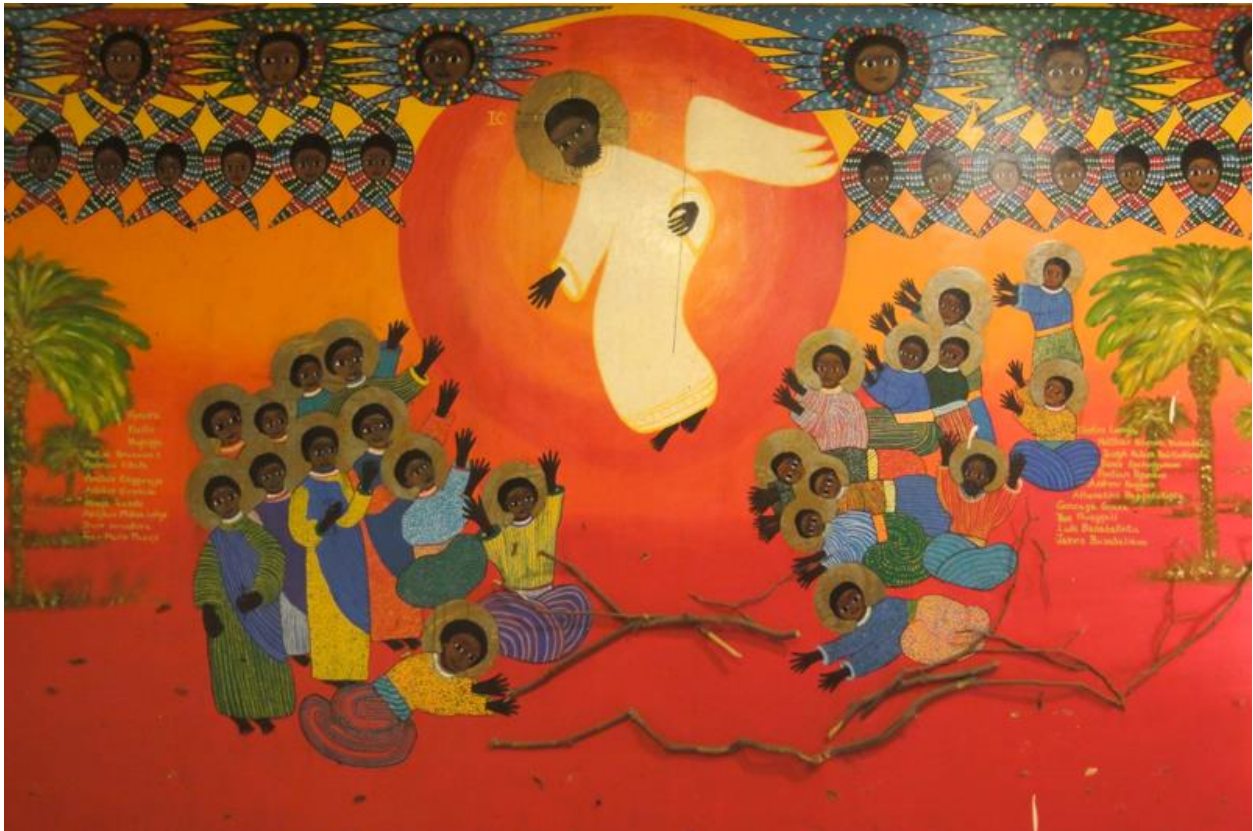


# Lent

March 17, 2024 † The 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.

Masks are welcomed, especially for those who have not been boosted, cannot be vaccinated, are at higher risk, or simply prefer to do so.



Ebenezer is a *Reconciling in Christ* Congregation. **You are welcome here.**

**Welcome** to long-time Lutherans, Christians from every tradition, and people new to this faith. **Welcome** to friends new and old. **Welcome** to people of every age and size, color and culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression; every socioeconomic and marital status, political conviction, ability and challenge.

**Welcome** to believers and questioners, and questioning believers.

**Welcome.**



This worship booklet is available in **LARGE PRINT** and may be **recycled** (in the baskets near the Welcome Center) or taken home. It is also online at [ebenezerchurch.org](http://ebenezerchurch.org).



Please **silence** phones and other devices during the liturgy.



A **platform lift** is available to access the Sanctuary, Education Center, and Restrooms. Please see an usher for assistance.



