


10:45 Celebration Worship Service



Unless a
grain of wheat
falls into the
earth and dies,
it remains
just a single grain

JOHN 12:24

March 17, 2024



Welcome to all, especially visitors! It is no accident that you are here! We've been praying for you. We believe God has brought you here and wants to touch your life. You are among friends.

- ◆ If you are visiting, please sign in on our guest sign in sheet in the Narthex Hallway.
- ◆ ***At our 10:45 service:*** words for the hymns are projected on the screens at the front of the sanctuary.
- ◆ ***For the hearing impaired:*** hearing devices are available in the Narthex outside the sanctuary.
- ◆ ***Restrooms:*** To locate a restroom, exit the back of the worship area. Take two rights and proceed down the hallway. At the stairs, go left. The Women's Room is on the left, the Men's Room is straight ahead.
- ◆ ***Holy Communion at ELC:*** We welcome to the Lord's Table all the baptized people of God. Gluten free options and grape juice are available.
- ◆ ***Nursery:*** We have a fully staffed nursery for infants through children six years of age or children of any age with special needs. The nursery opens at 10:30 AM on Sunday morning for our 10:45 AM worship service. The nursery is equipped with a pager system to help parents feel at ease.
- ◆ ***Photo Release Form:*** Our 10:45 service is live-streamed to our Facebook Page and YouTube Channel. All children coming to the front for the Children's Message or Holy Communion will be visible on the live-feed. If you do not want your child's image online, please do not send them up to the front. If you are ok with it, please fill out a Photo Release Form located on the sign-up table in the Narthex and put it in the offering box.

***Criminal Background Checks have been done for all of our Nursery & Children's Ministry Volunteers.**

March 17, 2024 Fifth Sunday in Lent

God promises Jeremiah that a “new covenant” will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God’s heart through Christ and draws God’s love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God’s love with all the world

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY SHARING

Please stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus

C Amen.

P Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Holy God,

C 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.

P 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

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Come, Now Is the Time to Worship

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

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

P Let us pray. O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 5: 5-10

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

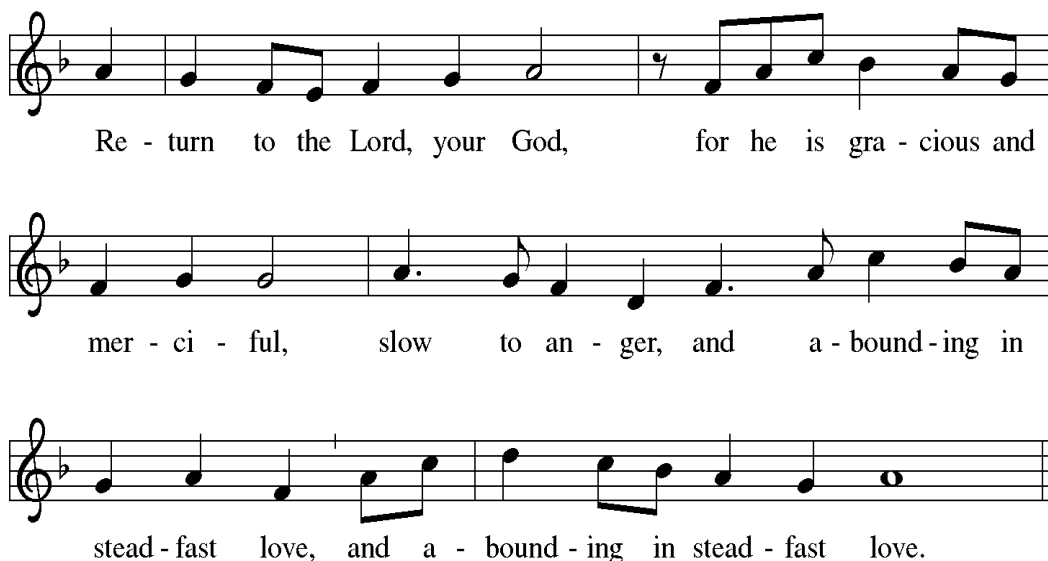
⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and

mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in

stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL

John 12: 20-33

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

P The holy gospel according to St. John the 12th Chapter
C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P The gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Alan Smith

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP

After the children’s message, the children are welcomed to be a part of the Children’s Worship that takes place in our Sunday School Room #105. Children return from Children’s Worship during the sharing of the peace.

