

ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR LUTHERAN CHURCH
FIFTH WEEKEND OF LENT
Saturday, March 25, 2023 5:00 PM
Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:30 AM



In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

ELW is the cranberry red Evangelical Lutheran Book of Worship

PRELUDE: (5:00) “Hymn of Promise” -arr. J. Carter

(9:30) “O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde groß” by J. D. Bach BWV 622

(please stand)

GATHERING HYMN: ELW #886 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God’s mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess to you our faults and failings.

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation;

we cause hurt though you call us to heal;

we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

P: Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,

† forgives you in Christ’s name,

and revives you in the Spirit’s power.

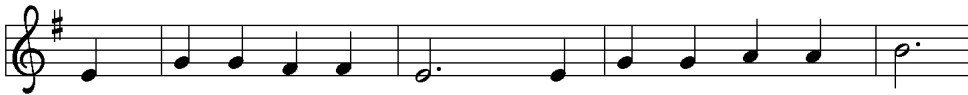
C: Amen.

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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: (9:30)

READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the Lord."

¹The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into

them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please stand)*



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: John 11:1-45

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” ⁸The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” ⁹Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” ¹¹After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” ¹²The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them

plainly, “Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” ²³Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

5 - Welcoming all, Worshiping God, Serving others

MESSAGE

Rev. Marilyn Miller

HYMN OF THE DAY: Christ is the Life

from All Creation Sings



1 Christ is the life of all that is, God's pure cre - a - tive
2 Christ is the death of all that is; a broad and beck - 'ning
3 Christ is the death of all that is, a bright, con - sum - ing
4 Christ is the life of all that is, Be - gin - ning and the



Word, whose pow'r be - yond and through all space the
tomb, who wel - comes us from well - worn ways to
fire, whose flames re - quire our pri - or self as
End; cre - a - tive force, most peace - ful death, trans -



worlds to Be - ing stirred. Christ is the life be - yond all
dark - ness of the womb. Christ is the death, the sink - ing
kin - dling for the pyre. Christ is the death of dust - y
form - ing burn - ing brand. Christ is the life, in whose wise



time, cre - a - tion's birth and breath, whose la - bor
down past all de - sire and fear, whose prom - ise
days of un - cre - a - tive strife, for out from
love cre - a - tion lives and dies and thus for -



brings all things to be and brings all things to death.
in the gen - tle dark bids new - ness to ap - pear.
fire we tread up - on the thresh - old of new life.
ev - er - more shall bless the Source, the liv - ing Christ.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: COE FEN, Kenneth Naylor, 1931–1991

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APOSTLE'S CREED *(please stand)*

**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

L: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

L: You have breathed into us the breath of life. Enliven your church. Deepen our partnerships with our companion churches around the globe especially our partners in the Diocese of Meru, and bless the work of missionaries who accompany them. And strengthen our partnerships locally, especially our partnerships with Faith Sante Fe and Unity. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Your spirit brings life to creation. Enliven the natural world and restore ecosystems in need of healing. Uplift prophetic voices that turn us to the needs of the soil beneath our feet and the air all around. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: You redeem the world and its peoples. Free us from systems of oppression. Unbind nations and societies from the sins of racism, sexism, and homophobia. Raise up leaders at all levels of government who work to promote the dignity of every human life. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: You weep when we weep. Be present with those who grieve or who are troubled by illness those we name before you now in our hearts or out loud (*short pause*). You hear us when we call to you. Deliver us from the depths of our despair, and free us from the worries that bind us. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Your Spirit of life dwells in our assembly. Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who lead us in hymns of praise and thanksgiving and in songs of lament and prayer. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: You are the help of all people. Bless the efforts of the Equipping the Saints campaign of the Greater Milwaukee Synod that your church may be strengthened and your people enriched. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: You are the resurrection and the life. Even though we die, we will live. With thanksgiving, we remember all your saints who now live in your eternal love. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

AM: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

CHOIR ANTHEM: (9:30) “Lord Jesus, Think on Me” -Althouse

Offering plates are located at the entrance to the sanctuary. Thank you for sharing your gifts. Offerings can also be made electronically using the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app. More information can be found on our website ssmelca.org.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

AM: God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

C: Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Prepare your elements by opening the two separate parts, wafer and juice (if you need assistance, please wave to an usher). The Pastor will recite the words of institution and consecrate the elements. Partaking of the elements will occur after the Lord’s Prayer. The Pastor will lead the assembly with the words: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. If you are unable to come forward alert an usher and Communion will be brought to you in your seat.

