

MOUNT OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship - Minneapolis Campus

Fourth Sunday in Lent - March 30, 2025

Liturgists: 9 and 11am Pastor Cieslik, 10am Pastor Olson Popp

The Prelude

Meditations on the Cross

Handbell Ensemble

Bill Ingram

(please stand when invited)

The Processional Hymn

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

324:1, 2, 4

In the cross of Christ I glory,
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo, it glows with peace and joy.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.

The Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen. *(please sing)*

The Confession of Sins and Assurance of Forgiveness

Pastor: 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.

Congregation: Amen. *(please sing)*

Pastor: St. John writes, “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:8-9). And so we gather to confess our sin, not because we fear God thinks us unworthy, but because we trust God’s promise to receive us always in mercy and grace. Let us therefore pray together with confidence...


Congregation: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage 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.** *(please sing)*

Pastor: Almighty God, in mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ, God gives the power to become children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. All this is promised in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.


Congregation: Amen. *(please sing)*

The Kyrie


Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation: 

Lord, have mer - cy.

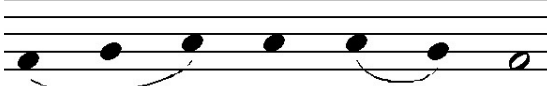
Pastor: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Congregation:** 

Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Congregation:** 


Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation: 

Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Congregation: 

A - men.

The Hymn of Lent

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

335:1

Jesus, keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain;
free to all, a healing stream flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

The Salutation and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you. *(please sing)*

Pastor and Congregation: Dear God, help us confess where we fall short, confident of your love, mercy, and forgiveness.

In Jesus' name, **Amen.** *(please sing)*

(please be seated)

The Gradual Hymn

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

608:1

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.

See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.

"Come home, come home!

You who are weary, come home."

Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

The Scripture Reading

Luke 18:9-14 - Pharisee and Tax Collector

Glory to you, O Lord. *(please stand as you are able and sing)*

Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Praise to you, O Christ. *(please sing)*

The 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. 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.

(please be seated)

The Welcome

Pastor Kalland

The Prayers of Remembrance

The Offertory Anthem

This Is My Father's World

Anna Laura Page

Handbell Ensemble
Victoria Battle, flute

The Offertory Prayer *(please stand as you are able)*

Create in Me a Clean Heart

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.

(please be seated)

The Pulpit Hymn

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

773:1, 2

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
when my life is almost gone,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

The Sermon

Pastor Kalland

*Why Lutheran?
Because God Loves Sinners*

The Closing Hymn *(please stand as you are able)*

God of Grace and God of Glory

705:4

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.

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.

The Sending Prayer

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Benediction and Threefold Amen

(please pause for a moment of silent prayer)

The Postlude

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

David Cherwien

March Altar Flower Dedications

In memory of Jerry Bowers, by the Bowers and Illies families

In honor of Steve Bundul's heavenly birthday, by his family

In loving memory of Joan Eckberg on the anniversary of her
birth month, by her husband Paul Johnson

In memory of Jim Mossey on his birthday, by his grandchildren Will, Anna,
Molly, Grace, Olivia, Jacob, and Luke

In memory of Jim Schwanebeck, by Linda Schwanebeck

In memory of Brett Shelstad on the anniversary of his 54th birthday on March 9th,
by the Gibson, Shelstad, and Matvick Families

In appreciation of the Mount Olivet Pastoral staff

In appreciation of Pastor Kalland

In celebration of Herb and Mary's wedding, by Deb and Greg

In celebration of our mother Pearl Amundson's 99th birthday on March 22nd,
by her family

If you would like to donate to the Mount Olivet Flower Fund please contact Jody
Barbee at jbarbee@mtolivet.org or 952.767.1501.

Pastors

David J. Lose, Senior Pastor

Kurt P. Kalland, Monica M. Hammersten,

Mark J. Dixon, Rebecca W. Freeman, Benjamin M. Cieslik,

Jeni F. Grangaard, Jenna L. Olson Popp

Worship and Music Staff

Beverly Claflin, Director of Worship and Music

Jordan Buchholtz, Principal Organist and Director of Handbells

Sophie Norman, Assistant Director of Handbells

Mount Olivet General Fund

Thank you for your generous gift to support the many ministries of Mount Olivet.



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