

SUNDAY - APRIL 6, 2025 -9:00 AM



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*

MINISTERS
PASTOR

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
JOHN TWITON

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, April 6, 2025 | 5th Sunday in Lent | 9:00 AM

(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C = Congregation**)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

You are encouraged to use the time during the Prelude for quiet reflection and preparing for worship.

WELCOMING WORD *Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.*

OPENING HYMN: #522 As We Gather at Your Table

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L - Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C - Amen.

L - Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C - Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

C - we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L - In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C - Amen

GREETING

L: 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.

+ **KYRIE pg. 138**

+ **HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 140** *"This is the feast..."*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Creator God,

C: you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SONGS: *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*
I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰ The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow, I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have

made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

+LENTEN SENTENCE (pg. 142)

(sing) Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

L: The Gospel according to John, Chapter 12,

C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL: John 12:1-8

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

L: The Gospel of the Lord

+C: Praise to you, O Christ

CHOIR ANTHEM: "O Man, Thy Grief and Sin Bemoan"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE Pastor John Twiton

+HYMN #754 *Jesus, the Very Thought of You*

+NICENE CREED pg. 104

THE PRAYERS pg. 143

(As the leader concludes each petition with the words:

"Lord in your mercy..." The people respond: Hear our prayer.")

SHARING OF THE PEACE

BENEVOLENCE

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG - By His Wounds

by ELC Praise Team

OFFERTORY - #182 *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

MEAL

+ Offering Prayer: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen

+The Great Thanksgiving pg. 144

+Words of Institution

+ The Lord's Prayer pg. 145 (right hand column)

Communion Hymn: #666 *What Wondrous Love Is This* (vs. 1,2,3)

Prayer after Communion: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

SENDING

COMMUNITY WORD

+BLESSING

L: May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again.

C: Amen.

+HYMN # 805 *Lead On, O King Eternal*

+DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***"I am God's child, deserving of love and respect,
and God will use me to change the world."***

WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 6, 2025

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Psalm 143, Prayer for Deliverance

Tuesday, Ephesians 2:1-10, From Death to Life

Wednesday, Matthew 22:22-33, About the Resurrection

Thursday, 1 Samuel 16:11-13, The Anointing of David

Friday, Psalm 31:9=16, Prayer for Mercy

Saturday, Mark 10:32-34, Third Passion Prediction

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” — John 12:5

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary’s extravagant act of anointing Jesus’ feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

- In what ways does Mary’s extravagance speak to you or make you uneasy? (John 12:1-8)
- If you prayed, “Restore our fortunes,” what would you be asking for? (Psa 126:4)
- What is the connection between knowing the power of Jesus’ resurrection and sharing his suffering? (Phil 3:10)

PRAY: Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BLESS: The Spirit of the triune God bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. Amen.