



**TRUCKEE LUTHERAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent – March 17, 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 – “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”**  
**“Soldier, Poet, King”**

Heidi and Daisy Kuzma

**WELCOME**

Pastor Pat Mecham

**\* OPENING PRAYER**

**O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**\* ♪ GATHERING SONG – “The Seed is Christ”**

Congregation

**\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

***Time for silence and reflection***

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.**

**\* 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**

Living God,

**Help us to hear your holy Word so that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING    Jeremiah 31:31-34**

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **PSALTER READING                      Psalm 51:1-12**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my offenses,  
and my sin is ever before me.

**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my mother’s womb.

**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

**Let me hear joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my wickedness.

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

**Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

## **\* GOSPEL READING                      John 12:20-33**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say - ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel, the Good News of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

**MEDITATION – “The WILL to Forgive”**

Pastor Pat Mecham

♪ **SONG IN RESPONSE – “Spirit of Gentleness”**

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 – “The Lord is My 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 – “Saint Patrick’s Breastplate”

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**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

\* **IRISH BLESSING**

\* ♪ **POSTLUDE – “Be Thou My Vision”**

Congregation

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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](http://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.

