



**Lent II:
Workers in the Vineyard**

'Fairness' is a tricky concept to humans, but perhaps not to our extravagant God who loves without end. How can redefining what is 'fair' help us in finding our way?

During Lent, we will be using Marty Haugen's Now the Feast and Celebration setting.

Today's Cantor:
Duane Horn

As Jesus did,
we welcome children
of all ages as integral members
of the body of Christ, and
we welcome the sounds and activity
that accompany them!

Thank you
Parents/Grandparents
for bringing your children
to worship!

Welcome!

In the midst of a confusing, complicated world, how do we find our way? There is too much along the road demanding our energy, creating stress, and muddling up our journey. How do we find our own individuals ways, every day? And how do we find our way together, during this time of transition as the faith community called 'Easter?' Join us over the next many months while the Gospel of Matthew is our guide. Matthew will teach us how to watch for signs of the redefining, myth-busting, dream-catching power of God. Together we will work to find our way.

For families of children 5 and under, you are invited to find a Spark Box outside the worship space for your child to play. More wiggles? The nursery is available for 3 and under.

Thank you for joining us today. We welcome you! You are also invited to take an Announcements sheet here at Easter, or visit easter.org for events & activities (Announcement sheets are posted weekly under Events & News).



Lent II: Workers in the Vineyard

March 17, 2019
8:30 & 10 a.m.

Easter Lutheran Church

"to grow in faith and carry on the work of Jesus Christ"

Prelude: *"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"* - Arr. Hobby

Ben Kornelis, organ

Greetings and Announcements

Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Congregation: Amen.

P: God of grace, to you our hearts are open. We can hide no secrets from you. Free our hearts from sin and send your Spirit to refresh our minds. We want to completely love you. We wish to follow your ways.

C: Amen.

P: Let us stand together in our brokenness, asking God to help us find our way. Loving God,

C: forgive us. We admit that we have forgotten our way. We have been distracted, selfish, and unkind. We have forgotten to care for others and the earth. We stick to the familiar paths of ignorance and greed, rather than building a new path of love. We are truly sorry. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, refresh us, and guide us so that we may find delight in your Word and walk in your ways. Amen.

P: Our God, who abounds in love, makes us alive in Christ over and over again. You have been forgiven by the grace of Jesus. May God strengthen your hearts and minds as you work to find God's way.

C: Amen

The Sharing of the Peace is a way of demonstrating hospitality and grace with others. Please understand if some people choose not to shake hands while sharing the Peace for health reasons, but simply greet you with a smile.

The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day of the week, the day of Christ's resurrection

Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Gathering Hymn: "As We Gather at Your Table"

Hymnal #522

All hymns can be found in the red book under the chairs

Greeting:

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

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Kyrie

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Assistant: Congregation:

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have
mer - cy.

Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all... (Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)

Assistant: Congregation:

Help, save and de - fend us, O God.
A - - - men.

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Canticle of Praise: omitted during Lent

Prayer of the Day

God of grace, be with us as we find our way. Your kingdom is full of more love and more justice than we imagine. Help us to learn from your compassion. Lead us in redefining justice. In your holy name we pray, Amen.

Anthem: "O Love" - Hagenburg

Easter Choir

Word

Children's Message

JAM Kids! You can go to the Fellowship Hall now to join your Small Group. Have fun learning about Jesus!

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Lesson: Psalm 16: 5-8 (NRSV)

The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

I keep the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Congregation:

Re - turn to God with all your heart, the
Source of grace and mer - cy; Come seek the ten - der
faith - ful - ness of God.

Gospel: Matthew 20: 1-16 (NRSV)

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

L: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Brandon Newton

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.

"Father" is a specific and accessible image of God that Jesus gave us. Jesus did not limit God to this image. References to God as Creator, Parent, Mother, Counselor can be equally as helpful and valid.

Another translation of 'catholic church' is 'church universal'

Prayers of Intercession

Each prayer petition will conclude:

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

Congregation: **Hear our prayer.**

The offering is an act of worship. We give ourselves, our time and resources as a symbol of our love and appreciation for God's grace, and our investment in God's work through this church.

Meal

Offering of Gifts

Offering Hymn: *"We Give Thee But Thine Own"*

Hymnal #686

Presentation: *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

Hymnal #885

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

Offering Prayer

God of all vision, we thank you for these gifts that we now return to you.
We lift up our worship, our brokenness, our relationships, our callings, and our hope to you. Use Easter Lutheran Church to be a powerful presence of your grace. In your loving name we pray, Amen.

Text-to-Give

Simply send a text message to **651-419-3775** with the amount you would like to contribute (example: 25). Within a few minutes, you'll be sent a text with a link to register. We hope you enjoy this new way to share your generosity, and thank you for supporting the ministries of Easter Lutheran Church.



All are invited to receive these gifts of God.

Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Children who have received instruction are welcome to commune.

Communion today is at the table.

Grape juice is available in the tray and gluten-free wafers are at the back of the sanctuary near the sound booth.

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And also with

Presider: you. *Congregation:* Lift up your hearts. *Presider:* We

Presider: lift them to the Lord. *Congregation:* Let us give

Congregation: thanks to the Lord our God. It is

Presider: right to give God thanks and praise.

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P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Congregation:

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of five lines of music. The first line is in 4/8 time and contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and'. The second line is in 3/8 time and contains 'might;_ Heav - en and earth are filled with your'. The third line is in 6/8 time and contains 'glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the'. The fourth line is in 4/8 time and contains 'One who comes in your name._ Ho - san - na in the'. The fifth line is in 4/8 time and contains 'high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!'. The lyrics are aligned with the notes on the staff.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might;_ Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name._ Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

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Words of Institution

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.

Distribution

"Lamb of God"

Congregation: *Congregation or assistant:*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

Congregation:

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,

Final time: Cong. or assistant:

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:

take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

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"I Come with Joy"

Hymnal #482

"We Come to the Hungry Feast"

Hymnal #479

Prayer after Communion

Did you pick up your Announcements?

The Announcements tell you what's going on at Easter in the coming weeks. They can be found at the doors to the sanctuary. Check it out!

Visit easter.org for details

Easter Lutheran Church

Ministers: All the members of Easter

Pastors:
Lamont Koerner, Brandon Newton,
Steve Thomason, Angela Denker

4200 Pilot Knob Road (Hill)
4545 Pilot Knob Road (Lake)
Phone: 651-452-3680
easter.org

to grow in faith and
carry on the work
of Jesus Christ

Sending

Blessing

Sending Song: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" stanza 1

Hymnal #325

Dismissal

Postlude: "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" - arr. Carter

Ben Kornelis, piano