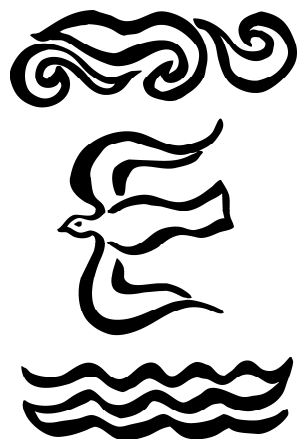


Gustavus Adolphus

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation



All Are Welcome Here!

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church proclaims that the Gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally. We rejoice in the manner in which diversity has enriched, nurtured and challenged the life and ministry we share in Christ. We know that the world is often an unloving place and that the experience of alienation is all too common. Because Christ reconciles us, we welcome people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical and mental abilities, educational levels, and socioeconomic backgrounds. We strive to be an evermore welcoming community. Following the example of Christ, we extend a most heartfelt welcome to all.

Our Congregation's Vision Statement

God in Christ loves us; therefore, through the Holy Spirit we will:

Do justice

- We **hope** for our community and all of God's creation
- We feed the poor and comfort the afflicted
- We welcome and **respect** our neighbor and the stranger

Love kindness

- We **love** and care for our congregation and our community
- We practice **forgiveness** locally and globally
- We strive for **compassion** and **acceptance**

Walk humbly with our God

- We find **joy** in creation
- We desire to grow in **spirituality**
- We delight in liturgical worship and creative expression

We are all children of God. Jesus calls us by name. With the Holy Spirit, we seek to live out God's grace.

Second Sunday
in Lent

March 8, 2020

9:30 a.m.

Welcome to
Gustavus Adolphus!

If you are a guest today,
please fill out the blue
slip included in today's
bulletin so that we may
have a record of your
visit with us.

We welcome people of
all ages in worship.
Activity bags for
children are available
from the ushers.

We invite you to remain for
refreshments and a time
of fellowship following
worship today.

Please remember to silence
all electronic devices.

When the Prelude Begins...

When the music begins, we encourage you to quiet your hearts and minds and begin to focus on worship.

Worship Notes

Numbers marked with the word "page..." are found in the front portion of ELW (the red hardcover hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*) at the bottom left and right corners of the page.

Numbers marked with the word "Hymn..." are found in the back portion of ELW in the upper left and right corners of the page.

✝ Please stand as you are able.

Gathering

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

MUSICAL MEDITATION

✝ CALL TO WORSHIP

P Friends of God, believe this – God loved the world, God loves the world, and we are God’s beloved!

C **May the truth of this great love story shine through our worship today and renew our sense of calling.**

P We come with our tiredness, our frustrations, and our discouragements. We bring our doubts, our fears, and our longings. And we come to discover, yet again, how Jesus reveals God’s love and mercy to us.

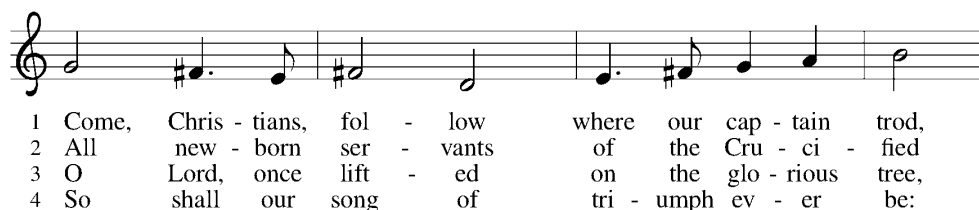
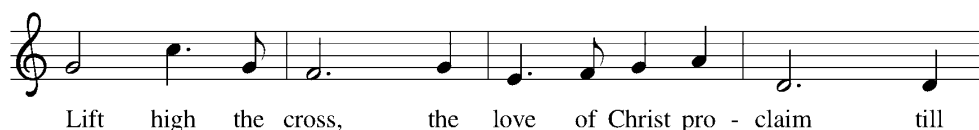
C **We come in friendship to God and to each other, and in friendship to the world, to listen for God’s truth to us, to offer our prayers, and to renew our calling.**

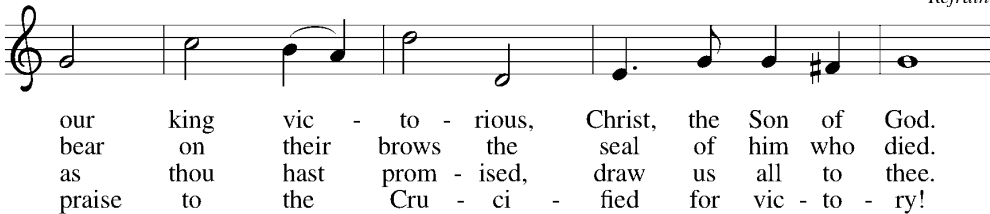
P Friends of God, let us worship!

C **We come to worship God!**

✝ GATHERING SONG

Lift High the Cross





+ GREETING

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

C And also with you.

+ KYRIE



+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANTHEM

God Believes in You

Pierce Pettis

FIRST READING

Genesis 12:1-4a

¹The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

^{4a}So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

L Word of God. Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Introduction to the Day

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

Our Delightful Children

When our children unintentionally say funny things, please try to stifle your laughter as best you can. We know it won't be easy - thank you for trying!

Hope in the Lord

- Chorus: Why are you cast down, my soul?
 Why don't you have peace within?
 Hope in the Lord, for I shall yet praise Him
 My God and my King, My God and my King
1. I look up unto the hills,
 where does my help come from?
 It comes from the maker of heaven and earth
 Hope in the mighty one
2. He won't let your foot be moved
 Your shepherd is one who won't sleep
 He never gets tired; He's the keeper of Israel
 Hope in the Lord, you, His sheep
3. From evil He'll defend your life
 Your coming and going He'll guard
 From this time forth and forevermore
 Hope in the Lord

SECOND READING

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

L Word of God. Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

✠ ACCLAMATION

God So Loved the World

God so loved the world
 that he gave his one and only son.
 That anybody who believes in him
 Will have everlasting life. (Repeat)

God so loved the world,
God so loved the world.
Every man and woman.
Every boy and girl.
God so loved the world.

✝ GOSPEL

John 3:1-17

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

ANTHEM

arr. Sandra Eithun

Were You There

POEM

Beloved Is Where We Begin

Written by Jan Richardson

A brief silence is kept

*A curious Pharisee visits
Jesus by night to learn from
the teacher his friends reject.
Jesus speaks to him about
life in the Spirit and the
kingdom of God.*



Continuing Prayer Concerns

Sharon & Paul Banitt;
DJ Bedah; Peggy Bowman
Charline Burns; Amy Cersier;
Shirley Cropper;
Vi Dorumsgaard; Bill Eads;
Katie Falang; Renae Frasee;
Kimberly Garner;
Morrie Gulbrandson;
Nancy Johnson;
Darlene McQuarrie;
Jeff McQuarrie;
Norma Munson; Juliana Palmer;
Judy Reeves and daughter, Teri;
Jean Rosebrock; Kermit Sommers;
Arden & Joyce Swanson;
Vi Tefft; Stephanie Vavrichek;
Andrew; Ann; Dave and family;
Sveah; Gretchen; Bre;
Kathryn and family; those who are
homebound or in nursing homes or
care centers.

*Our continual prayers are offered
for peace. We pray for all of the
world's governments, leaders, and
peoples, especially for those who
work toward peace.*

*To have someone's name added to
or removed from this list, contact*

✝ HYMN OF THE DAY

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!
Rolling as a might ocean in its fullness over me!
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love.
Leading onward, leading homeward to thy glorious rest above!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, spread his praise from shore to shore!
How he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore!
How he watches o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own;
How for them he intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, loves of every love the best!
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest!
O the deep, deep love of Jesus, 'tis a heaven of heavens to me;
and it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to thee!

✝ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A We pray now for the church, for the world, and for
one another.

Petitions follow. Each petition ends...

A God, of mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

After the final petition...

P Holy One, may all we do be in service to you and to the world.
C **Amen.**

✝ PEACE

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

Meal

✝ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who is present, who gives life,
who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

C **Amen.**

P In becoming one of us, God became poor so we could
receive the riches of mercy. In coming to us, God took on
our death, so we could be made alive together with Christ.
Come, offer your confessions, knowing that by grace you
have been saved.

A brief silence is kept.

- P** Holy One, the words we speak all too often do not reflect your presence in our lives.
- C** **We boast so much to others, they imagine we have no need for you. We grumble when you do not respond immediately to our requests, but are slow to sing your praises. We mutter under our breath about the behavior of those around us, when we should ask how we might serve them.**
- P** On our journey to the cross and the tomb, you fill us with the riches of your mercy and steadfast love – not because of anything we have done, but because of the compassion which flows from your heart, wounded by our failings.
- C** **Open us up to receive your forgiveness, that we might turn to the One which brings us life, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

A brief silence is kept.

