



TRUCKEE LUTHERAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Fourth Sunday in Lent – March 10, 2024

We invite you to participate in worship, reading the parts in bold print. ♪ means All Sing!

** We invite you to stand, as you are able, for sections marked with an asterisk.*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME

Pastor Pat Mecham

OPENING WORDS

We worship in the season of Lent, a time to examine our hearts and our lives and journey with Christ through the suffering of the world. Let us watch for the coming sign of God's power, a humble servant lifted up on a cross.

Let us worship God.

*** ♪ GATHERING SONG – “God is Here”**

Congregation

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In faith and penitence, we confess our sins. Let us pray.

By the gift of your grace, we are saved, O God, from all that separates us from you. Still, we would rather believe that we can earn your love, that we are in ultimate control. Forgive us when we do not recognize the gift of your grace; have mercy when we refuse to share that grace with another. Forgive us, O God, and wash us in your mercy. Forgive us, O God, and free us to try again. We ask in the name of Christ, Amen.

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Amen.

*** SHARING OF THE LORD'S PEACE**

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.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ in a way that you feel most comfortable, saying “The peace of Christ be with you.”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God,

we ask you to give us ears to hear and hearts to accept your word. Amen.

PSALTER READING**Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22**

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,
for God's mercy endures forever.

**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**

gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

**Some were fools and took rebellious paths;
through their sins they were afflicted.**

They loathed all manner of food
and drew near to death's door.

**Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD
and you delivered them from their distress.**

You sent forth your word and healed them
and rescued them from the grave.

**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.**

Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

EPISTLE READING**Ephesians 2:1-10**

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved - and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

*** GOSPEL READING John 3:14-21**

[Jesus said:] "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"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.

"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. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The Gospel, the Good News of God.

Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION – "To Save, NOT Condemn"

Pastor Pat Mecham

♪ SONG IN RESPONSE – "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

Congregation

*** 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.

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS AND PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and
these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Pat Mecham

Please conclude your prayer with "Lord, in your mercy," and all will respond, "Hear our prayer."

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 SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

INVITATION AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

♪ **COMMUNION SONG – "Communion Song"**

Congregation

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may
our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

* ♪ **SENDING SONG – "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"**

Congregation

PREPARING FOR OUR MISSION IN THE WORLD – ANNOUNCEMENTS *Birthdays/Anniversaries*

We are called to make Christ known by our words and actions - in our church, in our local community, and throughout the world.

*** BENEDICTION**

We go nowhere by accident.

Wherever we go, God is sending us. Wherever we are, God has put us here; God has a purpose in our being here.

Christ who indwells you has something he wants to do through you, right where you are. Believe this, and go in God's grace and love and power!

Amen!

*** POSTLUDE**

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We invite all to join us by giving to the ministry of TLPC. **We thank everyone who generously supports this ministry.** Gifts may be made online through our website at TLPC.org or mailed to: **Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church, PO Box 10620, Truckee, CA 96162**

Our congregation has a heart for missions: locally, nationally, and in God's world. With your support we give to Sierra Community House (Hunger Relief, Crisis Intervention & Prevention, Family Support & Community Engagement, Mediation & Legal Assistance); North Tahoe-Truckee Homeless Services; Healthy Babies; International Health Partners Tanzania; Hands of Hope Zimbabwe; youth service trips to Nicaragua and Alaska; adult disaster trips locally and around the world; and the responsible, vigorous mission work of the Presbyterian Church USA and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in our nation and world. Additionally, during the pandemic, our congregation has supported local essential workers.

Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Washoe people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this country their home.

