4th of Lent March 30, 2025

Prelude

Announcements

Confession & Absolution

- L Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **C Amen.**
- L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C** Amen.
- L Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

All We confess that we are captive 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, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Leader: 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 to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**

Children's Sermon

Opening Hymn There's a Wilderness in God's Mercy ELW 588

Apostolic Greeting

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

Kyrie

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In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. For the peace from above, and for our 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 God, 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.



Prayer of the Day

L The Lord be with you

And also with you С

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your L mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

С Amen

First Reading: Joshua 5: 9-12

⁹ 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.¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain.¹² The 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. Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God! С

Psalm 32 chanted responsively

¹Happy are they whose transgressions [|] are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

² Happy are they to whom the LORD im-¹ putes no guilt, and in whose spirit there | is no guile!

³While I held my tongue, my bones with-¹ ered away, because of my groaning all day long.

⁴ For your hand was heavy upon me⁻¹ day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con-¹ ceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶ Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in ¹ time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve [|] me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸ "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that [|] you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no ¹ understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will [|] not stay near you."

¹⁰ Great are the tribulations ¹ of the wicked;

but mercy embraces those who trust ¹ in the LORD.

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice [|] in the LORD; shout for joy. all who are ¹ true of heart.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21

¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Holy Wisdom Holy Word.

C Thanks be to God

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation

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C Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

Holy Gospel according to Luke in the 15th Chapter. C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now 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." ³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} "There was a man who had two sons. The 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. ¹³ A 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. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.¹⁷ But 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! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.", ²⁰ So 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. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But 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. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive ²⁵ "Now his elder son was again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing.²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on.²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.'²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But 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. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But 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." This is the Gospel of Our Lord. С Praise to you, Christ.

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.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

ELW 605

Prayers of the Church

- L Robed and honored by our loving God, we leave behind our humiliation and in our prayers recognize the grace that welcomes all people into the divine household. Let the people say: "Speak, Lord, your servants are listening." **People: Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.**
- AM For the youngest members of the household of Christ, that they may be precious in our sight and honored in our gatherings, we pray:
- C Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.
- AM For the youngest people among the nations of the world, especially those whose lives are in any danger, and that those in power may commit to help them live and thrive, we pray: **C Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.**
- AM For the vast and abundant earth, that upon its surface our youngest neighbors may find peace, joy, shelter, food, and love, we pray:
- C Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.
- AM For any needs we now lift in speech or silence before our merciful Lord,....we pray,
 C Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.
- L For all these, and all else you see that we need, we offer our heartfelt intercessions.
- C Amen.

Sharing the Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please share a sign of God's peace.

The Offering is received and the table is prepared.

Anthem: That Day on Calvary Words: Nancy Price and Don Besig; Music: Don Besig

What did they think when they saw him that day as he walked up the hillside to die? Could they imagine the fear and the pain of the man they would crucify? They showed no shame or sorrow; their voices were filled with scorn. But soon they would see. They would come to believe, and all of creation would mourn. What do we feel as we think of that day when they took him to Calvary? Can we imagine the grief and the pain that he suffered to set us free? We know he died to save us, to wash away all our sin. So we come to the cross, where Christ paid the cost, and find our forgiveness in him.

The Offertory is sung

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

The Leader speaks an Offertory Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving –

- L The Lord be with you.
- L Lift up your hearts.
- L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Proper Preface is spoken

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

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest

Leader continues with the Great Thanksgiving.



C And also with you.C We lift them to the

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C We lift them to the Lord. C It is right to give our thanks and prais

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LORD'S PRAYER

C 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

The Agnus Dei

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Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

All are welcome to the table of the Lord.

Communion is distributed.

Communion

Post Communion Prayer

Benediction spoken

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 grant you peace **C Amen.**

Closing Hymn	I Hear the Voice of Jesus Say	ELW 611
	Contemporary Musicians	

Dismissal

AM Go now in peace, to love, and serve the Lord and your neighbors.

C Thanks be to God

Postlude

Please allow a time of reflective silence during the postlude.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

The following is a listing of those who need your prayers. Our hope is that you will take this listing home with you and in your daily prayers remember those listed below.

