



**Christ the King Lutheran Church  
Sunday, March 22, 2020  
Fourth Sunday of Lent**

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# LITURGY FOR HOLY COMMUNION

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*In this week's chapter in Bonhoeffer's classic exploration of Christian community, Life Together, Bonhoeffer boldly claims that the disciples' argument described in Luke 9:46-48 occurs in every Christian community. The only way to effectively combat this tendency (and thus preserve Christian community) is by seeing oneself as the greatest...but as the greatest **sinner** in need of God's grace. Seeing ourselves in this way allows us to "be of the same mind as Jesus Christ" and to serve one another as His body.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**AMEN.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AMEN.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*



Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are captive to sin  
and cannot free ourselves.  
We have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done and  
by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight  
in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**  
**AMEN.**

In the mercy of almighty God,  
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.  
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,  
and by his authority, I therefore declare to you  
the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the  
name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**AMEN.**

## **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**

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**AMEN.**

**THE FIRST READING**

**GENESIS 13:8-18**

**Psalm**

**Psalm 1:1-6**

**THE SECOND READING**

**PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11**

**THE GOSPEL**

**Luke 9:46-48**

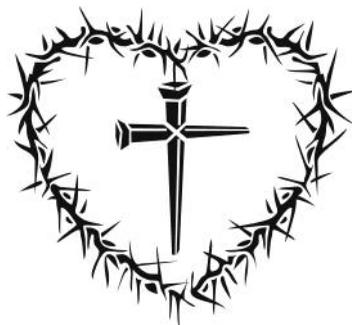
The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>46</sup>An argument arose among them as to which one of them was the greatest. <sup>47</sup>But Jesus, aware of their inner thoughts, took a little child and put it by his side, <sup>48</sup>and said to them, "Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me; for the least among all of you is the greatest."

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

**SERMON**

**PASTOR BRAD DAVICK**



*Silence for reflection.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

Welcoming God

WORDS: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (1998)

MUSIC: [ASSURANCE] Phoebe Knapp (1830-1908)



Child-ren are wel - come, Christ said one day when the dis -  
 Wo - men are wel - come, as are the men; through God's own  
 Out-casts are wel - come; sin - ners are, too, eat - ing with  
 So may we wel - come in - to our pew all who in



ci - ples just urged them a - way. Child-ren are wel - come at Je - sus'  
 Spi - rit, we're part - ners a - gain. Part - ners as pro - phets, min - is - ters,  
 Je - sus and be - ing made new: Some like Zac - chae - us turned right a -  
 Je - sus are be - ing made new; all those who seek him, want - ing to



knee: God's own ex - am - ple for min - is - try. Wel - com - ing  
 too: no more di - vid - ed; made one in you. Wel - com - ing  
 round; wound - ed and poor ones felt peace pro - found. God of great  
 know, want - ing to love him, want - ing to grow. Wel - com - ing



God, you o - pen the Way; ev - en the smal - lest wor - ship and  
 God, you op - en the Way; those once di - vid - ed join now to  
 love, you stand at the door, wel - com - ing peo - ple out - cast and  
 God, you stand at our door, as some - one dif - frent, out - cast or



pray, sing - ing with faith and serv - ing you  
 pray, serv - ing at Ta - ble, preach - ing your  
 poor. So you for - give and call us to  
 poor. With long - ing eyes, Lord Je - sus, you



well, your life to know and good news to tell.  
 Word, so that your love for all will be heard.  
 be filled with the joy of your ju - bi - lee.  
 search. May we all wel - come you in your church.

## **THE APOSTLES' 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**

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence for reflection.*

God of insight, open the hearts of the church and the world to all who testify to your deeds of power. Raise up voices in your church that are often silenced or overlooked due to age, gender expression, race, or economic status. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, empower us to care for the land and all living things that dwell in it and beneath it. Provide rich soil for crops to grow. Bring rain to lands suffering drought. Protect hills and shorelines from damage caused by erosion. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, bring peace to all people and nations. Anoint leaders who seek goodness, righteousness, and truth on behalf of all. Frustrate the efforts of those who would seek to cause violence or terror. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, you care for our needs even before we ask. Come quickly to all who seek prayer this day, including... Accomplish healing through the work of doctors, nurses, physical therapists, nutritionists, and all who tend to human bodies. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, help this assembly lift up the unique gifts of each person who enters, no matter their physical capacity, cognitive ability, or sensory need. Help us to be creative and brave in making our facilities and our ministries accessible to all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, you call out to those who are asleep and awaken them to new life with you. We give thanks for your saints. Join us together with them as your children in this world and the next. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

**AMEN.**

## SETTING THE TABLE

Hillary Doerries, *special music*

*As we set the table, please feel free to set your holy table at home. Join us in experiencing Jesus' presence in bread and wine (or juice).*

## The WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

### THE TABLE BLESSING

#### BLESSING

Now is the acceptable time.  
Now is the day of salvation.  
Holy God, speaking, spoken,  
and inspiring, † bless you,  
unbind you, and send you in  
love and in peace.

**AMEN.**

#### DISMISSAL

As the body of Christ,  
**We are called and sent to love and serve the world.**

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

## ***Acknowledgements***

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