

Midweek Lent 5
Midweek Theme - “Let My People Go! (Exodus)”
Wednesday, March 20, 2024 - 6:30 p.m.



As We Gather

It's easy to get stuck in a hole. Look at Aaron and the Israelites. Better yet, look at us. Best of all, look to Jesus who alone gets us out of our huge hole!

Red Connection Pads

Welcome! Please add your name to the connection pad at your seating location or record your attendance online at clcs.org/attendance or the QR code on the right.



A Note on Offerings As an act of worship and thanksgiving, we offer to God what He has first given to us: the first and best of our time, talents, and financial gifts. Donation boxes are located by each entry door or if you would like to contribute online, with either a onetime or ongoing gift, please use clcs.org/give or the QR code to the left.

Lenten Midweek Offering Envelopes

Contributions received in the purple-trimmed Lent envelopes or designated as “Lent” through online giving will benefit the work of Lutheran for Life (lutheransforlife.org/) and Life Centers of Indianapolis (lifecenters.com/) Donation boxes are available at each entry door.

Welcome

P = Pastor; L = Worship Leader; C = Congregation

Call to Worship (Please stand)

The Invocation - Matthew 28:19

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The LORD commanded the Red Sea to dry up. He led Israel across the sea as if it were a desert.

C: He rescued them from their enemies and redeemed them from their foes.

P: The water returned and covered their enemies; not one of them survived.

C: Then his people believed his promises. Then they sang his praise.

P: Yet how quickly they forgot what he had done! They wouldn't wait for his counsel!

C: The people made a calf at Mount Sinai; they bowed before an image made of gold.

P: They forgot God, their Savior, who had done such great things in Egypt.

C: So he declared he would destroy them.

P: But Moses, his chosen one, stepped between the LORD and the people.

C: He begged him to turn from his anger and not destroy them.

**Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.**

Opening Hymn

"My Song is Love Unknown"

LSB 430

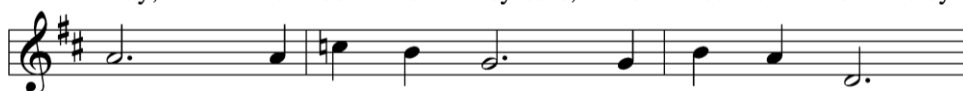
(Please face the processional cross)



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 they strew His way And His sweet prais - es
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and
5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a -



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their
spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their
way; A mur - der - er they save, The Prince of Life they



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,
sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these
slay. Yet cheer - ful He To suf - f'ring goes



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
Who at my need His life did spend!
And for His death They thirst and cry.
Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.
That He His foes From thence might free.

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Confession of Sin & Announcement of Forgiveness

Based on Romans 7

P: Hear me, merciful and mighty Father, as I confess my bondage to sin and death.

C: **I know that nothing good lives in me.**

P: That is, in my sinful nature.

C: **I have the desire to do good.**

P: But I cannot carry it out.

C: **What I do is not the good I want to do.**

P: No, the evil I do not want to do, this I keep on doing.

C: **I find this law at work—**

P: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me.

C: **In my inner being, I delight in your law.**

P: But I see another law at work in the members of my body,
waging war and making me a prisoner of the law of sin and death.

C: **Who will rescue me from this body of death?**

(We silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.)

P: Hear the good news! The same God who delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage also delivers you from your body of sin and death! Jesus Christ, the Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed and his blood forgives you and sets you free! He turned the sea into dry land; we passed through the waters on foot.

C: **He has brought us to a place of abundance! Amen.**

Hymn of Response *(Please be seated)*

"My Song is Love Unknown"

LSB 430

7 Here might I stay and sing, No sto - ry so di -
vine! Nev - er was love, dear King, Nev - er was grief like
Thine. This is my friend, In whose sweet praise
I all my days Could glad - ly spend!

