

# *A Place for Us All!*

**Worship Bulletin: Mount Calvary Lutheran Church  
March 20 (5:30 PM) and March 21 (8:45AM) 2021**

## **CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: We gather in the name of our baptism, in the name of the Father, and of the <sup>+</sup> Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**A: Amen.**

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

P: God at the margins,

**A: 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 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 <sup>+</sup> Christ, leading you from death into life.

**A: Amen.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Somewhere"

by Sondheim and Bernstein

Performed by Barbra Streisand and Josh Groban

There's a place for us  
Somewhere a place for us  
Peace and quiet and open air  
wait for us somewhere

There's a time for us  
Someday there'll a time for us  
Time together with time to spare  
Time to learn, and a time to care

Someday, somewhere  
We'll find a new way of living  
Will find there's a way of forgiving  
Somewhere

There's a place for us (a place for us)  
Somewhere there's a place for us

Hold my hand and we're halfway there  
Hold my hand and I'll take you there

Someday, (someday)  
Somewhere (somewhere)  
We'll find a new way of living  
Will find there's a way of forgiving  
Somewhere  
  
There's a place for us  
A time for us  
Somewhere  
Somewhere  
Somewhere

### **GREETING**

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

A: And also with you.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: 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.

A: Amen.

### **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.*

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It 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. <sup>33</sup>But 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. <sup>34</sup>No 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.

R: The word of the Lord,

A: Thanks be to God!

**PSALMODY:**

“Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

Chief of sinners though I be,  
Jesus shed his blood for me,  
died that I might live on high,  
lived that I might never die.  
As the branch is to the vine,  
I am his, and he is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus' love!  
Higher than the heav'ns above,  
deeper than the depths of sea,  
lasting as eternity.

Love that found me—wondrous thought—  
found me when I sought him not.

Jesus only can impart  
balm to heal the smitten heart,  
peace that flows from sin forgiv'n,  
joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,  
faith and hope to walk with God  
in the way that Enoch trod.

Chief of sinners though I be,  
Christ is all in all to me;  
all my wants to him are known,  
all my sorrows are his own.  
safe with him from earthly strife.

He sustains the hidden life

O my Savior, help afford  
by Thy Spirit and Thy word!

When my wayward heart would stray,  
keep me in the narrow way;  
grace in time of need supply  
while I live and when I die.

**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.*

<sup>5</sup> Christ 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”; <sup>6</sup> as he

says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>In 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. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup>and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

R: The word of the Lord,

**A: Thanks be to God!**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

P: Return to the Lord your God!

**A: Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.**

P: For the Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

### **GOSPEL: JOHN 12:20-33**

P: The holy Gospel according to John,

**A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*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.*

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.

<sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very 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.

<sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup>“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. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this

world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P: The gospel of the Lord,

**A: Praise to you, O Christ!**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

"The Peace of the Lord"  
as interpreted by Dan Gresh

The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord  
the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:  
the peace of the Lord is for you and for me,  
and also for all of God's children.  
The peace of the Lord is for you and for me,  
and also for all of God's children.

The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord,  
the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:  
the peace of the Lord is among us right now,  
so open yourselves to receive it.

The peace of the Lord is among us right now,  
so open yourselves to receive it.

The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord,  
the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:  
the peace of the Lord kept within cannot live,  
so open yourselves now to share it.

The peace of the Lord kept within cannot live,  
so open yourselves now to share it.

**SERMON**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**A: 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**

P: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

P: You were us through and through and remember our sin no more. Make your church a community of forgiveness throughout the world. Give your people courage to forgive; through them show the world new possibilities. Bless ministries of repentance and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: You fill the earth-from tiny grains of wheat to the mighty thunder- with your presence, and you call us to attend to our will for all creation. Grant weather that prepares the soil for seeds; protect all from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires (especially). Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: You promise to write your law on our hearts. Guide citizens throughout the world to shape communities that reflect your mercy, justice, and peace, and give them creativity to work for the welfare of all. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: You sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Restore the joy of all who need to know your presence: those who are lonely or feel unforgivable, those who need healing of mind or body, those who are dying, and all who grieve. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: Jesus calls us to follow him in life and death. Empower this congregation in discipleship. Equip children and teachers in Sunday school, confirmation and learning ministries. Give us your truth and wisdom and teach us to follow Jesus. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: In the cross of Christ, your name is glorified. We praise you for those who have given us words to worship you (especially Thomas Cramer). With all those who have died in Christ, bring us into life everlasting. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**A: Amen.**

## **PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**A: And also with you.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: God of all creation,

**A: all you have made is good, and your love never ends. You provide bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.**  
**Amen.**

## **DIALOGUE**

P: The Lord be with you.

**A: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**A: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P: O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life. When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child; When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life. You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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.

P: 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.

P: Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.

**A: Amen.**

P: Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

**A: Amen.**

P: Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

**A: Amen.**

P: O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself. O God, you are wine: warm our hearts and make us one. O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope. O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the

Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. **A: Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

**A:** 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: Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

## **SHARING OF COMMUNION**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Emmanuel, God with us,

**A: you grace us with life and breath and give us bread for the journey. Send us out in service to this world that you love, telling the amazing news of your coming to be Savior and Lord of all. Amen.**

## BLESSING

P: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, claiming us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you  $\ddagger$  peace. A: Amen.

## SENDING HYMN:

# "Over the Rainbow"

performed by Judy Garland

Now, you just help us out today,  
And find yourself a place where you won't get into any trouble.  
Someplace where there isn't any trouble.  
Do you suppose there is such a place, Toto?  
There must be.  
It's not a place you can get to by a boat or a train.  
It's far, far away...behind the moon...beyond the rain...

Somewhere over the rainbow way up high  
There's a land that I heard of once in a lullaby

Somewhere over the rainbow skies are blue  
And the dreams that you dare to dream  
Really do come true

Someday I'll wish upon a star  
And wake up where the clouds are far behind me

Where troubles melt like lemon drops  
Away above the chimney tops  
That's where you'll find me

Somewhere over the rainbow Bluebirds fly...  
Birds fly over the rainbow  
Why then, oh why can't I?

If happy little bluebirds fly  
Beyond the rainbow  
Why, oh why can't I?

### **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

**A: Thanks be to God.**