

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 30-31, 2019

SATURDAY AT 4:30 PM & SUNDAY AT 9:00 AM

***THIS IS CHRIST'S CHURCH; THERE IS A PLACE  
FOR YOU HERE.***



## ***OUR MISSION IS:***

***TO LOVE, SERVE, AND STRENGTHEN ALL PEOPLE IN CHRIST JESUS.***

**OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
300 Logan Street, MERRILL, WISCONSIN  
715-536-5813      [www.oslcelca.org](http://www.oslcelca.org)  
Reverend Pat Schutz, Pastor  
Jamie Diestelhorst, Youth & Family Director  
Bea Lebal, Organist**

## **THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO KNOW...**

**WELCOME** to Our Saviour's. We are glad you have come to join us to give praise and thanks to God, to hear God's word to guide us in love and to receive the Lord's Supper to strengthen us in faith. May you be blessed to be a blessing.

**OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH** in Merrill, Wisconsin is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), a fellowship of churches from around North America who hold to basic Christian beliefs and practices. If you would like to learn more about Our Saviour's or the ELCA, please call our church office or visit the ELCA website at [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org), our synod website at [www.ecsw.org](http://www.ecsw.org), or our website at [www.oslcelca.org](http://www.oslcelca.org).

If you are **visiting** us, please sign one of the **Visitor Cards** in the pews and our **guest book**. We invite you to make yourself known to the ushers. If you are looking for a church family, we invite you to consider Our Saviour's as your church home.

**"WILLIAMS PERSONAL SOUND SYSTEM"** is available from the ushers for those who have hearing impairments.

**RESTROOMS** are located in the hallway between the staircase and the narthex. There are changing tables in these bathrooms.

**WORSHIP HELPS** include hearing assist devices and large print bulletins. Please see an usher to use them. Also, if you are not able to come forward for communion, the communion servers would be glad to come to you in your pew. Please let an usher know you would prefer this.

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### **ELCA Vision Statement**

**Claimed** by God's grace for the sake of the world, we are a new creation through God's living Word by the power of the Holy Spirit;

**Gathered** by God's grace for the sake of the world, we will live among God's faithful people, hear God's Word, and share Christ's supper;

**Sent** by God's grace for the sake of the world, we will proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, serve all people following the example of our Lord Jesus, and strive for justice and peace in all the world

**March 30-31, 2019**  
**The Fourth Sunday Of Lent**  
**ELW, Setting 8      Holy Communion**  
**P=Presider   A=Assistant   C=Congregation   ↓=Sunday only**

Welcome to worship. We are glad you are here! If you are interested in joining Our Saviour's, please speak to Pr. Pat following service or throughout the week (715-536-5813 or 920-535-0014) for information.

**GATHERING**

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P      Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new.

**C      Amen.**

P      In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P      God at the margins,

**C      We have wandered far from your home; again and again, we lose our way. We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the sinful deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen.**

P      Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the sake of + Christ, leading you from death into life.

**C      Amen.**

\*GREETING

- P 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

ELW Setting 10

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray. God of compassion,
- C **you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC: Sunday—Choir, “Jesus Our Song in the Night”**

**FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12**

A A reading from Joshua, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter

<sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

- A The word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 32**

- <sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!
- <sup>2</sup>**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile**
- <sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.
- <sup>4</sup>**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**
- <sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- <sup>6</sup>**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup>**“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

<sup>10</sup>**Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;  
**shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

## **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

A A reading from 2 Corinthians, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**ELW Setting 10**

## **\*GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

P The holy gospel according to Luke, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>“There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when

he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/SERMON Pastor Pat Schutz

HYMN OF THE DAY *God, When Human Bonds Are Broken*

ELW 603

### \*APOSTLES' CREED

A Let us confess our faith together using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C **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.**

## \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*After each petition*

A Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

## \*PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

P We share God's peace with one another.

## OFFERING HYMN

*Now the Silence*

ELW 460

## \*OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

**C Generous God, you feed us with the harvest of the land, and you provide for our every need. Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor, and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. Amen.**

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

### DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

**C 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

A Christ has prepared the feast. Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

## COMMUNION

**ELW Setting 10**

### \*BLESSING

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C Amen.**

### \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray. Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now in the power of your Spirit to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**C Amen.**

**\*PRAYER FOR REVIVAL IN OUR MINISTRY**

**ALL** O God, you have called your people to be the Body of Christ in this community, and witnesses of your presence in the world. Fill us with your Holy Spirit. Send down the fire of your love upon us, that we might draw others to you, as you have sent us to do. Anoint us with a deep compassion for those who do not know your love. Send revival on your church in this place, that all may come to experience the difference God's grace and love in Christ makes for all people and creation. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

**\*BLESSING**

**P** God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, + bless you and bring you to life everlasting.

**C** Amen.

**SENDING SONG**

*My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

**ELW 763**

**DISMISSAL**

**A** Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**