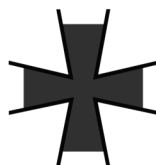


Third Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024



MEMORIAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Third Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: “Celtic Grace” - Susan Geschke

Memorial Handbells

Welcome

Gathering Hymn: “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” ELW #324

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.

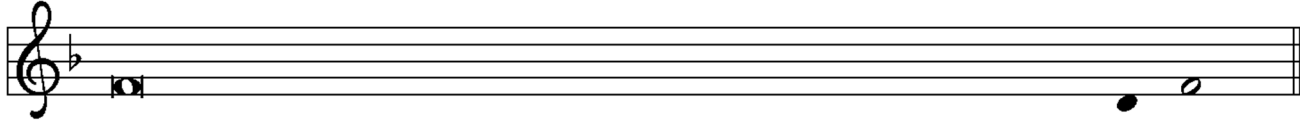
Here is a flood of grace:
Out of love for the whole world,
God draws near to us,
breaks every snare of sin,
washes away our wrongs,
and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Kyrie



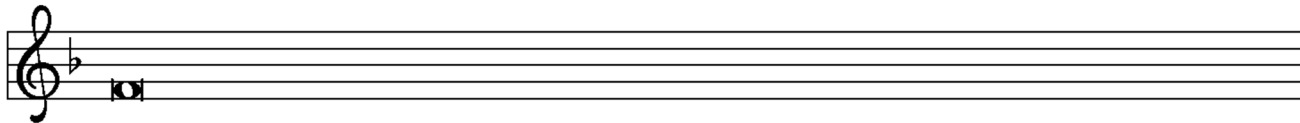
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



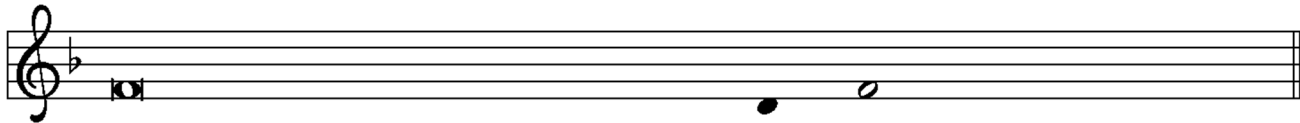
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



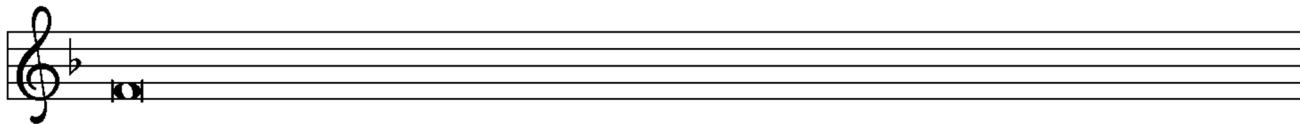
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



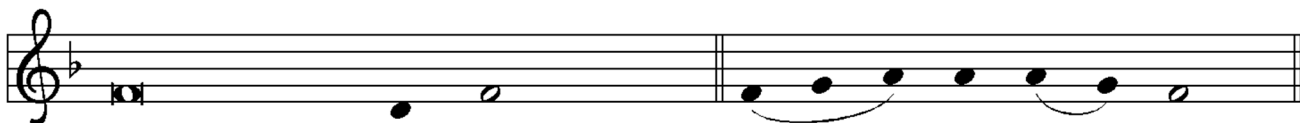
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



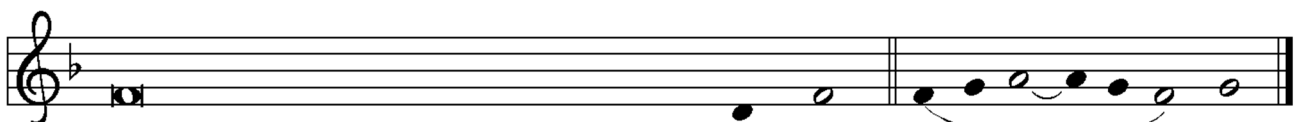
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading - Exodus 20:1-17

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: “Here at the Peak” - words by Anna Strickland, music by Lowell Mason