Kay Ackley Francine Ahrens Ben, Sheryl & Nik Ahrens Peggy Ali Joyce Almsted Connie Aparo Phil Bascetta Eli Boda Kathleen Bowler Cherie Brown Sharon Cable Nancy Campbell Carol Cianciolo Cheryl Corey Emma Cortina Leif Dallaire **Emily Decker** Linda Dellano Carla Derrickson Sigrid Devita Irene Douglas Judy Elliott Mark Ebbeskotte Jan Eucalitto Pamela Ewing Jennifer Ezzo Bruce & Liz Falls Eric Fernandez Ashley Friday **Rosemarie Foth** John Fox Joan Gerard Danise Hall Jack & Barbara Heintz Brayden Herzberg Kathleen Hilton Shannon Hilton Jake Hoadley Sven Holmgren Erma Horn Amy Rose Jensen Ann Jones Eunice Jones Lynn Killingbeck Marilyn Killingbeck Maria Koskovich

Jason Lashbrook John Lewis David Little Rebecca Little Kari Machowski Mary Ellen Mackinnon Jerry MacManus Audrey & Ernie Marquard Abigail Marine Eric Marine **Richard Marine** Janis Martin Gil & Marilyn Martin Gladys Medina Michael Meyers Kate Merrow Colin Moore **Brigitte Mueller Dennis** Nalette Karen Ness Greg O'Brien Tom O'Brien Lea Orriola & family **Russell Palmer** Maria Payne **Bill Pierson** Jackie Quinn Wassik **Caroline** Quintal Ed & Susan Regner Jonathan Richard Louise Roche Holly Schaff Judy Schaller Rosemary & Otto Schibi Denae Seelye Patricia Weingart Seymour **Rob Simon** Matt Simpson Christopher Slate Dana Steele Sigrid Smitley Paul Smith Jennifer Stella Deb & Jon Sterling

RuthAnn Stone Diane Tanner Gloria Thibault Andy Thomas Julia Thompson Carroll Susan Tycienski Chamo Vega SteveWarner Renee Woodard Clarence & Priscilla Ed Jen O. Jaiden Shirley Steve Lou W. Steve Todd Robert K. Terry Joe Rosie Carol G. Kristen & Jared Vinny Hagbard Carolina Robert P. Peanut Colleen Ken Jaxson Gail

Friends and Family of Rich Minelli

Our Nursing Home <u>Members</u> Dee Gammon

Midge Rosenbeck Calvin Bensch Judy Schaller

Our Military Friends

Lord Jesus, Savior of the World and King of Peace, watch over our sons and daughters in the service of their Country. Protect them from the physical and moral dangers. Keep them close to you and help them live the commandments. Lord, Jesus give them courage to serve their country with honor and dignity. Be with them when they are in danger; strengthen them when they face hardship. Above all Lord, grant that when their service is finished that they may return to us, sound in mind, body and soul. Amen. Tyler Quinn Eric Beyus Major Zachary Fulton Brandan Holbrook Jonathan Connell Tom Gregg, Jr. **Eric Bremer** Peter Hutchinson S/W Anderson James Ernst USCG SPC Dominic Boscarino **PVT** Noah Braatz PVT 2 Christian Braatz

Around the Church	Date	Time
Empty Bowls Fundraiser	4/3	5:00 pm
Blood Drive- Visit Red Cross website to	4/8	1 pm
Finance Meeting	4/9	6:00 pm
Property Meeting	4/9	7:00 pm
Hilltop Art Show	4/11	5:30 pm
Council	4/14	7:00 pm
Maundy Thursday	4/17	7:00 pm
Good Friday	4/18	7:00 pm
Easter Sunrise Service at UCC Torringford St.	4/20	6:00 am
Annual Meeting II Potluck Breakfast	5/8	8:00 am
Synod Assembly	5/30- 31	

Motorcycle show and blessing planning meetings weekly after worship CT Yankee Chorale rehearsal this coming Tues, Apr 1 and each Tues following, 7pm

Lenten Potluck & Service Thursdays at 6pm during the Lenten Season

Palm Sunday looking for readers for the interactive Gospel reading. Easter Egg Hunt after Easter service.

New members being accepted on April 27.



Minimalist bulletin

Prelude Welcome & Announcements Invitation to Lent Confession and Absolution **Opening Hymn Apostolic Greeting** Kyrie Pg 138-139 Prayer of the Day **First Reading** Psalm Second Reading Gospel Acclamation Pg. 142 Reading of the Holy Gospel Sermon Hymn of the Day Apostle's Creed Prayers of the People Peace The Offering is received Offertory Hymn Offertory Prayer Great Thanksgiving-pg Sanctus 144 Lord's Prayer Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) pg. 145 Communion is Distributed Post-communion prayer Benediction Closing Hymn Dismissal Postlude

> Offerings Summary: Needed Weekly \$4,561 Actually Received \$6,097 Shortfall (\$1536) YTD Shortfall (\$13,239)

ANNUAL MEETING

Annual Meeting of the Congregation Part II Potluck Breakfast, Committee Fair & Vote on the Constitution Sunday, May 4th 8:00 to 9:30 am

The meeting will take place in the Fellowship Hall with a potluck breakfast at 8:00 am followed by the meeting. We urge all to attend to hear what are various ministries and committees have done in the past year and to vote on the updates to the constitution.