- P** Friends in Christ, Jesus hears our prayers and (✠) forgives our sins. Live now in the freedom from sin that is yours.
- C** **Amen.**

✠ GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy. . .
join their unending hymn...
- C** **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth of your glory are full.
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! (Repeat)
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
(return to the beginning)**

✠ WORDS OF INSTITUTION





Please join us for The Lord's Supper

All are invited to join us in the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christ is present in the bread and wine and that we receive God's grace and forgiveness through this meal. Those adults and children not communing with us are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

There are gluten-free wafers available for those who need them. Simply indicate this to the communion server.

✝ 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 AND DISTRIBUTION

We serve communion by intinction. Receive a wafer and dip it into the larger chalice containing wine or into the smaller chalice containing grape juice.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

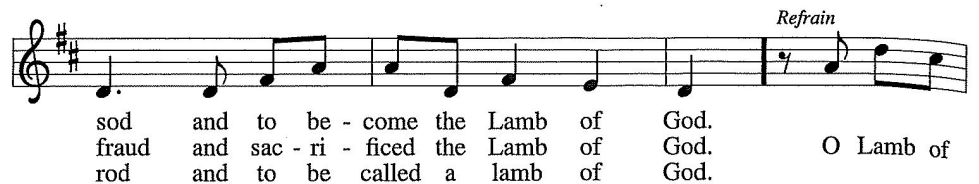
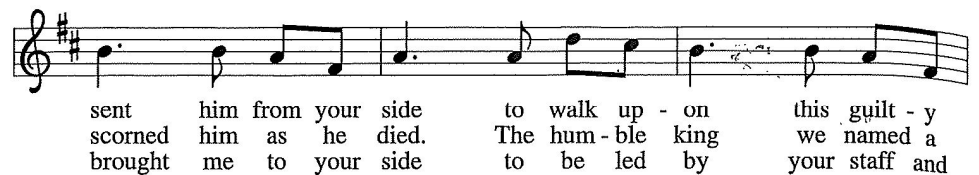
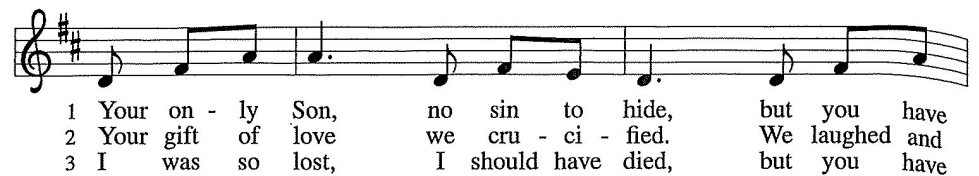
Jesus, Lamb of God

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

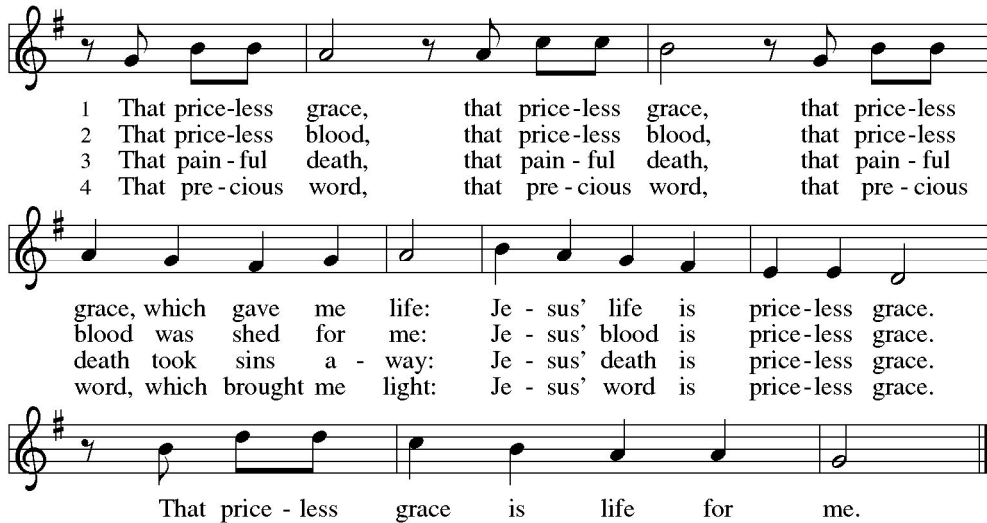
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Lamb of God



That Priceless Grace



1 That price-less grace, that price-less grace, that price-less
 2 That price-less blood, that price-less blood, that price-less
 3 That pain-ful death, that pain-ful death, that pain-ful
 4 That pre-cious word, that pre-cious word, that pre-cious

grace, which gave me life: Je - sus' life is price-less grace.
 blood was shed for me: Je - sus' blood is price-less grace.
 death took sins a - way: Je - sus' death is price-less grace.
 word, which brought me light: Je - sus' word is price-less grace.

That price - less grace is life for me.

✝ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A** Let us pray. We thank you, living God, for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray.
- C** Amen.

Sending

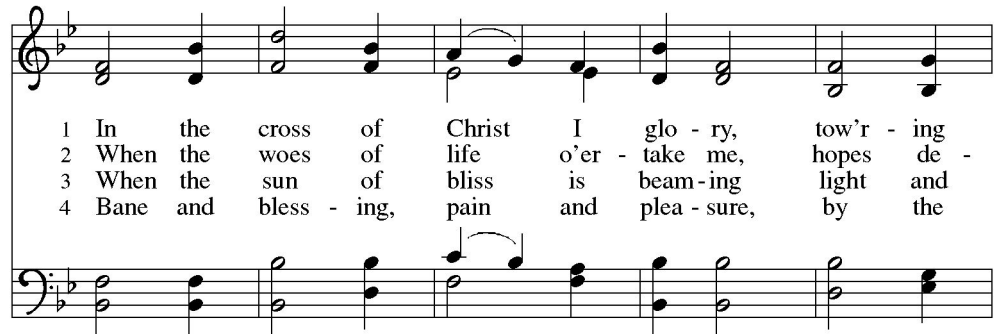
✝ BLESSING

- P** Receive now the final charge and blessing.
 Friends, let us rejoice:
- C** **God so loves the world and offers life and freedom to all.**
- P** May God your Maker now send you back into the world with creative energies, refreshed. May Christ the Light illuminate your darkest moments. And may the (✝) Holy Spirit of Steadfast Love guide you until we worship together again, on this day and forevermore.
- C** Amen.



✚ SENDING SONG

In the Cross of Christ I Glory



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
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that




sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

✚ DISMISSAL

- A** Go in peace. Share the good news.
- C** Thanks be to God.

- Liturgical Materials from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
- Liturgies reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23346.
- Music reprinted by permission of OneLicense.net license#A-708093 and CCLI license#1955062.
- New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
- Call to Worship adapted from Ann Siddall, <https://stillpointsa.org.au>
- Prayers of the People adapted from John Birch, <https://www.faithandworship.com>



THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

by Theodore Dubois
directed by Phil Hölzman

Presented by
Members of
the Gustavus
Adolphus
Choir and the
Northeast
Chorale

SUNDAY
MARCH 15
4PM

Gustavus
Adolphus
Lutheran
Church
27th &
Johnson
NE MPLS

Minnesota FoodShare Benefit Concert

Free-will offering received for the Little Kitchen Food
Shelf and the Salvation Army NEED Food Shelf

***Our Core Values at
Gustavus Adolphus
Lutheran Church***

***love
joy
hope
compassion
spirituality
forgiveness
acceptance***

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church
1509 27th Avenue NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418

Website: www.gachurchmpls.org

Email: info@gachurchmpls.org

Church Phone: 612-789-7256

Church Staff

The Rev. Susan Masters, Interim Pastor (Ext. 10)

pastorsusan@gachurchmpls.org

Deacon Phil Holzman, Minister of Word & Service (Ext. 11)

(Worship & Music, Parish Administration)

philh@gachurchmpls.org

Dan Hager, Finance Manager (Ext. 14)

danh@gachurchmpls.org

Joel Lurvey, Contemporary Choir Director

joel.lurvey@gmail.com



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

**God's Mission for Gustavus
Adolphus Church –**

***To build community
where God is at the center.***



Serving Today

Ministers	The Baptized people of GA Church
Presiding Minister	Pastor Susan Masters
Assisting Minister	Amanda Hakemian
Pianist & Bell Choir Director	Mark Spitzack
Contemporary Choir Director	Joel Lurvey
Lector	Emily Miller
Choirs	Contemporary Choir
	Gustavus Bells
Sacristan	Brock Bisping
Transportation	Ron Anderson