Please see insert

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

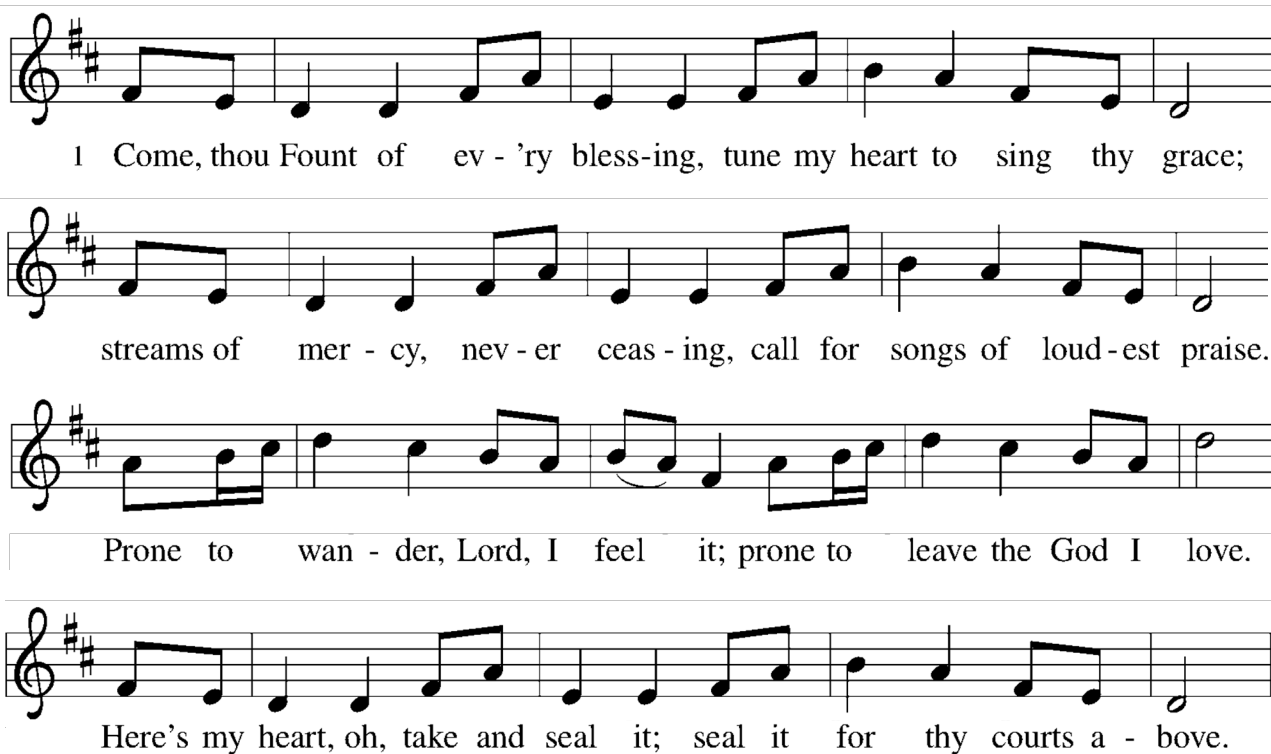
²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire

wisdom,²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children at Heart Sermon

Gospel Acclamation



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22

The Gospel according to John
Glory to You, O Lord

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “Canticle of the Turning” ELW #723

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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

Music Voluntary: “As the Deer” - Susan Geschke
Memorial Handbells

*As the deer panteth for the water so my soul longeth after Thee.
You alone are my heart’s desire and I long to worship Thee.*

*You alone are my strength, my shield, to You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart’s desire and I long to worship Thee.*

*You’re my friend and You are my brother even though You are a King.
I love You more than any other, so much more than anything.*

*You alone are my strength, my shield, to You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart’s desire and I long to worship Thee.*

Offering 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.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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.

Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Communion Hymns

"Lamb of God" - ELW Setting 3

"Holy God, Holy and Glorious" - ELW #637

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Prayer after Communion

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.

Blessing

Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and + give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways" ELW #772

Dismissal

Go in peace. Journey with Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "*Larghetto*" - Johann Franck
Lois Theesfield, organ

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

*Please keep Linda Mjelde and family in your prayers
following the death of her husband, +Gregg Mjelde*

*Please keep Lyndsey DeVos and family in your prayers
following the death of her mother, +Sheila Collingwood*

Please keep the family of +Bob Klopping in your prayers following his death

Please keep the family of +Ernie Ruhde in your prayers following his death

Please keep the family of +Dick Settle in your prayers following his death

Wayne Johnson	Pr. Marcia Kisner	Janice Hartz
Brett Anderson <i>brother of Shelley Ludeman</i>	Marlene Waddell <i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>	Jackie Byers <i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>
Steve Halverson	Sandy Muesburger <i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>	Donna See
Troy Vincent	John Bass <i>son-in-law of Ron & Gloria Jacobson</i>	Norma Dannan <i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
Kati Stieler <i>sister-in-law of Dan Stieler</i>	Carol Vincent	Jami Tharp
Johann Thiel	Cassie Harrell	Fred Samuelson
Paul Johnson	Jean Smith	Jaylee Bartleson
Mike Neal	Ellie Lynch	George Forsyth
Kathy Lynn Johnson	Janet Jacques	Janeen Driscoll
Christina King	Easton Farrington	Julie Sutherland
Sherry Kluever		Jan Cook
Kim Elliott		
Marsha Kane		

Hospitalizations: *If you are in the hospital or are going to be in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf. Unless directed otherwise, your name will be placed on the prayer list and included in electronic notifications.*

Announcements

TODAY: Ice Skating with Memorial

All ages are invited to come out and join the fun from 2-4 pm this afternoon at the ISU/Ames Ice Arena! No experience necessary. Bring your own ice skates (or rent a pair for \$2.50) or relax with others on non-slippery ground in the Igloo.