**Restrooms** are located up the stairs under the model ship, or down the stairs on the west side of the narthex entry area.



**Postures** are a way in which we engage the body in worship. These movements (sitting, standing, making the sign of the cross) are optional; please engage in them only as you are comfortable or able.



**Children** are always welcome in worship at Ebenezer. A nursery is available (the attendant is vaccinated, boosted, and masked). A quiet play area is located in the narthex entry area.



**Holy Communion**, or the Eucharist, is offered to all who seek the presence of Christ. This is a welcome table.

**Acknowledgments:** Liturgical Material reprinted from *SundaysandSeasons.com*. NRSV Bible, ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. [oneline.net](http://oneline.net) A-704767; CCLI 1875300; Augsburg Fortress 13045.

Cover artwork: *Martyrs of Uganda*. Unknown artist, 20<sup>th</sup> cent.

**All are welcome to gather downstairs for refreshments and a time of learning and fellowship. The Nursery remains staffed during this time.**

## Gathering

### Words of Welcome

Prelude                                      Give Me a Clean Heart    Margaret J. Douroux

*Silence follows; then, the ringing of bells.*

*Rise in body or spirit.*

## Call to Worship


God of suffering and glory, **in Jesus Christ you reveal the way of life through the path of obedience.**

Inscribe your law in our hearts, **that in life we may not stray from you, but may be your people.**

## Gathering Hymn

### Lift High the Cross


*The verses may be sung in harmony.*




Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,  
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956  
Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

## Greeting

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

## Prayer of the Day

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.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## Word

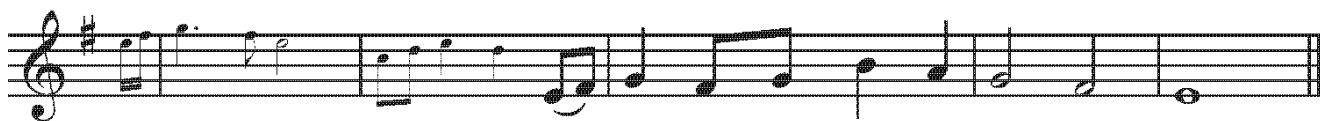
### The First Reading      Jeremiah 31:31-34

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. 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. 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. 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 119:9-16

*The Cantor sings the refrain; all repeat it. The verses are sung responsively and the refrain by all.*



I trea-sure your prom-ise in my heart



How shall the young keep <sup>1</sup> their way clean? I treasure your promise <sup>1</sup> in my heart,  
By keeping <sup>1</sup> to your word. that I may not <sup>1</sup> sin against you.

**With my whole <sup>1</sup> heart I seek you;  
let me not stray  
from <sup>1</sup> your commandments.**

**Blessed are <sup>1</sup> you, O LORD;  
instruct me <sup>1</sup> in your statutes.  
*Refrain***

With my lips <sup>1</sup> I recite  
all the judgments <sup>1</sup> of your mouth.

**I take greater delight  
in the way of <sup>1</sup> your decrees  
than in all man- <sup>1</sup> ner of riches.**

I will meditate on <sup>1</sup> your commandments  
and give attention <sup>1</sup> to your ways.

**My delight is <sup>1</sup> in your statutes;  
I will not for- <sup>1</sup> get your word.**  
*Refrain*

The Second Reading      Hebrews 5:5-10

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

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

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Rise in body or spirit.*

Welcoming the Gospel      *The Cantor sings this acclamation, then all repeat it.*



Glo - ry and praise      to      you, O Lord      Je - sus Christ.

The Gospel      The holy gospel according to John.      John 12:20-33  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 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. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“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. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

*Please be seated.*

Sermon

Pastoral Intern Melissa Dailey

*Silence for reflection follows.*

*Rise in body or spirit.*

Hymn of the Day

My Song Is Love Unknown *The Cantor sings verse 4.*



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to  
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -  
 3 Some - times we strew his way and his sweet prais - es  
 4 We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made a -



me, love to the love - less shown that they might  
 stow; the world that was his own would not its  
 sing; re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas  
 way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of



love - ly be. Oh, who am I that  
 Sav - ior know. But, oh, my friend, my  
 to our king. Then “Cru - ci - fy!” is  
 life to slay. Yet cheer - ful he to



for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?  
 friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend!  
 all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.  
 suf - f'ring goes that he his foes from thence might free.

