1867
MUSIC: Frederick Cook Atkinson, 1870

MORECAMBE
10.10.10.10

32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
3 There's not a plant or flower be-low but makes thy glo-ries known.

that spread the flow-ing seas a-broad and built the loft-y
God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them
And clouds a-rise, and tem-pests blow, by or-der from thy

skies. I sing the wis-dom that or-dained the sun to rule the day.
good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,
throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev-er in thy care,

The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o-bey.
if I sur-vey the ground I tread, or gaze up-on the sky!
and ev-ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

With minimal revision this text brings together six of the eight four-line stanzas in an 18th-century hymn written for children and originally headed "Praise for Creation and Providence." The anonymous German tune provides a fitting sense of breadth and wonder.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1715; alt.
MUSIC: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784; alt. 1868

ELLACOMBE
CMD

Sermon	An Unending Parable	Erin Rugh
Hymn #688*	Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart	
Affirmation of Faith*	Apostles' Creed	Emma Rabren

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People Emma Rabren and Sarah Jane Shipley

God of love, in our shared struggle, hear the cry of those who yearn for love; those lonely, grieving, disheartened, neglected, unwanted, invisible. God of love, **their prayer is ours, hear our prayer.**

God of justice, in our shared struggle, hear the cry of those who yearn for justice; those persecuted and oppressed, exploited, ill-treated, broken. God of justice, **their prayer is ours, hear our prayer.**

God of peace, in our shared struggle, hear the cry of those who yearn for war and terror to end; those battle-worn, hope-weary, terrified, anxious, evicted, desperate for refuge. God of peace, **their prayer is ours, hear our prayer.**

God of healing, in our shared struggle, hear the cry of those who yearn for healing; those hurting, weakened, depressed, searching for hope. God of healing, **their prayer is ours, hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, in our shared struggle, hear the cry of those who yearn for forgiveness; those convicted, guilt-ridden, weighed down, contrite, humble. God of mercy, **their prayer is ours, hear our prayer.**

Because you turn your ear to us, we will call on you as long as we live. Help us, and help those with whom we pray to know your love, your justice, your peace, your healing, your mercy, this day and all days.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who gave us these words to give to you...

The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering

Sarah Jane Shipley

Giving is a tangible sign of worship. If you give electronically, there is a blue, laminated, electronic giving card in the pew rack to place in the offering plate as it is passed.

Offertory

Cleft for Me Mark Hayes Chancel Choir

Rock of Ages, cleft for me
Let me hide myself in thee
Let the water and the blood
From thy wounded side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.
Not the labors of my hands
Can fulfill thy law’s demands
Could my zeal no respite know
Could my tears forever flow
All for sin could not atone
Thou must save, and Thou alone
Nothing in my hand I bring

Simply to thy cross I cling
Naked come to thee for dress
Helpless, look to thee for grace
Foul, I to the fountain fly
Wash me Savior or I die
While I draw this fleeting breath
When my eyes shall close in death
When I soar to worlds unknown
And see thee on thy judgment throne
Rock of Ages, cleft for me
Let me hide myself
in thee. (Augustus Toplady)

Song of Thanksgiving #708* We Give Thee but Thine Own, stanza 1
We give thee but thine own, whate’er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

Closing Hymn #547*

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Benediction*

Valentina Thelen, Bonnie Ruggiero, Ansley Wassell,
Maggie Ridle, Emma Rabren, Sarah Jane Shipley

Response*

May the Love of the Lord
Swee Hong Lim Chancel Choir

May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.
May God’s love dwell in you throughout every day.
May God’s countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May God’s spirit be upon you as you leave this place. (Maria Ling)

Postlude*

Antiphon Marcel Dupré



SUNDAY SPOTLIGHT:

For information on all activities and events at Saint Luke’s, please go to slpres.org.

TODAY! PW EASTER BAGS— Help PW (Presbyterian Women) provide Easter bags to foster children currently living in a group home sponsored by CHRIS 180. Bags are available today and due back March 29. Monetary donations and Wal-mart gift cards are also accepted.

MARCH 21: HABITAT BUILD START DATE— This year, we will be rehabbing an existing house. Dates are March 21 - May 9, skipping Easter weekend. For details or to sign up, go to slpres.org.

MARCH 22: THE TALE OF THREE TREES – Our Westminster and Cherub Choirs will present a musical retelling of this inspiring folk legend during 10:30 am worship. Plan to be a part of our children bringing us this important Lenten message in drama and music.

MARCH 22: GRADUATE DINNER— All are invited to a church-wide dinner and service honoring Saint Luke’s High School graduates. 6 pm in the Great Hall.

MARCH 24: OWLS LUNCHEON— Join the Older, Wiser, Loving Seniors (OWLS) for a presentation by Dunwoody Police. 11: 30 am. Sign up in the lobby.

MARCH 26: TAVERN TALKS— Join Senior Pastor David Lower from 7-9:30 pm at Dunwoody Tavern for good food and conversation.

MARCH 29: CHURCH-WIDE BRUNCH & EGG HUNT— Everyone — yes everyone! — is invited for brunch on March 29 at 9 am in the Great Hall, followed by egg hunts for children.

EGG HUNT CANDY CALL— Our Easter Egg Hunt is from 9:30 to 10:15 on Sunday, March 29. Parents of children participating are encouraged to drop off a package of candy in the marked basket located in the lobby by March 22. Others are welcome to hop in on this, as well!

VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN— All aboard for Rocky Railway, June 8-11! Registration is now open for 4th—5th grade VBS, which will include three half-day service projects around the Atlanta area, followed by an overnight trip to Calvin Center in Hampton, Georgia. To register for 4th & 5th grade VBS, or for 3s (by 9/1/19) through third grade classes held at Saint Luke’s, go to slpres.org.

IOH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED— Interfaith Outreach Home (IOH) volunteers needed to provide a meal for approximately 30 people on March 19, April 16 and May 21. Please sign up in lobby or contact Al Bridges 770-394-6581/bridgtr@aol.com.

SAINT LUKE’S COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP— Thanks to a generous gift from an anonymous donor, \$2,500 will be awarded to a Saint Luke’s high school senior who is enrolling in an accredited four-year U.S. college. For details and application, go to slpres.org. Application deadline is April 19, 2020.

SAINT LUKE’S LENT DEVOTIONAL— During Lent, we invite you to practice daily devotional and reflection time. We are hopeful that in preparing our hearts and minds during these days leading to Easter, we will come to experience the joy of the resurrection in new and powerful ways. To view two online daily devotional options, go to slpres.org. . In addition, the Saint Luke’s Youth Council will be doing an Instagram devotional. @slpresyouth