



March 17, 2024 – 11:00 a.m Service of Worship ***Fifth Sunday in Lent***



God promises Jeremiah that a “new covenant” will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God’s heart through Christ and draws God’s love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God’s love with all the world.

Good Morning and Welcome!

Guests, we are so glad you are here. Please fill out the yellow “Connection Card” in the pew and place in the offering basket or give to the usher or the pastor as you leave. *Sound Assistance and staffed nursery available.*

[Online Worshiper Form \(Guests & Members\)](#)

SERVICE of WORSHIP

** Please stand as you are able*

Band-led worship with the Lord's Supper

*Worshippers who prefer lyrics with its music should use the black
Band-led Service binders. Music for songs that are not in the binders
is available from an usher.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE: "Jesus Messiah" (Chris Tomlin / Daniel Carson / Ed Cash / Jesse Reeves)
Praise Band

#39
Ric Birdsong, Director

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GATHERING SONG: Forever Reign (Jason Ingram / Ruben Morgan)

#61

You are good, You are good
When there's nothing good in me
You are love, You are love
On display for all to see
You are light, You are light
When the darkness closes in
You are hope, You are hope
You have covered all my sin

You are peace, You are peace
When my fear is crippling
You are true, You are true
Even in my wandering
You are joy, You are joy
You're the reason that I sing
You are life, You are life
In You, death has lost its sting

CHORUS

Oh, I'm running to Your arms
I'm running to Your arms
The riches of Your love
Will always be enough
Nothing compares to Your embrace
Light of the world forever reign
My heart will sing
No other name
Jesus, Jesus

[Repeat CHORUS]

INTERLUDE

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

Amen.

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

Amen.

SONG: "In Christ Alone " (Keith Getty, Stuart Townend)

#14

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

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.

THE PSALM:

Psalm 51:1-12

- 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.**

THE SECOND LESSON

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.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Bonnie Flowers

*THE GOSPEL

John 12:20-33

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.

SERMON

Pastor Kris Schroeder

Verse 1

I believe in the Son
I believe in the Risen One
I believe I overcome
By the power of His blood

Verse 2

I was dead in the grave
I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name
He rolled the stone away

Chorus 1

Amen amen
I'm alive I'm alive because He lives
Amen amen
Let my song join the one that never ends
(Because He lives)

Bridge

Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives ev'ry fear is gone
I know He holds my life
My future in His hand

Ending

Because He lives

***APOSTLES' CREED**

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 into hell. 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**

(After each petition)

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG “Your Grace Is Enough” (Matt Maher)

#38

Great is Your faithfulness, O God
You wrestle with the sinner's heart
You lead us by still waters and to mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

Great is Your love and justice, God
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

REFRAIN:

[Repeat REFRAIN twice]

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise, O God
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

DISTRIBUTION

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.**

SENDING

*BLESSING

*SENDING SONG: “Forever” (Chris Tomlin)

#18

Verse 1

Give thanks to the Lord
Our God and King
His love endures forever
For He is good He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

Pre-Chorus

Sing praise sing praise

Chorus

Forever God is faithful
Forever God is strong
Forever God is with us
Forever forever

Verse 2

With a mighty hand
And an outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

Verse 3

From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
And by the grace of God
We will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

*DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

MESSIAH'S PRAISE BAND

Ric Birdsong - Acoustic Guitar
Bob Davis - Electric Guitar
Stephen Strand - Bass Guitar
Gretchen Perry - Violin

Gerry Meyers - Vocal
Sarah McArthur - Vocal
Melanie Payne - Keyboards
Matt Saari - Drums

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WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Gary & Linda Heideman in honor of Gary's birthday today and by Chris Fossum in honor of son Adam's birthday on the 24th.

A NURSERY, staffed by Sarah Walker, is through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers, and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

ALL ARE INVITED to enjoy donuts, coffee, tea, and fellowship after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

TODAY IS THE LAST DAT TO SHARE YOUR FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE to be stuffed into the eggs used for the Mar. 24 Easter Egg Hunt for MLC children. Slips are in baskets in Fellowship Hall & Narthex.

LENTEN MID-WEEK WORSHIP CONCLUDES MARCH 20 at 12:00 and 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise designated, Lenten offerings will go to New Futures, Inc, of Huntsville and MLC's Kit Ministry.

EXTERIOR SPRING CLEAN UP & MULCHING IS THIS SATURDAY, March 23 at 9:00 a.m. Many "gloved" hands with rakes will make the task go quicker. Show up for however long you can serve!

NEXT SUNDAY IS PALM SUNDAY At the start of each service, you are able, please gather in the Fellowship Hall and Narthex and process with palms into the Sanctuary following the choir. Children will process with parents. **There will be an Easter Party/Egg Hunt at 9:45 a.m.**

MOES (Messiah Older Elementary School Students in Grades 3 - 5) will meet Sat., March 30 at 12 p.m. to help prepare MLC for Easter Sunday. Coordinator Whitney Morse has activities planned out for through May. For details visit <https://www.smores.com/n/cfwn8>.

EASTER IS MARCH 31 Highlights: Worship Assistants are needed for all areas. Please RSVP for the Breakfast Fundraiser if you plan to attend. Order Forms for Easter Lily(s) are at the Welcome Center. Scan the QR codes on next page. A photo booth for directory photos is also planned.

MLC RUMMAGE AND PLANT SALE is Saturday, April 6, 2024. Now is a great time to start sorting through those closets and attics for gently used items to donate! There will also be over a hundred plants available. If you have plants to donate, please mark them with their name/variety. Volunteers are also needed for staging, pricing, and for the day of the sale. POC Paulette McNamara

KIT MINISTRY ITEM - Dark Towels (52 x 27) **FOOD PANTRY** - Peanut Butter & Jelly (No Glass)

<u>Pastor</u>	Kristine Schroeder	<u>Acolytes</u>	Jude Williams (11:00)
<u>Director of Music</u>	Randall Fields	<u>Lector</u>	Jutta DeMarsh (11:00)
<u>Organist/Accompanist</u>	Melanie Payne	<u>Ushers</u>	Tom & Paulette McNamara (11:00)
<u>Director of Outreach Ministries</u>	Claire Strand	<u>Altar Guild</u>	Karen Arnold (11:00)
<u>Communication & Tech Director</u>	Meredith Kilby	<u>Sound/Stream Team</u>	
<u>Office Managers</u>	Bobbey Huwaldt		Danny Hopkin, Stephen Strand 11:00)
	Meredith Kilby	<u>Flower Guild</u>	Linda Heideman
<u>Nursery Attendant</u>	Sarah Walker		

Pastor Kris Schroeder

Email: pastor.kris@mlutheran.org

Pastor Cell Phone: 480-338-6519

Pastor's Office Hours are M-TH

MLC staff will never directly solicit you to purchase gift-cards or withdraw money for "sensitive matters,"

****CHURCH CALENDAR****

Sunday, March 17

- 8:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for All
- 9:45 a.m. - Band Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. - Instrumental Ensemble
- 5:00 p.m. - Jr/Sr Youth
- 6:30 p.m. - Notabella (Parish Hall)

**These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org*

Tuesday, March 19

- 9:00 a.m. - Comforters
- 5:45 p.m. - Youth & Education Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 20

- 12:00 p.m. - Lenten Service of Worship
- 5:00 p.m. - Confirmation Class
- 5:30 p.m. - Wednesday Night Dinner - Soup Supper
- 6:00 p.m. - Cherub Choir
- 6:00 p.m. - Seraph Choir
- 7:00 p.m. - *Lenten Service of Worship
- 7:45 p.m. - Messiah Choir

Thursday, March 21

- 6:30 p.m. - Kit Ministry
- 7:00 p.m. - Church Council Meeting

Saturday, March 23

- 7:15 a.m. - Serving at House of the Harvest
- 9:00 a.m. - Pine Straw Mulching/Spring Cleanup

Sunday, March 24 - Palm Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. - Service of Worship: Palm Sunday w/the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - Easter Party/Egg Hunt for the Children - Parish Hall
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for Adults
- 11:00 a.m. - *Service of Worship: Palm Sunday w/the Lord's Supper
- 6:30 p.m. - Notabella

**These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org*

LOOKING AHEAD

March 28 - Maundy Thursday Worship (with Lord's Supper) at Noon & 7:00 p.m.

March 29 - Good Friday Tenebrae Service of Darkness at 7:00 p.m.

March 30 - Youth & MOES Meet & Prep for Easter Sunday

March 31 - Resurrection/Easter Sunday

April 6 - MLC Rummage Sale and Plant Sale, Too!

April 21 - Celebration of Mission & Retirement of Claire Strand

June 3 - 9 - Messiah Music Camp -

Attendance:

March 3 - Online - 44 March 10 - 8:30 a.m. - 63, 11:00 a.m. - 74

SignUp Genius



Easter Breakfast



Easter Flowers



Online Giving