5 In life no house, no home  
my Lord on earth might have;  
in death no friendly tomb  
but what a stranger gave.  
What may I say? Heav'n was his home  
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

6 Here might I stay and sing—  
no story so divine!  
Never was love, dear King,  
never was grief like thine.  
This is my friend, in whose sweet pr  
I all my days could gladly spend!

**Affirmation of Faith**      *Though not an historic Creed, contemporary affirmation can help us express our faith in new ways. This affirmation comes for the Iona community of Scotland.*

**We believe that God is Love, so we commit ourselves to reconciliation. We believe that God is the light of life, so we commit ourselves to bearing God's light in our world.**

**We believe that Jesus took the form of a servant, so we commit ourselves to serve others. We believe that Jesus gives us his Spirit, so we commit ourselves to his work in the world.**

**We believe that the Spirit speaks through us, so we commit ourselves to proclaim the good news of abundant life in the world God loves. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**Children's Message**

**Prayers of Intercession**      *The response to each intercession is: **Hear our prayer.***

**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.**



# Meal

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

*Share a sign of peace with those around you, being mindful about touch.*

Check your neighbor's name tag:

A **yellow square** indicates a distanced elbow or fist bump is preferred.

A **red circle** indicates your neighbor prefers a verbal, distanced greeting only.



For members of the Ebenezer community, an offering is part of our expression of gratitude to God. If you are visiting with us today, your presence is already a great gift.



*Please be seated.*

Offertory

Lass Dich Nur Nichts Nicht Trauren  
Johannes Brahms

The Ebenezer Choir

Laß dich nur nichts  
nicht dauren mit Trauren,  
sei stille, wie Gott es fügt,  
so sei vergnügt mein Wille!

*Do not be sorrowful or regretful;  
Be calm, as God has ordained,  
and thus my will shall be content.*

Was willst du heute sorgen auf morgen?  
Der Eine steht allem für,  
der gibt auch dir das Deine.

*What do you want  
to worry about from day to day?  
There is One who stands above all  
who gives you, too, what is yours.*

Sei nur in allem Handel ohn Wandel,  
steh feste, was Gott beschleußt,  
das ist und heißt das Beste. Amen.

*Only be steadfast in all you do,  
stand firm; what God has decided,  
that is and must be the best. Amen.*

*Rise in body or spirit.*



## Offering Song

## Come to the Table of Mercy



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942 Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956

## 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

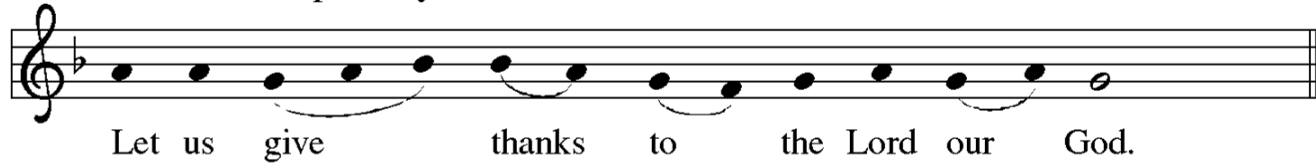
### Dialogue



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

## Preface

# Sanctus

## Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

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 in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score for the Sanctus is written on five staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with various note values and rests. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

# Thanksgiving at the Table

## Lord's Prayer

*You may pray this prayer in these words; or, in language close to your heart.*

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,  
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.  
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we  
for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al  
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,

The musical score for the Lord's Prayer is written on five staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with various note values and rests. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

### Invitation to the Table

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. All are welcome at God's table.

*Please be seated.*



All who seek Christ's presence in the sacrament are invited. This is a welcome table. At the invitation of the usher, you may come forward down the center aisle to receive the bread or a gluten-free wafer. Then, dip the bread in the cup of **red wine** or **white grape juice**, receiving the elements together. If you'd prefer to drink from a chalice, indicate this to the server and one will be made available.