SERMON

Pastor D

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Seed That on Earth Is Dying

ELW 330

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, 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



Members of Our Congregation: Frances Betts, Bobbi Biesecker, Allen Carlson, Bob & Polly Cave, Don Cool, Jeff Geesaman, Al Good, Ellen Hess and Judy Reed

Friends of the Congregation: , Vicky Chamberlain, Lisa Ciao, Paul & Rebecca Corderman, Jim Gleason, Howard Held, Greg Hovis, Tyler Kreiter & Family, Greg Kugler, Ken Lemon, Diane Martz, Larry Mohar, Jean Rodgers, Dan & Sebastian Rovelstad, Barbara Sarlouis,, Jim Smith, Marianne Smits, Regina Spagnoletti, Susan Spagnoletti, Gene & Sally Weagley and Alicia Wood

(Names will be posted for a month. If you would like to have them on longer, please contact the church office.)

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please be seated.

ANTHEM

Adoramus te Christe

Palestrina

Please stand

MEAL

A LITANY OF GENEROSITY

Let us give thanks to God
for his gifts so generously given to us,
and for the blessings we are called to share.

**For recognizing that all things come from you,
for remembering that we are stewards of your gifts,
for wisely using the resources entrusted to us.**
We offer ourselves to you, O God.

**For rejoicing in the beauty of creation,
for the care of your world,
for sharing the fruits of creation equally among all people.**
We offer ourselves to you, O God.

**For encountering the joy of giving,
for humility in putting others' needs before our own,
for embracing the privilege of sharing in the ministry to the saints.**
We offer ourselves to you, O God.

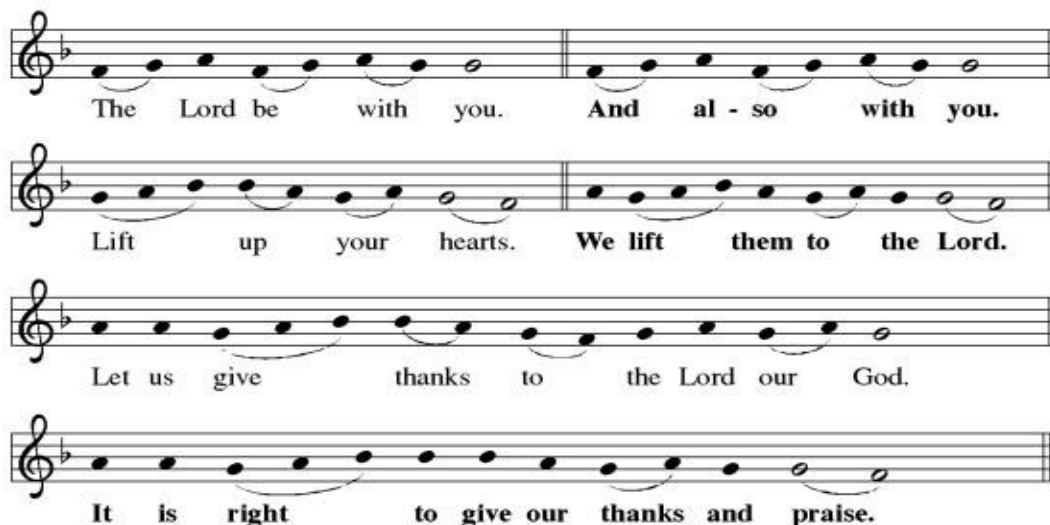
**For courage in offering sacrificial generosity,
for giving to be an act of worship,
for grace in offering our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.**
We offer ourselves to you, O God.