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you,

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Lord God, merciful Father, you are the God who made heaven and earth. Forgive us when we clamor for a different god and set our feet on the path that trusts you above all things; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

✠ The Word of the Lord ✠

First Reading

"The Golden Calf"

Exodus 32:1-14

¹ When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, "Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." ² So Aaron said to them, "Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." ³ So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the Lord." ⁶ And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play. ⁷ And the Lord said to Moses, "Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. ⁸ They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them. They have made for themselves a golden calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" ⁹ And the Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. ¹⁰ Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you." ¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'With evil intent did he bring them out, to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your burning anger and relent from this disaster against your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever.'" ¹⁴ And the Lord relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

“An Example to Us”

1 Corinthians 10:5-8

⁵ Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. ⁶ Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel (Please stand)

“Lust”

Matthew 5:27-30

²⁷ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn (Please be seated)

“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

LSB 423

1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent
whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -
from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er
Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our
cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

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Lenten Meditation

“Digging Ourselves into a Hole”

Exodus 32:1-14

Sermon Series “Let My People Go!” (Week 6 of 6)

Listen to past sermons or share them with a friend at clcs.org/sermons.

Hymn

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

LSB 427

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred
 ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -
 love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no

sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.
 mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.

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Prayers (*Please stand*)

- P: God, our Father in heaven, hear the prayer we lift to You today.
 P: Strengthen us so that Your name is praised by all that we say and do. As Your people...
C: together we pray.
 P: Clear the obstacles that sit in the path of Your church and let Your kingdom come so that You would be honored on earth as You are in heaven. As Your people...
C: together we pray.
 L: Lead us, Lord, in Your good and gracious will. Help us trust that Your will for our lives is best. As Your people...
C: Together we pray.
 P: Give us our daily bread and continue to provide not what we think we want but instead what You know we need. As Your people...
C: together we pray.
 P: Forgive us for the times we have failed to abide in You and love others the same way You do. As Your people...
C: together we pray.
 P: Guide us in Your path and strengthen us to forgive others as You forgive us. As Your people...
C: together we pray.
 P: When we depart from Your path, and run from You, hear our cries for help and protect us from all evil. As Your people...
C: together we pray.

P: Finally, for those on our prayer list and those on our hearts and minds, we pray for their continued care and for Your presence in all circumstances, that it would provide the peace that surpasses all understanding. As Your people...

C: **together we pray.**

P: We pray all of this in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

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.

Blessing

P: May the Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—gather us from among the nations.

C: That we may give thanks to his holy name and glory in his praise! Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing”

LSB 924

1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's
3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling
joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion
pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,
Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;
In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,
O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

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Prayer for Peace

Based on a Prayer by St. Francis of Assisi

L: As our day and our worship service comes to an end, let us pray for the peace and stillness that God alone can offer:

C: Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair,
hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. Amen.

Postlude & Silent Prayer

*Jesus, when I'm stuck in a hole, empower me to claim your covenant—your covenant of blood!
Amen.*

✠ Serving Our Lord and His People ✠

Preacher: Pastor Art Wehrmeister

Organist: Gary Schultz

Press Creator: Glenda Roundtree

Projectionist: Rachel Daeger

Ushers: Kevin Kehlbeck, Duane Lytle, Dennie Morrison



Palm Sunday Weekend, March 23rd at 5:30 p.m. & March 24th at 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

We journey with Jesus into Jerusalem, as the crowds shout and sing and the religious leaders plot and plan. Our service includes palm crosses for everyone.

Maundy Thursday, March 28th at 3:45 & 6:30 p.m.

As Jesus shared his final meal with His disciples, he offered them a new commandment and a new celebration of God's deliverance. The Lord's Supper is central to our service.

Good Friday, March 29th at 2:15 & 6:30 p.m.

Both services trace the final words of Jesus interspersed with songs and prayer

The 2:15 p.m. service is our Calvary School chapel, but all are welcome to attend.

The 6:30 p.m. service includes our Calvary Chorale.

Easter Vigil, Saturday, March 30th at 5:30 p.m.

Bridges the gap between the darkness of Good Friday and the joy of Christ's resurrection.

Easter Sunday, March 31st at 8:00 and 10:45 a.m.

Both services provide an opportunity to celebrate the joy of the resurrection of Jesus with special music from our choir, handbells, and other musicians.

Easter Breakfast from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Food service takes place in the cafeteria with seating in the gym.

A freewill offering will take place to support our youth attending the Sr. High mission trip to St. Louis, MO this summer.