### Agnus Dei

### 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. A - men.

Hymn

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God *Sing twice.*

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

Hymn

To Christ Belong, in Christ Behold



1 To Christ be - long, in Christ be - hold God's  
 2 The brood - ing Spir - it moves un - seen as  
 3 Re - joic - ing in God's prom - ise strong, our



won - ders still un - fold: the bur - ied  
 liv - ing wa - ters stream to quench all  
 trea - sure and our song, in faith we



grain springs forth a - gain with fruit one hun - dred - fold.  
 thirst and bring to birth a new com - mu - ni - ty.  
 cling, and glad - ly sing: to Christ we now be - long.



Bap - tized in - to the death of Christ, with  
 The bind - ing shroud is here re - leased, the  
 In Christ a - bide, in Christ be - hold the



Christ from death we rise, drawn through the  
 veil of sin and grief, and in their  
 world be - loved and whole. In love re -



night by dawn - ing light in - to a - bun - dant  
 place a wreath of grace and robes of joy and  
 main, by love pro - claim God's won - ders still un -



life, in - to a - bun - dant life.  
 peace, and robes of joy and peace.  
 told, God's won - ders still un - told.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: WONDERS, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

Hymn

If I Have Wounded Any Soul

1. If I have wound - ed an - y soul to' - day,  
 2. If I have ut - tered i - dle words or vain,  
 3. If I have been per - verse, or hard, or cold,  
 4. For - give the sins I have con - fessed to Thee;

If I have caused one foot to go a - stray,  
 If I have turned a - side from want or pain,  
 If I have longed for shel - ter in the fold,  
 For - give the se - cret sins I do not see;

If I have walked in my own will - ful way,  
 Lest I of - fend some oth - er through the strain,  
 When Thou hast giv - en me some fort to hold,  
 O guide me, love me, and my keep - er be.

1.-3. Dear Lord, for - give! (for - give!) 4. A - men. (A - men.)

Text: C. M. Battersby  
 Tune: EVENING, 10 10 10 4; Charles Gabriel, 1856-1932

*Rise in body or spirit.*

## Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless and keep us in grace. **Amen.**

## Prayer

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.**



## Sending

### Benediction

May God bless us and keep us. May God's face shine on us with grace and mercy. May God look upon us with favor, ✚ and give us peace. **Amen.**

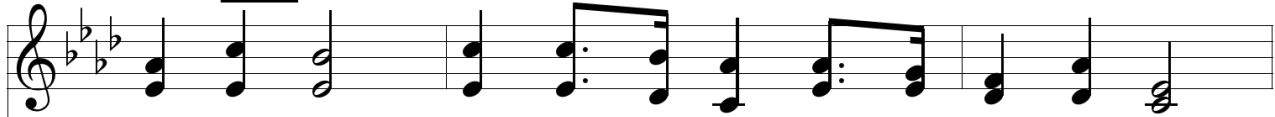


Sending Hymn

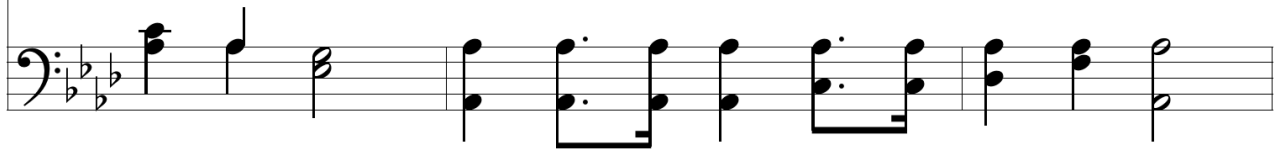
Down at the Cross *Verses 1 and 3 may be sung in parts.*



1 Down at the cross where my Sav - ior died, down where for cleans-ing from  
 2 I am so won-drous-ly saved from sin, Je - sus so sweet-ly a -  
 3 Oh, pre-cious foun-tain that saves from sin, I am so glad I have  
 4 Come to this foun-tain so rich and sweet; cast your poor soul at the



sin I cried; there to my heart was the blood ap - plied:  
 bides with-in; there at the cross where he took me in:  
 en - tered in; there Je - sus saves me and keeps me clean:  
 Sav - ior's feet; plunge in to - day, and be made com-plete:



glo-ry to his name.  
 glo-ry to his name. Glo-ry to his name, glo-ry to his name!  
 glo-ry to his name.  
 glo-ry to his name.



There to my heart was the blood ap - plied: Glo-ry to his name.



Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929  
 Music: GLORY TO HIS NAME, John H. Stockton, 1813–1877

Dismissal

Go in peace, drawn to Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude