



Central Lutheran Church

**Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 10, 2024**

**The Rev. Veronika Czutor, Pastor
Harold Knight, PhD, Music Director
Rachel Brown, Administrative Assistant**

Central Lutheran Church, ELCA

1000 Easton Rd., Dallas, Texas

God calls us to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate Christ's love for all.

Please turn off your cell phone.

This service is being livestreamed to our neighbors near and far on Facebook.

Most of the sanctuary- including all leaders and worshippers- is on camera.

BELL PEAL (10:30 am)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSICAL MEDITATION

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

C Amen.

P Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God,

C we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

P Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church



1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
 so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
 you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
 we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
 and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
 know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
 glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
 so we are dead and live with you in God.
 so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God sent from heaven above, be with you all.

C And also with you.

and drew near | to death's door.

¹⁹**Then in their trouble they cried | to the LORD
and you delivered them from | their distress.**

²⁰You sent forth your | word and healed them
and rescued them | from the grave.

²¹**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your | steadfast love
and your wonderful works | for all people.**

²²Let them offer sacrifices | of thanksgiving
and tell of your deeds with | shouts of joy.

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in 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. ³All 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. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

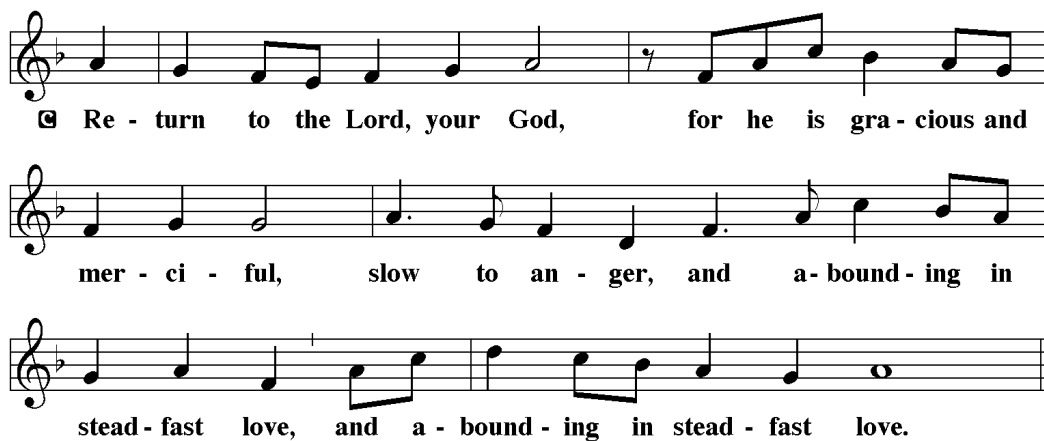
L Word of God, Word of Life

C Thanks be to God

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Veronika

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the third chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord

READING OF THE GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“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.

¹⁷“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. ¹⁸Those 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. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But 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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you O Christ

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Pastor Veronika

God Loved the World



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

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.

THE PRAYERS

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Please sit or kneel for prayer.

The response to each spoken petition is:

P Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

People with prayer needs: **Lydia** Landfair, **Selena** Dybdahl, **Paul** Chambers, **Linda** Gourley, **Karen** Sabattis, **Pat** Adair, and **Ylva** Wolfgang.

The prayers conclude:

P ...through your son Jesus Christ, our Lord

C Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace we share is a sign of God's mission of reconciliation among us and the reconciliation we have with one another in Christ Jesus. Please offer a symbol of reconciliation to one another.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

THE OFFERING

*We give thanks for what God has first given us. Our ministry to the people of East Dallas is supported by your offering. An offering plate is available in the narthex after worship. You may also use our online giving through **Vanco, PayPal, or Givelify** (available in the App Store) or continue to mail your offerings to our office.*

MUSICAL OFFERING: Kind Maker of the World

Sung by the choir

Kind Maker of the world, O hear the fervent prayer, with many a tear
Poured forth by all the penitent who keep this holy fast of Lent!

Each heart is manifest to Thee; thou knowest our infirmity;
Now we repent and seek Thy face; grant unto us Thy pardoning grace.

Spare us, O Lord, who now confess our sins and all our wickedness,
And, for the glory of Thy Name, our weakened souls to health reclaim.

Give us the discipline that springs from abstinence in outward things
With inward fasting, so that we in heart and soul may dwell with Thee.

Grant, O Thou blessed Trinity, grant, O unchanging Unity,
That this our fast of forty days may work our profit and Thy praise!

OFFERING PRAYER

P Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

C Amen.

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.

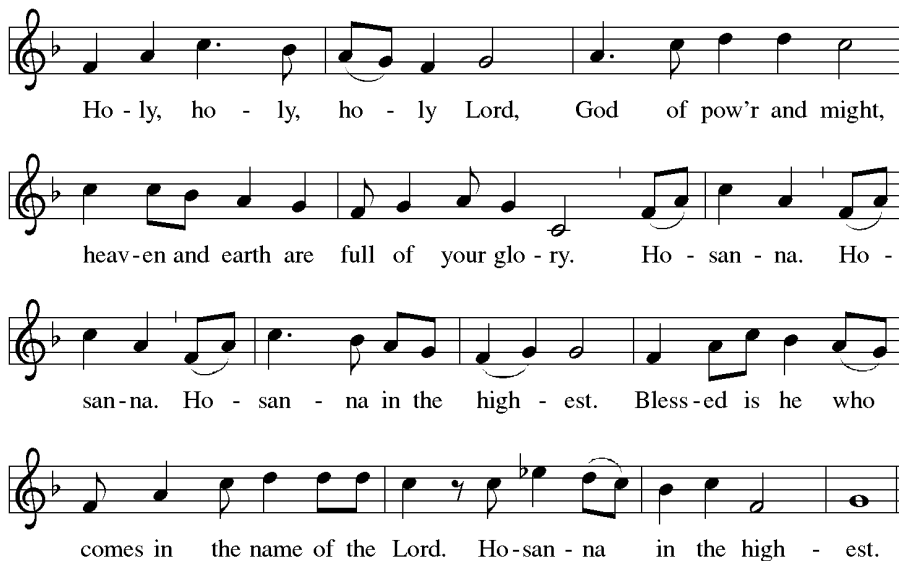
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed our duty and our joy . . . (*prayer concludes*) we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.... (*prayer continues*)

