



*We celebrate faith by:*  
*ROOTING our lives in a relationship with our God.*  
*REJOICING in the gifts of life and love our God graciously offers.*  
*REACHING out to our world with God's healing and hope!*

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**Sunday, March 19, 2023 – 10:00 AM**

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***Pastor: Rev. Joel Samuelson***  
***Minister of Discipleship: Michelle Hintz***  
***Organist/Piano Accompanist: Rhonda Gowen***

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

**L:** Our Lenten journey begins...in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: AMEN.**

### OPENING HYMN

***“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”***

***Red #779 (vv. 1-4)***

### ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(Please be seated)*

**L:** During the Season of Lent, we hear the invitation, “Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.” Let us turn to God in open, heartfelt confession. We pray together...

**ALL: Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves to the power of sin. We are truly sorry and repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*+ (Silence for reflection and prayer) +*

**L:** God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved! In the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. May Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

**ALL: AMEN.**

### CONFESSIONAL SONG

***“I’m Forever Grateful”***

***Grey #114 (Repeat)***

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

### WELCOME AND COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WORD

*God speaks to us through Scripture, Preaching, and Song.*

### CHILDREN’S SERMON

**FIRST READING**

**1 Samuel 16:1-13**

**SECOND READING**

**Psalm 23**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

***“Return to the Lord, your God”***

**Red, p. 142**

*Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,  
and abounding in steadfast love.*

**L:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the Ninth Chapter.

**ALL:** **GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.**

**GOSPEL READING**

**John 9:1-11, 39-41**

**L:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**ALL:** **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**



***Today’s Message:***

***By Pastor Joel Samuelson***

**BAPTISMAL HYMN**

***“Baptized and Set Free”***

**Red #453 (vv. 1&4)**

**SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM**

**Red pp. 227-231**



***Millie Jo Gusaas***

***Parents: Joe & Michelle Gusaas***

***Sponsors: Justin & Renae Gusaas***

**THANKSGIVING**

*We respond with gratitude for God’s gracious gifts.*

**OFFERING MOMENT**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**Great Thanksgiving**

***“Holy, Holy, Holy”***

**(Spoken) Red p. 144**

**(Sung) Red p. 144**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

***(Red p. 134 top right column or See Projection)***

## **DISTRIBUTION MUSIC**

***“Lamb of God”***

***Red #195 (Repeat)***

***“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”***

***Red #490***

***“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”***

***Red #494***

## **BLESSING**

### **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **BENEDICTION**

### **CLOSING SONG**

***“You Are Mine”***

***Red #581***

## **DISMISSAL**

**L:** Go in peace to serve God! Be of good courage and hold fast to that which is good!

**ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

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**IN NEED OF HEALING – Francis Gowen, Laura Luciano, Ron & Donna Wilkinson, Birdie Fode, Alice Neuberger, Ellen Bartz, Judy Zhorela, Gerald Johnson, Sidney Weigel, Darlene Frieze, Doris Lowe, Lori LaCoe, Lou Ann Heinle, Sally Weisgram, Vic Huber, Julie Schepp**

**CANCER CARE – Gary Dietz, Marty Well, Colby, Arlene Walch, Christine Raulston, Arlene (Stephanie Luebke’s Mom), Ray Huber, Dick Olson, Hillary Groseclose, Ron Schepp, George Frye, David, Ray Seifert, Carmen Ruud, Wanda**

House of Prayer will be purchasing a limited number of plants this year to be used at the Easter morning worship. **EASTER FLOWERS** can be taken home to enjoy...or you can donate toward *Lespwa Lavi* which means ***“Hope for Life” in Haitian Creole***. Ricardo Pierre-Louis who now lives, teaches, and coaches in Bismarck founded this organization to empower the community of Verrettes and create a sustainable, impactful ministry in hopes of changing the lives of kids in Haiti. (*Suggested donation is \$20 per plant.*) Forms and envelopes are located in our Gathering Area.

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## **TODAY’S WORSHIP HOSTS**

*Greeters – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade*

*Ushers – Bob & Gloria Hanson*

*Reader – Ella Dockter*

*Fellowship Hosts – WELCA*

*Council Representative – Dana Hager*