



March 21, 2021

5th Sunday in Lent
Tree of Life

***We welcome you with open
arms and open hearts!***

Faith Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered, Bible-reading, welcoming spiritual home for seekers, believers, and everybody between. We're a family of God "because God first loved us." (1 John 4:19) Because you are here, you are part of the family—Welcome.

If you are new to Faith, we would like to be in touch with you. Please share your contact information with the church office, 406-363-2964, or faithlutheran59840@gmail.com.

Welcome to Faith and thank you for worshipping with us!

God Gathers the Body of Christ

Prelude

Susan Peterson, Accompanist

Call to Worship

Celeste Pogachar

Welcome

AM: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

AM: Any prayer requests? Please notify the church office to submit names of those you wish to be included in the prayers.

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Tree of Life

PM: Returning again to the waters of our baptism,
We begin in the name of the Father and of the Son
And of the Holy Spirit.

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination

PM: Gracious and merciful God,

All: We confess to you the truth of our broken lives.

**We have not trusted your promises or walked in your
ways. We have hoarded and squandered the gifts of
your creation. We have failed to welcome the stranger
and the outcast, or make room at the table for the
homeless and the hungry.**

**We have neither worked to release the oppressed
nor admitted our own captivities.**

**Forgive our sin, heal our lives, and set us free
that we might live with your whole creation
in justice and joy of your promised future.**

PM: God, who is merciful and kind,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
hears the cries of all who plead for mercy
and, in these last days, has sent Christ Jesus
to announce the good news of forgiveness and release
to all who are bound by guilt or broken by shame,
that they might praise God and serve the world
with glad and generous hearts.

For freedom Christ has set you free.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gathering "Beneath the Tree of Life"

Tree of Life

Refrain



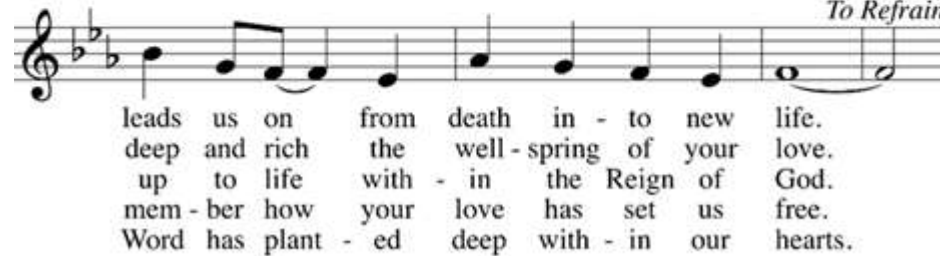
Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of life.
Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of
life— root of wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of
heal - ing and re - lease. Come and
gath - er be - neath the tree of life.

Verses



1. Here we raise the sav - ing cross of
2. Flow - ing from this tree of grace and
3. Come and drink the wa - ters of sal -
4. Here be - neath the branch - es of your
5. Root - ed in the rich earth of your
Je - sus, sing - ing praise to him who
pas - sion, Oh how sweet the taste, how
va - tion, come and die to sin, rise
mer - cy, we in - voke your name, re -
Gos - pel, may we bear the fruits your

To Refrain



leads us on from death in - to new life.
deep and rich the well - spring of your love.
up to life with - in the Reign of God.
mem - ber how your love has set us free.
Word has plant - ed deep with - in our hearts.

Text: Marty Haugen and Susan Briehl; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.
Music: Marty Haugen; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

Greeting

PM: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Kyrie (*extended ending*)

Tree of Life

☐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

☑ Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all. ☐ 1. For the
☐ 2. For your

reign of God, and for peace through - out the
peo - ple here who have come to give you

world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
thanks, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the

Lord:
Lord: ☑ Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

☐ Help, save, and de -

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

fend us, O God: ☑ A - men.

Text: Marty Haugen and Susan Briehl; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.
Music: Marty Haugen; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

Prayer of the Day

AM: The Lord be with you...

All: **And also with you.**

AM: Let us pray,

All: **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.**

God Speaks to Us in the Word

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Lector: A reading from the 31st chapter of Jeremiah:

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

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.

Psalm 51:1-12 (*lector: give directions for psalm responses*)

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

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

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

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.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:5-10

Lector: A reading from the 5th chapter of Hebrews:

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

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

L: Word of God, word of life...

All: Thanks be to God.

Kids' Talk

Brooke Kimzey

Gospel Acclamation

ELW page 189

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

The Gospel (*Spark Bible page: 446*)

John 12:20-33

PM: The Holy Gospel according to John, chapter 12:

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

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.

PM: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Pastor Paul Anderson

Sermon Song “Now the Green Blade Rises” ELW #379

Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

The Apostles' Creed (*AM leads*)

ELW p. 105

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by 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 Intercession

ELW #752

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord send your spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

A brief silence.

You wash us through and through and remember our sin no more. Make your church a community of forgiveness throughout the world. Give your people courage to forgive; through them show the world new possibilities. Bless ministries of repentance and reconciliation.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You fill the earth—from tiny grains of wheat to the mighty thunder—with your presence, and you call us to attend to your will for all creation. Grant weather that prepares the soil for seeds; protect all from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires (especially).

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You promise to write your law on our hearts. Guide citizens throughout the world to shape communities that reflect your mercy, justice, and peace, and give them creativity to work for the welfare of all.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Restore the joy of all who need to know your presence: those who are lonely or feel unforgivable, those who need healing of mind or body, those who are dying, and all who grieve.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Jesus calls us to follow him in life and death. Empower this congregation in discipleship. Equip children and teachers in Sunday school, confirmation, and learning ministries. Give us your truth and wisdom and teach us to follow Jesus.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the cross of Christ, your name is glorified. We praise you for those who have given us words to worship you. With all those who have died in Christ, bring us into life everlasting.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Pass the Peace

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

All: And also with you.

Take a moment to pass the peace with those around you, and send a message of peace to those listening and watching with you.

Offering: “Come, Let Us Bring” *Tree of Life/ELW #491(music)*

Come, let us bring the warm and fragrant bread. (2x)

Broken here so all God’s people might be fed. (2x)

Come, let us bring the sweet abundant wine. (2x)

In this cup we taste the joy of grace divine. (2x)

Praise be to you who set all people free. (2x)

Blest are they who share the feast of jubilee. (2x)

The Offering Prayer

AM: Let us pray. Faithful God,

All: you walk beside us in desert places, and you met us in our hunger with bread from heaven.

Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Jesus Comes to Us in His Supper

Dear members and friends of Faith: as you trust the God you see in Jesus, please be welcome to share his meal. Christ offers here and now his body and blood, his death and resurrection, as a demonstration that God “loves you to death” and is present to, in, and through you now and forever.

Communion will be served in individual portions.

Words of Institution

WOV page 37

PM: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection,
and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
that by this Holy Communion we may know
the unity we share with all your people
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever.

All: Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4

PM: Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom
and teach us to pray...

**All: 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

PM: Jesus draws the whole world to himself.
Come to this meal and be fed.

Distribution

Table Blessing

PM: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus
Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Post Communion Prayer

AM: Let us pray,

**All: God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your
people into one body for the sake of the world.
Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives
bear witness to the love that has made us new in
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Benediction

PM: You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved, free to serve your neighbor.
God bless you + that you may be a blessing,
In the name of the holy and life-giving trinity.

All: Amen.

Announcements for the congregation

Sending Song “On Our Way Rejoicing” ELW #537



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;



Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

God Sends Us into the World

Dismissal

AM: Go in peace. Share the good news.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

*Text for the Brief Order of Confession, Marty Haugen, Tree of Life Setting, GIA Publications, Inc.
The Prayer of the Day and the Lord's Prayer are from Sundays and Seasons, copyright © Augsburg Fortress.
All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #44168.
Permission to reprint, podcast and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license
#A-718436. All rights reserved.*

Pray for our Members and Friends...

Please call or email us with your prayer requests

Prayers for safety and healing: Wanda Huddleson, Shirley McGourty, Celeste Pogachar, Eunice Romo, Madilyn Farrenburg, Morry Mitteness, Millie and Erv Unruh, Bonnie Montgomery, Linda Bentz, Amber Wood, Amber Lynch.

Prayers for comfort:

Discovery: Clara Felton

The Beehive: Morry Mitteness, Yvonne Olson

Valley View: Ruth Dillon

Remington: Chuck Olson

Home Nursing Care: Virginia Rotering, Smitty

Incarcerated: George Davis

Please let us know if you are having surgery or know of someone who is, or if you or someone you love is in the hospital. We are here to help support in any way we can, especially with prayers.

***This prayer list will be refreshed monthly.
Please feel free to resubmit.***

Thanks to our Worship Assistants!

Today	March 21	March 28
Accompanist	Susan Peterson	Colleen Southwick
Call To Worship		Scott Southwick
Usher	Susan Wetzsteon	Judy & Clair Griffin
Lector	Brooke Kimzey	Josie VanDenburg
Assist. Min.		Scott Southwick
Projection	Scott Southwick	Rod Pogachar
Video	Cole Kimzey	Rick Brown