...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

Communion will be served at the altar rail, and you have the option to kneel or stand. The consecrated host will be immersed in the chalice and then placed in your hand. If your preference is to receive only the host, please communicate that to the ministers. We have gluten-free options available. Alternatively, if you'd prefer a blessing, simply fold your arms in front of your chest. Currently, there is no consecrated grape juice available.

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Follow the guidance of the ushers if you decide to walk up to the Altar to receive the Sacraments.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Meditative organ music is played as the congregation receives the Holy Communion.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on nothing less than
 2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I
 3 His oath, his covenant, his blood
 4 When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and right - eous - ness; no merit of my
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
 tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
 may I then in him be found, clothed in his right - eous -



own I claim, but wholly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain

On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share your bread.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgments:

Liturgy from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Gathering Hymn: *Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church*

Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931-2003

Music: OLD 124th, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

Text © Thomas H. Cain. Used by permission of estate.

Hymn of the Day: *God Loved the World*

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846-1923, alt.

Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731-1807, adapt.

Musical Offering: *Kind Maker of the World*

Text: Charles H. Giffen

Music: 16th Century French Folk Melody

Sending Hymn: *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

Central Lutheran Church



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

<p>Pastor: The Rev. Veronika Czutor 972-904-0245 reverend.veronika@gmail.com</p> <p>Music Director: Harold Knight, PhD harchiek74@gmail.com</p> <p>Administrative Assistant: Rachel Brown 214-327-2222 central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com</p>	<p>1000 Easton Rd. Dallas, TX 75218</p> <p>www.CentralLutheran.org</p> <p>www.facebook.com/CentralLutheranDallas</p>
---	--

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors, we are glad to have you with us and invite you to come again!

Pastor Veronika's Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10 am - 2 pm; other days/times by appointment

Serving in Worship Today: Usher: Sara Jutton & Judy Koble, and Lector: Jeff Lowry

Midweek Lenten Worship & Supper: We will joyfully join together with our siblings at Emmanuel Lutheran for our midweek Lenten worship at Central. **We will meet at 6:00pm for a supper of soup and sandwiches. Then at 7:00pm Pastor Rachel Ringlaben will lead us in worship using *Holden Evening Prayer*.** Pastor Veronika will turn our focus to the Psalms- a source of depth and wonder used in worship for over 3,000 years. **We will meet every Wednesday through March 20.** All are welcome!

Lenten Collections: We will have two collections during this Lenten season. If you can help with either of these collections, please bring your donations to the worship services (on Sunday or Wednesday). Thank you for your generosity!

1. During our mid-week worship services on Wednesdays, we will collect monetary donations for the North Texas-North Louisiana Synod Fund for Leaders. This fund benefits seminarians from our synod who are studying for vocations in ministry. To learn more about the fund go to the NT-NL's website (ntnl.org).
2. Throughout Lent will also collect food for our local food pantry at White Rock Center of Hope. We will deliver the food items on March 26. We are aiming to collect 20 of each of the following:
 - canned soup
 - cereal
 - boxed meals
 - bisquick mix
 - instant mashed potatoes
 - granola bars
 - bags of flour
 - cooking oil

Sanctuary Cleaning Day: We are returning to worship in our sanctuary on Palm Sunday. Next week- **March 17-** **we will gather after the worship service** to spruce up the sanctuary in preparation for our return. We will need help washing windows, vacuuming, hanging banners, etc. To keep our volunteers motivated, **pizza will be provided.** Thanks!

Candy Collection: During our Spring Festival, on March 23, we will have multiple egg hunts for different age groups. We have as many eggs as we need, but we are asking for donations of candy to fill the eggs. **Our last day for collection is Sunday, March 17.**

T-Shirt Orders: It is time for us to get some t-shirts that we can wear when we are doing volunteer and service events in or for our community! The shirts will be \$10 each. Financial assistance to cover the full cost is also available if needed. We want everyone who wants one to get one! To order a shirt, talk to Alesia Pearson or email the church office (Central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com) with your name and shirt size.



Scan this QR code (or go to linktr.ee/centrallutheranchurch) to connect with us, join our mailing list, or donate online.

Our Prayer List: Please submit your prayer requests to the church office via email (central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com) or via phone (214-327-2222).

PRAYERS FOR HEALING & COMFORT

For healing

Irisz Gonda
 Frank Seuberling
 Linda Gourley
 Sara Navarro Ruiz
 Erik Rojas Cobo
 Karen Sabattis
 Jerry Quarles
 Steve
 Pat Adair
 Maribeth Kilday
 Selena Dybdahl

Relationship

Friend of Pastor Veronika
 Friend of Harold Knight
 Sister of Julie Atkins
 Friend of Victor Chacon
 Friend of Victor Chacon
 Sister of Janet Rashbaum
 Cousin of Lisa Barse
 Friend of Rachel Brown
 Mother of Stefani Adair
 Friend of Myke Riley
 Sister of Mary Glenn

Church Members

Lydia Landfair	Kris McDowell
Don Smith	Yvonne Muirhead
Mario Montejo	Paul Chambers
Ylva Wolfgang	