Faith & Family Day with the Iowa Wolves March 17—Tickets Sent

We have a group of nearly 30 signed up to spend an afternoon at the Iowa Wolves Faith & Family Day on March 17! **Important: if you signed up and have *not* received and accepted your tickets via text, please contact Emily Dalthorp ASAP.** Please note that attendees will need to provide their own transportation to Wells Fargo Arena. More information on seating should be in your ticket information. If you haven't turned in your payment already (\$17 per ticket for attendees over the age of 2), please bring this to the church office or drop it in the secure box outside Emily's office. Please make checks out to "Memorial Lutheran Church". Thank you!

Mid-week Lenten Services

As we continue in this time of Lent, Mid-week Lenten services will be held at 7:00 PM each Wednesday of Lent, with a light supper beforehand at 6:00 PM.

Following the way of Jesus: A Lenten Holy Land journey | Sumud

Join us on Sundays during Lent for weekly videos featuring reflections from Palestinian pastors and leaders on the theology of Sumud and its connections to the way of Jesus as a way of justice for all people of the Holy Land. You are invited to explore the Holy Land virtually with us after Sunday worship services in the coming weeks. You can view a promotional trailer for the series by using the QR code or by going to the link listed here:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YssbcGD1cU4>

Calling all Prayer Warriors

Memorial is developing a Prayer Team and is looking for individuals that would like to commit to praying for prayer requests as they arise. Prayer requests will be shared with the group primarily through email. If you would be interested in serving in this way please contact Pastor Kathleen.

Have you designated your Thrivent Choice Dollars? A special message from Jim Pappas of Memorial's Thrivent Choice Committee:

*"Hey Memorial, just a reminder: if you haven't already designated your Thrivent Choice Dollars, the deadline of **March 31, 2024** is fast approaching. Also, we are looking for new committee members! Please see me if you would like more details. Thank you for your consideration!"*

Donations Needed for Crisis in Middle East

A word from our wider church body: *"Due to escalating conflict in Gaza and Israel, a severe humanitarian crisis is rapidly unfolding in the Holy Land. The ELCA has a longstanding relationship with partners in the region, including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and Augusta Victoria Hospital. Lutheran Disaster Response has a history of providing support for our partners and will be prepared to answer calls for assistance when the time comes.*

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to this and other disasters, whenever and wherever they strike. Gifts designated for "Middle East Crisis" will be restricted to and used in full (100%) for those affected by disasters in the region."

Please go here to donate: <https://community.elca.org/middle-east-crisis>

A Special Note Regarding Tithe.ly Fees

We so appreciate all that give using the online/mobile giving platform Tithe.ly! If you haven't already, please consider including Tithe.ly processing fees as part of your one-time and recurring gifts. To do this, simply check the "Cover Fees" box when setting up your gift. If you have already set up a recurring gift and would like to start including the fees, you'll need to delete this gift and set it up again with "Cover Fees" checked.

Important Reminder Regarding Giving to Special Projects

We so appreciate gifts received for special projects such as "A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place" (heating and cooling) and "Drive for the Drive" (pavement). If you would like to support these projects, please make sure to specify the project name with your gift. This ensures that your gift goes directly to the project and helps us keep an accurate record of funds received / still needed. Thank you for your support!

Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/give> or by scanning the QR code. ***Did you know?*** In Tithe.ly, you can select to give to the General Fund, A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place (heating and cooling project), or the Drive for the Drive pavement project!



Save the Date

TODAY: Ice Skating with Memorial

When: Sunday, March 3, 2:00—4:00 PM

Where: Ames/ISU Ice Arena

Mid-week Lenten Worship & Supper

When: Wednesday, March 6, supper at 6:00 PM followed by worship at 7:00 PM

Mid-week Lenten Worship & Supper

When: Wednesday, March 13, supper at 6:00 PM followed by worship at 7:00 PM

Faith & Family Day with the Iowa Wolves

*Important notice: Tickets for those who signed up have been sent via text. If you have **not** received and accepted your tickets, please contact Emily Dalthorp ASAP.*

When: Sunday, March 17, 3:00 PM

Where: Wells Fargo Arena

Mid-week Lenten Worship & Supper

When: Wednesday, March 20, supper at 6:00 PM followed by worship at 7:00 PM

Memorial Lutheran Church
701 11th Street, Nevada, IA 50201
Phone 515-382-6509
pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org
emily@mlcnevada.org
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@memluthnevada



Memorial Lutheran

Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
Mike Coverdale, Custodian