

# The Fourth Sunday in Lent

03/30/2025

Greg Fetzer, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

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**P** In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen**

**P** 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.

**C Amen**

**P** 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.*

**P** Most merciful God,

**C we confess that we are in bondage 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**

**P** Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

**C Amen**

**GATHERING HYMN:** [ELW#825 “You Servants of God”](#)

- P** The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**



**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** **Lord, have mer - cy.**



**A** For the peace from a- bove, and for our sal- vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** **Lord, have mer - cy.**



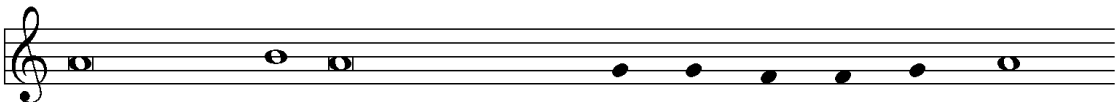
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** **Lord, have mer - cy.**



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

**Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

*Please be seated.*

**PSALM 146**

**L** <sup>1b</sup>Praise the Lord, O my soul!

**C** <sup>2</sup>**I will praise the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

**L** <sup>3</sup>Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

**C** <sup>4</sup>**When they breathe their last, they return to earth,  
and in that day their thoughts perish.**

**L** <sup>5</sup>Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

**C** <sup>6</sup>**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  
who keeps promises forever;**

**L** <sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.  
The Lord sets the captive free.

**C** <sup>8</sup>**The Lord opens the eyes of the blind;  
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**

**L** <sup>9</sup>The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

**C** <sup>10</sup>**The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.**

### **LUKE 16:19-31**

**L** A reading from Luke: [Jesus said:] <sup>19</sup>"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup>In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup>He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' <sup>25</sup>But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup>Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' <sup>27</sup>He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house - <sup>28</sup>for I have five brothers - that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' <sup>29</sup>Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' <sup>30</sup>He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' <sup>31</sup>He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

**L** The gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** [ELW#479 “We Come to the Hungry Feast”](#)

**SERMON:** [\(Sermon Audio Link\)](#)

**Pastor Greg's Context-O-Meter for the Gospel of Luke**



The Prologue	1:1–4
The Infancy Narratives	1:5–2:52
Preparation for the Ministry of Jesus	3:1–4:15
The Ministry of Jesus in Galilee	4:16–9:50
The Journey to Jerusalem	9:51–19:27
The Ministry of Jesus in Jerusalem	19:28–21:38
The Suffering and Death of Jesus	22:1–23:56
The Resurrection of Jesus	24:1–53

**P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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**

**OFFERING\*:** [\(On-Line giving Link\)](#)

*The Offering is received and is presented at the altar.*

**RESPONSE:** [“Create in Me”](#)

**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -  
 it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
 not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the  
 joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

**L** Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

**L** God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love. God, in your mercy,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**L** God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life. God, in your mercy,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**L** God of generous grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. God, in your mercy,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**L** God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. We pray for Heidi Brackbill, Rebecca Brennan, Michelle Drayson, the Elshafei family, Jeff Fultz, Mark Hughes, Kaitlyn Leedy, Charlotte Leer, Wendy Neumann, Rick Newman, Peter Olsen, Claudia Schober, D. J. Singer, the Spiegler family, Esther Trautwein, Pastor Jack, Vicki Brick Zupancic, and Pastor Greg and Monica. God, in your mercy,

**C receive our prayer.**

**L** God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all. God, in your mercy,

**C receive our prayer.**

**L** For whom or what else shall we pray?

*The congregation is invited at this time to lift up prayers quietly or aloud.*

**L** God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died. We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found. God, in your mercy,

**C receive our prayer.**

**L** Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**C Amen**

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C 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**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C Amen**

**SENDING HYMN:** [ELW#712 “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”](#)

**P** Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

\*Offering to be sent to  
Robert Brackbill  
10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church  
9122 Sybert Drive  
Columbia Hills  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: [https://tithe.ly/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS and Upcoming Events**

- Wednesday Lenten Series – Soup-and-Bread Supper and Bible Study, 6 pm
- Sunday, 4/7/2025 – Baptism of Magnolia Rogosky
- Maundy Thursday, 4/17/2025 – Service, 7 pm
- Easter Sunrise Service, 4/20/2025, 6:15 am – Fell’s Point, Broadway Pier
- Easter Sunday, 4/20/2025, 9:30 am - Regular Service



## **Upcoming Worship**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Liturgical Day</b>	<b>Preaching Texts</b>	<b>Worship Leader</b>
March 30	4 Lent	Luke 16:19-31	Dave and Duncan
April 6	5 Lent	Luke 18:31-19:10	Heidi and Bob
April 13	Palm Sunday	Luke 19:29-44	Julie and Dave

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