

Worship Leader Edition  
Love the Least

March 26, 2023

8:30 AM

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GATHERING

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Prelude

“Go To Dark Gethsemane”  
*Bells of Praise*

*David Angerman*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS {*Front Center*} (*Rob*)

+OPENING HYMN

“Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak”

**ELW #676**

**Verse 1**

Lord, speak to us that we may speak  
in living echoes of your tone;  
as you have sought, so let us seek  
your straying children, lost and lone.

**Verse 3**

Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach  
the precious truths which you impart;  
and wing our words, that they may reach  
the hidden depths of many a heart.

**Verse 2**

Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead  
the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;  
oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed  
your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.

**Verse 4**

Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord,  
until our very hearts o'erflow  
in kindling thought and glowing word,  
your love to tell, your praise to show.

+GREETING {*Lectern*} (*Greg Hornicke*)

L: The grace of Jesus Christ, the mercy of the Holy One, and the Spirit of the living God be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

+PRAYER OF THE DAY {*Lectern*} (*Greg Hornicke*)

L: Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

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WORD

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FIRST READING {*Lectern*} (*Greg Hornicke*)

Lamentations 3:22-32

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. It is good for one to bear the yoke in youth, to sit alone in silence when the Lord has imposed it, to put one’s mouth to the dust (there may yet be hope), to give one’s cheek to the smiter, and be filled with insults. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love;

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*You may remain seated*

THE HOLY GOSPEL {*Pulpit*} (*Rob*)

Matthew 25:31-46

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty

and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON *{Pulpit}*

Rob

+HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True"  
*Verses 1, 2 & 4*

ELW #675

**Verse 1**

O Christ our light, O Radiance true,  
shine forth on those estranged from you,  
and bring them to your home again,  
where their delight shall never end.

Set free all those whose hearts and minds  
some deep delusion haunts and blinds.

**Verse 4**

Lord, let your mercy's gentle ray  
shine down on others strayed away.  
To those in conscience wounded sore  
show heaven's waiting, open door..

**Verse 2**

Fill with the radiance of your grace  
the wand'ers lost in error's maze.

+THE APOSTLES' CREED *{Front Center}* (Greg Hornicke)

Screen

**C: 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.**

+THE PRAYERS *{Front Center}* (Greg Hornicke)

*After each petition:*

L: Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

+THE LORD'S PRAYER *{Front Center}* (Greg Hornicke)

Screen

**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.**

+SHARING OF THE PEACE *{Front Center}* (Greg Hornicke)

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

L: For all who are gathered, let us take a moment to welcome everyone with a wave of peace. For those of you online, please share a word of peace in the comment or chat. Most all as we go out into the world may we greet others as people of peace.

*Please share of wave of peace with one another.*

TIME OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE (*Greg Hornicke*)

L: In this time of reflection and response you are invited to fill out your welcome card. Share any reflections, questions, or prayers on the back. Also, take this time to prepare your offering. For those gathered the collection plates are in the front and back. For those online please go to our website [stlukesbloomington.org](http://stlukesbloomington.org) and there is a link to give at the bottom of every page. Enjoy this time.

MUSIC

“Lenten Meditation”  
*Bells of Praise*

*Paul McKlveen*

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SENDING

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COUNCIL INTRODUCTION

Rani Hayden, Secretary

+BENEDICTION (*Front Center*) (*Rob*)

L: Almighty God bless us, and direct our days and our deeds in peace. In the name of the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

+SENDING HYMN

“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

**ELW #551**

**Verse 1**

The Spirit sends us forth to serve;  
we go in Jesus' name  
to bring glad tidings to the poor,  
God's favor to proclaim.

**Verse 2**

We go to comfort those who mourn  
and set the burdened free;  
where hope is dim, to share a dream  
and help the blind to see.

**Verse 3**

We go to be the hands of Christ,  
to scatter joy like seed  
and, all our days, to cherish life,  
to do the loving deed.

**Verse 4**

Then let us go to serve in peace,  
the gospel to proclaim.  
God's Spirit has empowered us;  
we go in Jesus' name.

+DISMISSAL (*Front Center*) (*Greg Hornicke*)

L: Go now in peace, for nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus

**C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*Altar Flowers Today*  
*Given by:*  
*Bette & Larry Gamboni*  
*In celebration of our*  
*56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*