Order of Worship + March 29, 2020 Fifth Sunday in Lent

* Confession and Forgiveness

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.

Please kneel as you are able.

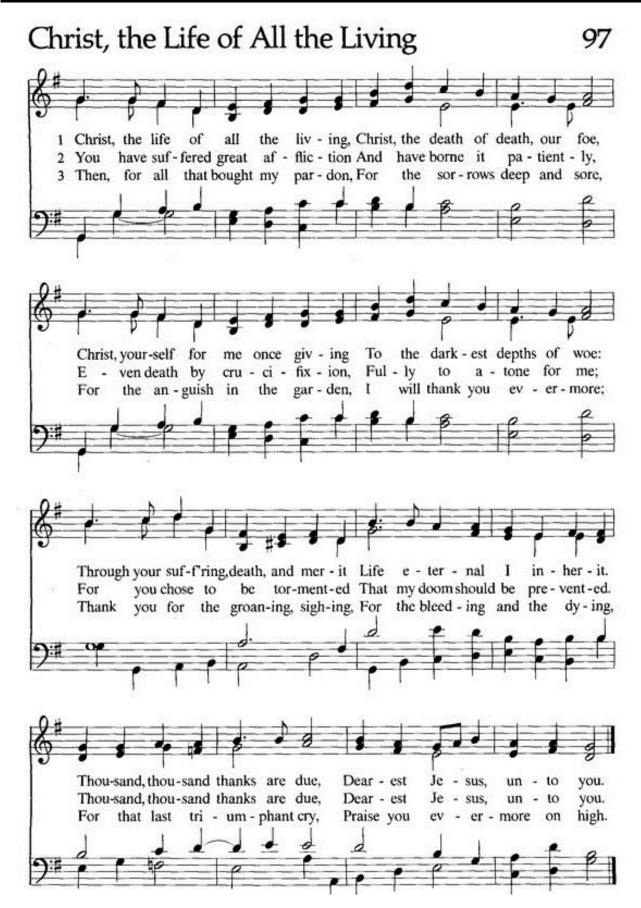
P: Most merciful God,

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

* Announcement of God's Forgiveness

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.



Salutation

- 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 LBW page 78

A: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

* Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray

C: Almighty God, look favorably upon your family. Graciously rule our bodies lest we are enticed to love the world, and guard our spirits lest we fail to recognize your love. Grant this, we pray,

through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know."

⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! ⁵ This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord."

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

¹¹ Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and

bring you up from them. ¹⁴ I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Praying the Psalms:

Psalm 130

Prayed responsively, please join in on verses in bold.

- L: Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord;
- C: Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.
- L: If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand?
- C: But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.
- L: I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.
- C: I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.
- L: Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.
- C: He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

Second Lesson:

Romans 8:1-11

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he

condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵ Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Announcement

John 11:1-45

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the eleventh chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

⁴When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." ⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So when he heard that

Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, ⁷ and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

- ⁸ "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?"
- ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. ¹⁰ It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light."
- ¹¹ After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."
- ¹² His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.
- ¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."
- ¹⁶ Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."
- ¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.
- ²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."
- ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."
- ²⁴ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."
- ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
- ²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

- ²⁸ After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." ²⁹ When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.
- ³² When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."
- ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴ "Where have you laid him?" he asked.
- "Come and see, Lord," they replied.
- ³⁵ Jesus wept.
- ³⁶ Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"
- ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"
- ³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ "Take away the stone," he said.
- "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."
- ⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"
- ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."
- ⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

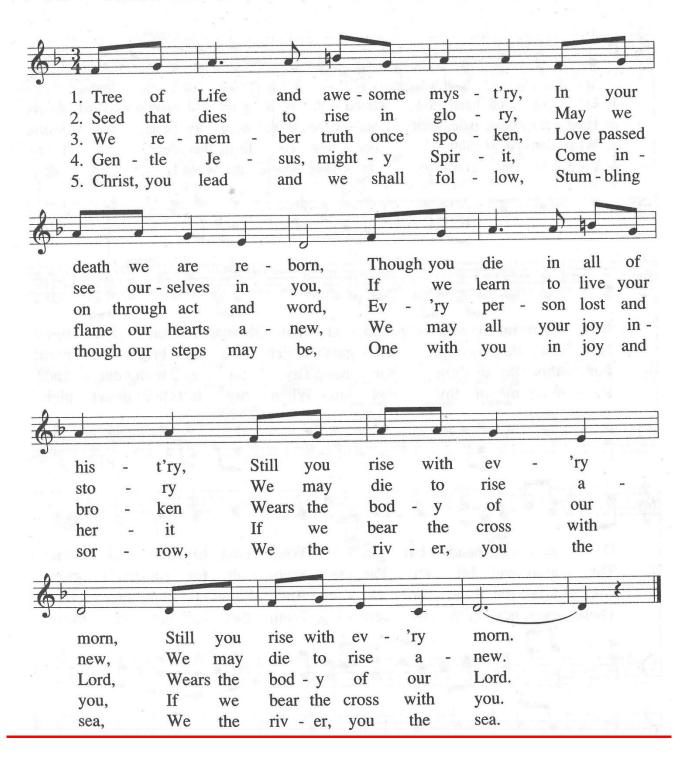
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Ken Nelson

*Sermon Song HS #742

742 TREE OF LIFE



* Apostles' Creed

- A: Let us profess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize:
- 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.

* Prayers of the Church

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

Almighty God, by your Word you laid the foundations of the earth and you see the beginning from the end. Surround us with your grace and peace, and preserve us during this time of great need.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Thank you, Holy Father, that nothing can separate us from your love through Christ Jesus our Lord. Strengthen us in his love, that we may consider the needs of others before our own. We especially pray for those who are isolated and cannot be with their loved ones during this time. May your Spirit continue to bind us together through your steadfast love which never fails.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Grant help and aid to those whose livelihoods are under threat. We ask you would provide for their needs, and draw them to turn to you in faith and hope in their distress.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

We pray for all physicians, nurses and other staff working in our hospitals. Grant them strength, wisdom, patience and skill as they seek to console and care for those who are sick and suffering.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Bless all those who work in our government, the armed forces, and those who provide essential services to protect and serve our communities. May they proceed with diligence and careful discernment in their efforts to serve us.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

We pray you would comfort all those who are afflicted in any way, especially for Jeanette Ketelsen, and those we name before you now. Assure them of your love, O Lord, that they might wait in hope for you.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

* Lord's Prayer

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

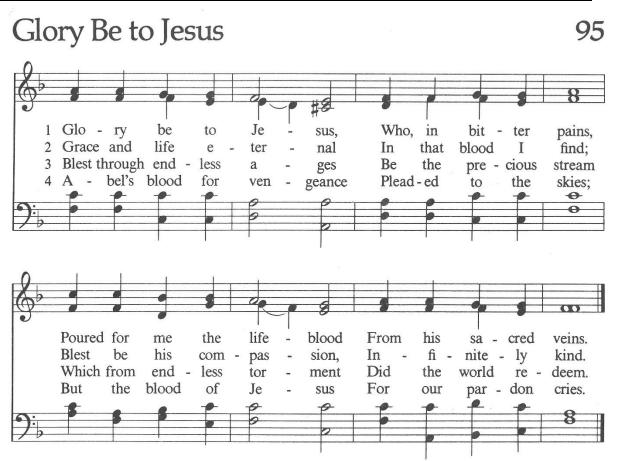
C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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.

*Closing Hymn

LBW #95



5 Oft as earth exulting
Wafts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing
Make their glad reply.

6 Lift we then our voices, Swell the mighty flood; Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood.

*Benediction

- 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. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen