

A large, black, stylized letter 'L' that serves as a graphic element for the word 'Lent'. It has a thick vertical stem and a horizontal crossbar that tapers to a point on the right. The bottom of the 'L' curves into a large loop.

Fifth Sunday  
in  
Lent

*"Helping others receive grace, purpose and direction by proclaiming Christ's love."*

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Scottsbluff, NE  
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**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**March 29, 2020**

## Fifth Sunday in Lent

**Prayer Before Worship:** We have come today, O God, to praise you and to learn from you. Open our hearts that we may truly receive the living Christ into our lives so that others may find in us reflections of you. Amen.

*(In preparation for our worship together, you are invited to take a moment of silence to offer your own prayers of worship and praise.)*

Congregational responses are printed in **BOLD** type.

**A Warm Welcome** to all as we gather as God's people to worship our Lord. We pray our worship together would strengthen your faith and desire to know and serve the One who loves us with an everlasting love as made known to us in Jesus Christ.

***Visitors**, if you are worshipping with us online today, we are glad to have you with us.*

### Prelude Music

### Welcome and Announcements

### ✠WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS✠

Welcome Song:

“My Lord, What a Morning”

ELW #438 vv. 1

#### *Refrain*

**My Lord, what a morning;  
my Lord, what a morning;  
oh, my Lord, what a morning,  
when the stars begin to fall.**

**1. You will hear the trumpet sound,  
to wake the nations underground,  
looking to my God's right hand,  
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain***

## Confession of Sins/Assurance of Forgiveness

*(All may make the sign of the cross † the sign marked at baptism, as we begin)*

We are the people of God gathered together in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
Yet through you we have the promise of forgiveness, and so we confess.

*(a time for reflection and self-examination)*

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**

By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ † God forgives us all our sins. Almighty God strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

## Song of Praise

### “Great is the Lord”

**W&P #53**

**Great is the Lord, he is holy and just,  
by his power we trust in his love.  
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true,  
by his mercy he proves he is love.**

**Great is the Lord, and worthy of glory.  
Great is the Lord, and worthy of praise.  
Great is the Lord, Now lift up your voice,  
Now lift up your voice: Great is the Lord!**

**Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory.  
Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise.  
Great are you, Lord, I lift up my voice,  
I lift up my voice: Great are you, Lord!  
Great are you, Lord!**

## Greeting

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

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

God of hope,

**You dwell among us even when the world seems to be falling apart. Help us to remember your promises and trust in your unfailing presence. Send us into the world to share that hope with others. We this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## **‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡**

**Lenten Verse**

**"Return to the Lord"**

**Jay Beech**

**Return to the Lord, your God,  
Return to the Lord, your God,  
Who is gracious and merciful,  
Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

**Gospel: Mark 13:1-8, 24-37**

*Response after the announcement of the gospel:*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" <sup>2</sup>Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

<sup>3</sup>When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, <sup>4</sup>Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished? <sup>5</sup>Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. <sup>6</sup>Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. <sup>7</sup>When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. <sup>8</sup>For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

<sup>24</sup>But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. <sup>28</sup>From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>32</sup>But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

*Response after the gospel reading:*  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon:**

**Pastor Chris**

*(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)*

**+WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD+**

**Hymn**

**"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"**

**ELW #334  
vv. 1, Lent 5**

**1. Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry,  
in your death we are reborn;  
though you die in all of hist'ry,  
still you rise with ev'ry morn,  
still you rise with ev'ry morn.**

**Lent 5  
God of all our fear and sorrow,  
God who lives beyond our death,  
hold us close through each tomorrow,  
love as near as ev'ry breath.**

## **Profession of Faith: The 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.**

## **Prayers of the Church**

**ELW #752**

*(Sung Prayer Response)*

**Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow'r,  
send us grace.**

## **Sharing of the Peace**

**The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
And also with you.**

## Offering and Offertory Prayer

Gracious God,

were we to place the whole of our fortunes upon your altar; still it would not be enough to buy our salvation. So accept these gifts, O God, as a token of our gratitude for all that you have already given us, and as offerings in service to your mission on earth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## 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 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.

‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡

## Benediction

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. Amen.

## Hymn

“Shall We Gather at the River”

ELW #423 vv. 1,4

1. Shall we gather at the river,  
where bright angel feet have trod,  
with its crystal tide forever  
flowing by the throne of God?
4. Soon we'll reach the shining river,  
soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
soon our happy hearts will quiver  
with the melody of peace.

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

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*Dave Holdt, 4/2*

*Lynn Margheim, 4/4*

**If we have missed your birthday, please let the office know. Thanks.**



### **Busy...Reconnecting**

#### **with an Unhurried God**

Our world has been turned upside down, our thoughts, our lives, our well-being, are consumed by uncertainty. Our call to slow down and make space for God, to be renewed by the very breath of God has never been more timely.

Join us online at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1 for worship and a time to “make room” for God



## ✚In Our Thoughts and Prayers✚

Prayers for healing: **Florence Kasza** (Hospice—Fran Johnson’s sister) **Alan** (recovery of vision after surgery--Kathy Randall’s cousin), **Kenny & Alice Shriver** (recovering), **Linda Spomer** (heart tests), **Mylah Buckley** (RSV—granddaughter of Jim & Sheila Miller), **Jordan Hein** (cancer surgery—former member of Calvary), **Wes Sell** (recovering), **Neal Blomenkamp** (recovering from surgery), **Dee Brady** (recovering from surgery), **Steve Kaufman** (recovering), **Norman Stevens** (Dave Steven’s brother), **Michael Luenenborg** (heart surgery—brother of Deanna Zweifel), **Ron Hettinger** (heart & medical conditions—Marcy Miller’s father), **Mabel Dedlow** (healing), **Candy** (cancer surgery--friend of Susan Martin), **Michael Dietrich** (friend of Dave & Penny Stevens), **Julie** (cancer treatment--Travis Miller family), **Barb** (cancer--Marlene Downer’s sister-in-law), **Joan** (cancer--niece of Marj Nikont), **Patty** (cancer--Jim Dorn’s sister-in-law), **Kevin Feil** (healing--Melissa Guerrero’s father), **Bonnie Noble** (Leah Nikont’s mother).

Prayers for our church, community, nation and world: in this time of Covid-19.

### March FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

**FOOD PANTRY:** boxed dinners (tuna/hamburger helper)

**BACKPACKS:** fruit cups



### **WOMEN OF THE ELCA March MISSION PROJECT:**

#### **Food for meals at the Lakota Center**

Cash donations will be used to help supplement the food ministry at the Lakota Center. Meals are an important part of community at the center and reach a large number of people. Make donations in the tan “designated giving” envelopes and mark them for WELCA.



#### **YOUR GIVING ONLINE**

Scan the **QR code** to the right, go to our website:

[www.calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org](http://www.calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org) and click on the **Give Online** button OR download the

**Give+Church App** on your smartphone. It’s safe and secure.



Join us for Men's Bible Study via Zoom (online) every Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m. If you would like to join please call or email the church to let us know!



*We are Here  
to Help You!*



**We're Here To Help:** As we all deal with the uncertainty of the days ahead in light of the Covid-19, please know that we, your church family are here to offer support, prayer, and assistance. If you need help with anything, including getting supplies and/or groceries, or running errands because you do not feel comfortable getting out in public, please call the church office at 632-8023 or Pastor Chris 402-694-9189 or Pastor Sheryl 402-694-9182 for any assistance you might need. Also, if you would be willing

to run errands for people in our congregation, please let us know that as well.



**Your Offerings:** Dear friends, we hope that you will remember the expenses of the church (utilities, salaries, insurance, and more) all continue on, even if we do not gather together for worship. So please consider this your gentle reminder to send or drop off your offerings to the church office.

You may also scan the QR code in this bulletin or go to our website and use the 'give now' button on our home page to give electronically. If you have not already created a profile for giving electronically, you will need to do so first. If you need any help with this, do not hesitate to contact us.

## WORSHIP LEADERS

**Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer**

**This Sunday – March 29**

**PIANIST:** Dee Brady

**SONG LEADERS:** Bill Huelle, Susan Martin,  
Jim Dorn

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sunday, March 29**

10 a.m. – Online Worship

**Tuesday, March 31**

9:00 a.m. – Men's Online Bible Study

**Wednesday, April 1**

6:30 p.m. – Lenten Online Worship

**Sunday, April 5**

**PALM SUNDAY**

10 a.m. – Online Worship

We are still in the process of trying to figure out what our Holy Week and Easter services will look like, but we are looking to find ways to make our worship more interactive. For example, look in your April newsletter for a couple of printable palm branch sheets. We invite you to print off a copy for each person in your family so that when we do the Procession of Palms litany, you will have a palm branch to raise and wave. Also, because we were unable to cancel our Palm order as it was already in transit, we will have live palm branches available outside the office. Feel free to stop by the church a few days before Palm Sunday (April 5) to pick up palm branches for you and your family. And don't forget to check out our Website, Facebook page and your email as Holy Week gets closer for other possible ideas to help make our worship together, even though we are scattered, meaningful and special.



PALM SUNDAY

## Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020



Today's reading is sometimes called 'Mark's Mini-Apocalypse' because Jesus predicted the destruction of the temple, Jesus' second coming, and the gathering of the faithful. In our modern understanding, the word 'apocalypse' is often seen as being about death and destruction, with post-apocalyptic movies showing desolated landscapes. At the center of Jesus' message though is a message of hope: God is ultimately in charge, even if the world seems to be falling apart.

### Daily Bible Readings @ Home

**Sunday – Read Mark 13:24-27** Jesus foretells the coming of the Son of Man which is generally seen as a reference to himself. How is this image of hope for those who believe?

**Monday – Read Mark 13:28-31** Jesus compares the coming of the Son of Man to a fig tree. Spend time today outdoors, taking in the changing of the seasons, and reflecting on Jesus' words.

**Tuesday – Read Mark 13:32-37** Jesus says that even the Son of Man doesn't know when the end will be, but he encourages his followers to keep watch anyway. What would keeping watch look like for you?

**Wednesday – Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-5** Paul writes about the coming day of the Lord, but for those who believe, Christ's coming is not something to be afraid of. Say a prayer of thanksgiving for the promise that all who believe will be saved. .

**Thursday – Read 1 Thessalonians 5:6-11** Paul, like Jesus before him, encourages the Thessalonians to keep watch. How can you keep watch and encourage one another? Reach out to someone today to encourage them.

**Friday – Read Romans 13:11-14** Paul encourages the Romans to live honorably in Christ Jesus. Do a good deed or small act of kindness for a stranger today.

**Saturday – Read Mark 14:1-2** The religious leaders hatch a plot to kill Jesus. Why do you think the religious leaders want to kill Jesus? Pray for those who suffer persecution because of their faith in Jesus.