THE 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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san-na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION: “In the night...”

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.

AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN: #592 Just As I Am, without One Plea

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please be sure to read the printed announcements)

BLESSING

AM: God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN: ELW #328 Restore in Us, O God (*please stand*)

DISMISSAL

AM: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

Reminder: Sunday Morning Service streaming and recording continues through the postlude with the room microphone on. Conversations do get picked up by that microphone. If you would prefer that your conversation not be recorded and posted on YouTube, please refrain from speaking in the sanctuary until after the postlude.

POSTLUDE: (5:00) “Postlude in d-minor” -C. Simone

(9:30) “Herzlich tut mich erfreuen” -arr. Johannes Brahms

From sundaysandseasons.com

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Thank you to our guest celebrant, Pastor Marilyn Miller

THANK YOU FOR SERVING IN THE WORSHIP

Reader: (5:00) Patti Nelson **(9:30)** Sandy Wesolowski

Ushers: (5:00) Patti Nelson and Jim Hennessy

(9:30) Dennis Lucchesi and Dan & Cheryl Stefanski

Assisting Minister: (5:00 & 9:30) Denise Sanders

Streaming Technician: Eric Sanders

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<i>This Week at SSM</i>			
Wednesday	3/29	5:45pm	Handbell Rehearsal
		6:30pm	Worship – Holden Evening Prayer
		7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
<i>Weekend of the Passion</i>			
Saturday	4/1	1:00pm	Community Easter Egg Hunt
		5:00pm	Worship
			Ushers: Jim Hennessy, Jim Palasz and Deb Perl
			Reader: John Rech
			Communion: Bonnie Court
Sunday	4/2	9:30am	Worship
			Ushers: Dan Resterhouse, Mason Resterhouse and Tom Zuleger
			Reader: Bob DeFrank
		Communion: Cheryl & Dan Stefanski	
		10:45am	Sunday School
			Confirmation Class
			Coffee Hour – Dana & Preston Chybowski hosts

Our final **Wednesday Evening Lenten Service** will be held this Wednesday, March 29 at 6:30pm. We will be utilizing Holden Evening Prayer for the last time this season. This service will also be streamed on zoom using the same link that is used for all SSM worship. Contact the office if you want more information.

Holy Week Worship Services will be held:

- Palm/Passion Weekend: Saturday and Sunday, April 1 & 2 (regular worship times)
- Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m. (also streamed on Zoom)
- Good Friday Cross Walk, April 7 at 2:00 p.m. beginning at St. Thomas of Canterbury
- Good Friday Ecumenical Service, April 7 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Alphonsus R. C. Church
- Good Friday, April 7 at 7:00 p.m. (also streamed on Zoom)
- Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 8 at 5:00 p.m.

Easter Worship Services will be held on Sunday, April 9th, at 7:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. The 7:00 service will be held outside in the Prayer Garden (weather permitting) - bring a chair. The 9:30 service will be a full festival service in the sanctuary (and will be streamed on Zoom). Don't forget to join us for the Easter breakfast between services.

KEEP THESE SSM MEMBERS IN PRAYER

Bob Brownell, Penny Dowling, Karen Foerster, Mary Freiburger, Sue Herman, Ruth Hoppe, Sue Jarchow, Lynda Johnson, Joy Kilimann, Tasha Kopplin, Carol Kucharski, Herb Leppien, Bob Lieske, Faith O'Connell, Sandy Peterson, Patrick Rafalski, Karen Rasmussen, Shirley Rau, Joan Retzlaff, Dick Rutzen, El Schneider, Bob & JoAnn Soderstrom, Richard Sontvedt, Mike Wholean, Tracy Wholean, John Winter

Rev. Brian Hooper, Pastor - 262-271-8913
Tabitha Moldenhauer, Music Director
Mark Breutzmann, Saturday Musician
Jim Hennessy, Church Maintenance

Bonnie Zimmermann, Ministry Assistant
Office phone - 414-421-3543
email - office@ssmelca.org
Website - www.ssmelca.org

Hymn #886 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
- 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
- 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
- 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Hymn #592 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

Hymn #328 Restore in Us, O God



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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