**For all financial gifts offered to your Church,
for freely giving as we have received,
for giving and not counting the cost.**
We offer ourselves to you, O God.

**For living a generous life,
for our actions to point beyond themselves,
for our generosity to be an expression of love and gratitude.**
We offer ourselves to you, O God.

*Thank you for your continuous support of ELC ministries. Your generosity is making a difference. Please place your offering in one of the boxes at the entrance to the Sanctuary.
You are a blessing!*

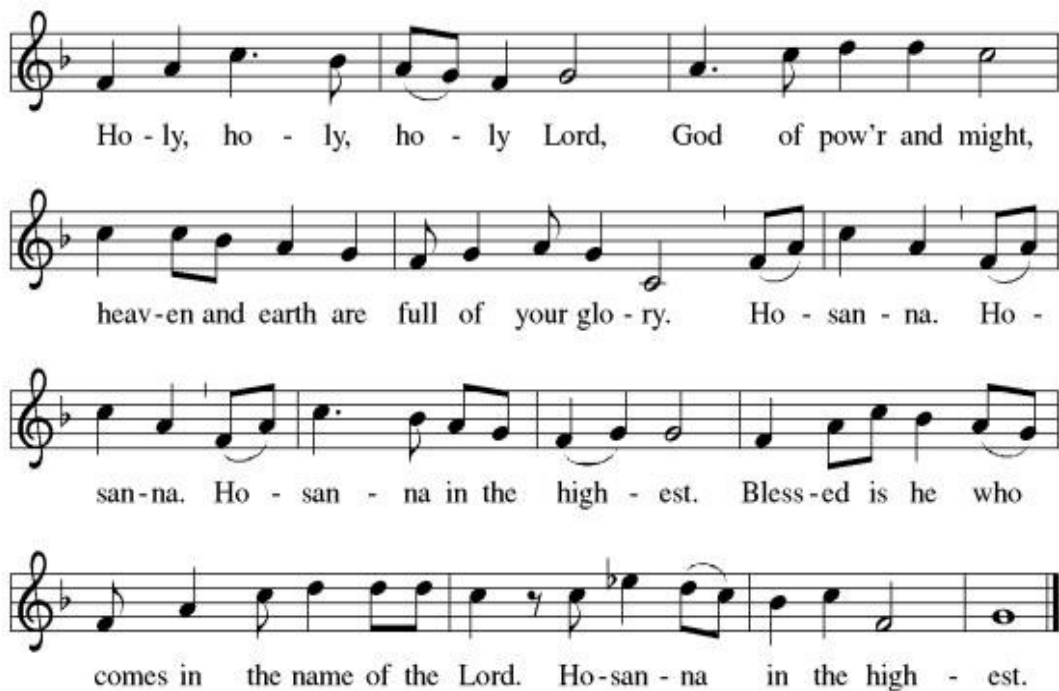
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE



PREFACE

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



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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

P Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

Please be seated

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God

Please stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. 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.

C Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

ELW 338

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share your bread.

C Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
Acolyte	Craig Dirr
Altar Guild	David Hollinger & Wayne Caouette
Children's Message	Alan Smith
Children's Worship	Linda Beaver
Communion Asst.'s	Drew Reed & Harry Morningstar
Flower Delivery	Ellie Bauerle
Greeters	Linda Beaver (Welcome) Shirley Clapsaddle (Choir)
Lector	Robert Allison
Ushers	Team C
Audio Visual	Brian Walker & Olivia McDonald



*In memory of Ellie's parents
David & Eleanor Pfersch
& her brother Paul
By Ellie*



Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Staff:

Rev. Dennis Beaver: Pastor;
Rev. Drahos Oslik: Associate Pastor
Deborah L. Zacher: Director of Music and Organist
Karen Walker: Contemporary Worship Team Leader
Shelley Baer : Office Manager
: Office Secretary
Andy Rovelstad: Treasurer
Joyce Manges: Financial Secretary
Tammy Ditch: Housekeeper
Becky McDonald: Children's Ministry Coordinator
Emily Cordell: Nursery Caretaker