

Lutheran Church of the
Redeemer
Gastonia, NC

Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 17, 2024



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand as able.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the minister begins:

P: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

C: **have mercy on us.**

P: For self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness:

C: **have mercy on us.**

P: For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that do not seek your will:

C: **have mercy on us.**

P: For misuse of human relationships, for our unwillingness to see the image of God in others:

C: **have mercy on us.**

P: For jealousies that divide families and nations, and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:

C: **have mercy on us.**

P: For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God, and for carelessness with the fruits of creation:

C: **have mercy on us.**

P: For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm:

C: **have mercy on us.**

P: For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ, and for squandering the gifts of love and grace:

C: have mercy on us.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit God cleanses us and gives us the power to proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called us out of darkness into light.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn 461 (ELW)

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



- 1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
- 2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.
- 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest-less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Greeting

P: 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.**

The Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray.

C: **O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Children's Message

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those

days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Psalms 51:1-12

L: ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

C: ²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

L: ³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

C: ⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

L: ⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

C: ⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

L: ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

C: ⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

L: ⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

C: ¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

L: ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

C: ¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,

according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

(after the readings)

L: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able.

The Holy Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to John (12:20-33)

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.

²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder.

Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

(after the reading)

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

Sermon

(time for reflection)

Please stand as able.

Hymn of the Day 713 (blue hymnal)

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

The Apostles' Creed

A: God has made us his children through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we profess our faith.

C: **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 to the dead. 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.**

Prayers of the People

Each petition ends:

A: Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

Please be seated.

Offering of Financial Gifts *It is our faithful giving that enables the mission and ministries of this congregation to continue. We will be bringing our offering forward to the altar as a sign of our thankfulness to God.*

Anthem

As the Deer

Chancel Choir

Please stand as able.

Offertory

Doxology

Instrumental

Post-Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: **Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: In this meal we receive the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Please be seated.

Communion is by intinction. *You are invited to Holy Communion where Christ has promised to be present offering eternal love and forgiveness. Non-communing children are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you do not wish to partake of the Sacrament, simply remain seated when your row is directed to the altar. We will bring communion to those who wish to remain seated.*

Hymn 479 (green hymnal)
Hymn 518 (green hymnal)
Chancel Choir
Hymn 370 (green hymnal)

My Faith Looks Up to Thee
Beautiful Savior
In His Time
Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Please stand as able.

Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in faith and keep you in his grace today and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: **Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.**

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn 697 (ELW)

Just a Closer Walk with Thee (next page)

Dismissal

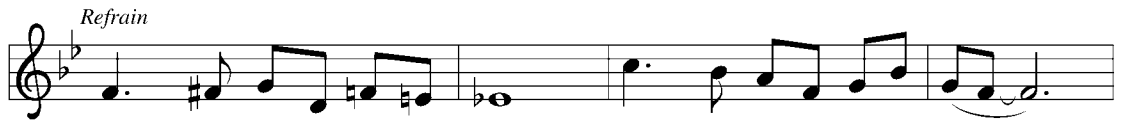
A: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and one another.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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Just a Closer Walk with Thee



Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



- 1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
- 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

Text: North American traditional

Music: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

1915 S. New Hope Road Gastonia, NC 28054

704-865-6152 Rev. Jeff Lindsay, Pastor

email: redemerchurch@bellsouth.net website: www.redeemergastonia.org

Visitors: Thank you for worshipping with us. We hope to have a new member Sunday soon. If you would like more information on becoming a member of Redeemer, please speak with Pastor Jeff.

Our services are live streamed on the church's website – www.redeemergastonia.org; on our Facebook page, and also on YouTube – search Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Gastonia.

The Faithful Servants Adult Bible Study class meets each Sunday morning. We have fellowship time at 8:45 and the class begins at 9:00. All are welcome to join us!

Plan to join us this evening for our final Lenten service with guest preacher Rev. Mike Stone. The Choirs will be serving soup & sandwich for dinner at 5:00 and the evening prayer service is at 6:00.

The Bible Study Group led by Pastor Jeff will meet this Wednesday at 7 p.m. and the Thursday class is at 10 a.m.

The Church Council will not meet this week. Our next meeting will be on April 18.

You are invited to write down your prayer requests during this Lenten season and nail them to the cross in the sanctuary.

An Easter Egg Hunt will be held on **Saturday, March 30, at 4 p.m.** We are accepting donations of individually wrapped candies, please place them in the bin underneath the table in the narthex.

Thank you to all those who donated blood and to Corky Wells and Ginger MacDonald for volunteering their time the day of the drive. Twenty-one units were collected which was 7 more than at our last drive.

Maundy Thursday - We will have the **washing of the feet** on Maundy Thursday as part of the worship service. If you are interested in assisting with the washing of the feet and/or with helping others wash feet, please let Pastor Jeff know.

The Deriter Club is going to the Gastonia Little Theater next Sunday, March 24, to see *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. We will go to Cheddar's Restaurant right after worship for lunch, then we'll regroup around 2:30 at the Little Theater. Tickets are \$11, contact Dave Henderson to reserve yours – 704-228-9836 or dh118196@gmail.com.

The Annual Report to the Congregation was emailed this past Friday. Hard copies will be made available to those without email and for others by request only. Let Liz know if you need a hard copy.

See the next page for the Holy Week and Easter schedule.

Please remember in prayer the following:

Members of the congregation: Jason Clodfelter, Frank Taylor, David Moore, Sidney Craig, Sandi Henderson, Gloria Kaylor, Nancy Reynolds, Louise Rabb, Russell Carey, Jerry & Dana Seagle, Gail Broussard, Joyce Hartsell, Janice Fowler, Bob Gronstal, Betsy Easter

Granddaughter of: Margaret Tedder (Jennifer Long)

Grandson of: Bob & Janice Gronstal (David Gronstal)

Brother of: Brad Alexander (Dana Alexander)

Sister of: Linda Barber (Lisa Swilley) Betsy Easter (Betty Easter)
Jerry Seagle (Kay Sherrill)

Nephew of: Janice Fowler (Chris Markwalder & Family)

Those who are homebound: Steve Mack, Ann Lanier, John and Helen Salsburg

Friends of the congregation: Pam Aucoin, Lloyd Family, Laurie Knight, Bruce Zander

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday March 24 10 a.m.

Maundy Thursday March 28 7 p.m.

Good Friday March 29 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday March 31

Sunrise Service 8 a.m.

Breakfast (following Sunrise Service)

Easter Festival Service 10 a.m.

***Please bring fresh cut flowers Easter morning
to decorate the cross in the sanctuary.***