

# Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 27th, 2022



MEMORIAL  
**LUTHERAN**  
CHURCH

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March 27th, 2022

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

*\*An asterisk denotes that the congregation is invited to stand*

**Prelude:** "Ah, Holy Jesus" arr. Cherwien/Carlson

Lois Theesfield, organist

## Welcome

**\*Gathering Hymn:** "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" ELW #807

### Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

## \*Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of God,  
who makes a way in the wilderness,  
walks with us,  
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One,  
**we confess that we have wandered far from you:  
we have not trusted your promises,  
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,  
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,  
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.**  
**Have mercy on us!**

**Forgive us and turn us again to you.**

**Teach us to follow in your ways,  
assure us again of your love,  
and help us to love our neighbor.**

**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
the Word draws near to you,  
and all who call out to God shall be saved.  
In Jesus, God comes to you again and again  
and gathers you under wings of love.  
In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.  
God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

**Amen.**

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.**

## Kyrie



## **\*Prayer of the Day**

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, 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: Joshua 5:9-12**

*Lector: Kenzie Alderson*

<sup>9</sup>The Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Memorial Kids’ Anthem**

## **Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

*Lector: Kenzie Alderson*

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*Gospel Acclamation



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

## Gospel Reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The Gospel according to Luke  
**Glory to You, O Lord**

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>“There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day:** *"Our Father We Have Wandered"* ELW #606

**Our Father, We Have Wandered**



1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;  
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,  
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.  
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.  
com - pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,  
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,  
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.  
in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.  
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929–2006

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612

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## **Apostle's 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**

### **Peace**

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

### **Meal**

### **Offering**

**Music Voluntary:** *"Ah, Holy Jesus"* - arr. Brenda Austin  
*Memorial Handbells*

### **Offering Prayer**

Extravagant God,  
you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.  
Now we gather at your feast  
where you offer us the food that satisfies.  
Take and use what we offer here, come among us,  
and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,  
in whose name we pray.  
**Amen.**

\*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.**

## **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 Commune**

*Here is food and drink for the journey.*

*Take and be filled.*

**Communion Hymns:** *"Just As I Am Without One Plea"* ELW #592

*"Softly and Tenderly"* ELW #608





## Just As I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y\_a con - flict,  
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,  
4 Just as I am; thy love un-known has bro - ken ev - 'ry



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
man - y\_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,  
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,



O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

# Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

## *Refrain*



watch - ing for you and for me.  
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"  
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909

Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

## Prayer After Communion

Blessed Jesus,  
in this rich meal of grace,  
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.  
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope  
to a world in need.

**Amen.**

## Announcements

## Blessing

You are children of God,  
anointed with the oil of gladness  
and strengthened for the journey.  
Almighty God,  
motherly, majestic, and mighty,  
+ bless you this day and always.  
**Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn:** *"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"* ELW #588

### There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;  
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;  
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;  
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.  
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.  
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.  
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.  
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;  
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;  
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.  
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.  
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.  
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** "Ah, Holy Jesus" arr. John Behnke

*Lois Theesfield, organist*



## Prayers for Healing

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

Cassie Harrell

*(in preparation of a medical procedure)*

Family and friends of +Karen Klopping

Family and friends of +Dick Couser

Sandy Peterson  
*friend of Kim Stieler*

Donna See

Kenny Amunson  
*uncle of Kim Stieler*

Janet Jacques

Chuck Ray

Katie Brockmeier  
*granddaughter-in-law of  
Ruth Brockmeier*

Norma Dannan  
*friend of Betty Runge*

Teresa & Kim Krebs  
and family

Michael Neal

Patricia Barrance  
*mother of Vanessa  
Borwick*

Family of John and  
Tanya Sorem

Jami Tharp

Fred Samuelson

Larry Christian

Jaylee Bartleson

Norma Gandrup

Sheila Collingwood  
*mother of Lyndsey  
De Vos*

Judy Coverdale

James Stephens

George Forsyth

Janeen Driscoll

Lynn Harris

Julie Sutherland

Jan Cook

John Snitko  
*son-in-law of Bob and  
Liz Meimann*

# Announcements

## **Annual Meeting of the Congregation Next Sunday, April 3rd**

Save the date: Memorial Lutheran's Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held during worship next Sunday, April 3rd. We'll be holding the second vote necessary to ratify the amendments to our Constitution (voted on December 12, 2021). We will also vote on the Finance Team's proposed consolidation of Multipurpose funds.

## **Online Giving with Tithe.ly—Help the People of Ukraine**

We have set up a special giving option in Tithe.ly to help the people of Ukraine through Lutheran Disaster Response. If you would like to help, simply visit <http://tithe.ly/give> or scan the QR code on the following page and choose "Lutheran Disaster Response: Ukraine Crisis" when making your donation. *Thank you!*

## **Card Shower for Lois Gerlach**

From the family of Lois Gerlach: "Our beautiful mother of four, grandmother of four, and great grandmother of two is turning 90 on March 28th and we want to celebrate her by throwing her a card shower! If you would like to wish her a happy birthday, cards may be sent to her home address below. We thank you in advance to all who join in celebrating this lovely lady!"

Lois Gerlach  
63055 190th Street  
Nevada, IA 50202

## **Holy Communion Celebration & Workshop**

We will be holding a Holy Communion Workshop from 9:30—11:30 AM Saturday, April 9th at Memorial. Participants will celebrate receiving Holy Communion together at the Maundy Thursday service on April 14th at 7:00 PM. If you have any questions, please email Pr. Kathleen at [pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org](mailto:pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org).

## **Spring Intergenerational Sunday School Activities**

Grab a donut and join us for Intergenerational Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall from 10:15—10:30 on Sunday mornings. Prior to and following this brief lesson for all ages (adults included!) all are encouraged to join in an informal time of catching up and spending time together. Sunday School for kids will continue until 11:15 in their classrooms. During this Lenten season our Sunday School lessons will focus on Jesus' last days on earth and, following Easter, on the promise of the Holy Spirit. On Palm Sunday there will be a special lesson on Stations of the Cross and an Easter egg hunt!

## **Church Camping Trip to Hickory Grove Park**

Would you like to be part of the planning team for our April 29-May 1 Camping Trip? Please contact the church office so we can get our heads together and plan for a great weekend!

## **Calling All Potential Acolytes!**

Have you been an acolyte in the past? Have you never been an acolyte before but always thought it would be fun to try it out? We need you! Please contact Vanessa Borwick or the church office if you would like to be part of this important ministry.

## **Lutheran Lakeside Camp**

Confirmation students, join us for your best week ever up at Lutheran Lakeside Camp at Lake Okoboji! We will leave Sunday, June 12th and return Friday, June 17th. Families are asked to cover the first \$100 of camp fees as they are able.

## **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.





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