

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

3<sup>rd</sup> Weekend of Lent

Saturday, March 11 – 5:00 PM

Sunday, March 12 – 10:00 AM

## prelude

*"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"*

by Frederick C. Maker

Kristin Young, piano solo

## welcome & announcements

## call to worship *(stand)*

We are invited to the banquet.

**Let us clothe ourselves in love.**

Come and feast at God's table.

**We will honor God's gracious invitation.**

## confession & forgiveness

We confess our sins before God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

God of grace and mercy,

**We admit to you, to ourselves, and to this community that we have caused harm to others through our actions and through our failure to act. Give us the humility to accept our failings and make things right where we can. Forgive us and help us to forgive ourselves.**

Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. In that love God forgives you all your sin, for the sake of our savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*"Kyrie"*

(ELW Setting Ten, page 203)

*Verse 1*

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.

We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.

### Verse 2

Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.

### Verse 3

Have mercy on us, Lord; make sin and shame depart.  
Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

## pastoral greeting

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

**And also with you.**

## hymn of grace

*"By Your Hand You Feed Your People" (ELW 469)*

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: CAMROSE, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638

### Verse 1

By your hand you feed your people,  
food of angels, heaven's bread.  
For these gifts we did not labor,  
by your grace have we been fed:

### Refrain

Christ's own body, blessed and broken,  
cup o'er flowing, life outpoured,  
given as a living token  
of your world redeemed, restored.

### Verse 2

In this meal we taste your sweetness,  
bread for hunger, wine of peace.  
Holy word and holy wisdom  
satisfy our deepest needs. *Refrain*

### Verse 3

Send us now with faith and courage  
to the hungry, lost, bereaved.  
In our living and our dying,  
we become what we receive: *Refrain*

## prayer of the day

Let us pray.

Lord of hosts,

**You fling the door wide and welcome into your reign all people, no matter what. Send us out to extend the invitation to all we meet, that all might share in your eternal feast. Amen.**

## first reading

Psalm 45:6-7

Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity; you love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.

Word of God, word of life

**Thanks be to God.**

## intergenerational children's sermon *(Sunday only)*

## holy gospel

Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **sermon**

Pastor Linnea Wilson

## **hymn of the day** *(stand)*

*"All Are Welcome"*

Music and Text: Hans Peterson & Larry Olson  
© 1999 Dakota Road Music

### *Chorus*

All are welcome friend and stranger  
At the banquet of the Savior  
All are welcome all are welcome here

### *Verse 1*

From the woman who comes crying  
Leaving tears at Jesus' feet  
To the man who knows the right way  
But cannot see *Chorus*

### *Verse 2*

From the ones who feel forgotten  
Those who sense their place is gone  
To the ones who live in hunger  
Here you belong *Chorus*

### *Verse 3*

Go into the streets and cities  
To the farms and families  
Tell about the splendid table  
God's mercy *Chorus*

## **prayers of intercession**

Trusting in the promise of Jesus Christ's unending love, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Welcoming God, you have invited all people into your just and righteous reign. Help us to accept that invitation each day, and live in joyful anticipation of the feast that has no end.

We are in awe of the work of your hands, O Creator. Teach us to understand the interconnectedness of all of nature, that people, animals, plants, and the earth itself might flourish together.

Forgiving God,

**Hear our prayer.**

As we walk together on this journey of Lent, give us the humility to see where we have ignored your call. Free us from contempt, that we would seek always to do your will.

Bring up all who have been brought low by sickness, grief, imprisonment, addiction, isolation, neglect, or illness, **especially . . .**

Forgiving God,

**Hear our prayer.**

Open our hearts to extend your hospitality to all the people of the earth. Let us tear down the artificial barriers we construct between peoples and cultures.

We thank you for all the saints whose faithfulness has drawn us to your holy table. Hold and keep them until we enjoy the wedding banquet with them in your presence.

Forgiving God,

**Hear our prayer.**

We lift these prayers to you, Gracious God, in the name of your son, Jesus Christ, our savior. **Amen.**

## **sharing the peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(The congregation now takes time to exchange a greeting of peace)*

## **the offering of our gifts**

*"Heart of God" (Saturday)*

by Zach Williams

Kristin Young, vocal solo

*"The Gospel of Grace" (Sunday)*

arr. by Mark Hayes

Lion's Voice Choir

## offertory response

*"Create in Me a Clean Heart"* (ELW 188 – Verse 1)

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

### Verse 1

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.

## offertory prayer *(stand)*

Let us pray.

**Gracious God, we cannot possibly repay the debt we owe to you for all that you have given us. We return now what we can for the life of your church, that all might be richly blessed through these gifts. Accept them for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## the great thanksgiving

The Lord be with you,  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts,  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should  
at all times and in all places give thanks and praise ...

We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### ***"Holy, Holy, Holy"***

(ELW Setting Ten, page 207)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

## communion

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray . . .

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### ***“Lamb of God”***

(ELW Setting Ten, page 208)

#### *Verse 1*

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.

#### *Verse 2*

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.

#### *Verse 3*

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## communion anthem

*“There is A Redeemer”*

by Keith Green

Kristin Young, vocal solo

## the distribution

## post-communion prayer *(stand)*

## blessing

## **sending hymn**

*"Let Streams of Living Justice"* (ELW 710)

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

Text © 1989 William Whitla.

### *Verse 1*

Let streams of living justice  
flow down upon the earth;  
give freedom's light to captives,  
let all the poor have worth.  
The hungry's hands are pleading,  
the workers claim their rights,  
the mourners long for laughter,  
the blinded seek for sight.  
Make liberty a beacon,  
strike down the iron pow'r;  
abolish ancient vengeance:  
proclaim your people's hour.

### *Verse 2*

For healing of the nations,  
for peace that will not end,  
for love that makes us lovers,  
God grant us grace to mend.  
Weave our varied gifts together;  
knit our lives as they are spun;  
on your loom of time enroll us  
till our thread of life is run.  
O great weaver of our fabric,  
bind church and world in one;  
dye our texture with your radiance,  
light our colors with your sun.

### *Verse 3*

Your city's built to music;  
we are the stones you seek;  
your harmony is language;  
we are the words you speak.  
Our faith we find in service,  
our hope in others' dreams,



our love in hand of neighbor;  
our homeland brightly gleams.  
Inscribe our hearts with justice;  
your way—the path untried;  
your truth—the heart of stranger;  
your life—the Crucified.

## **dismissal**

Go in Peace. Make room for God.  
Walk the way of kindness. Love with generosity.  
**Thanks be to God.**