



## **Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church**

*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

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### **Pastor Daniel Deardoff, Sr.**

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# **Fifth Sunday in Lent**

## **March 29th, 2020**



## AS WE GATHER

Long before Jesus' death and resurrection, God made clear to His people that death would not have the last word. As Ezekiel was inspired to write of the dry bones of death having life breathed into them, it would foreshadow the future for God's people through the One who conquered death and grave once for all. In a world of death and decay, we are sustained in our journey now until the resurrection of all flesh through Jesus Christ, our life-giving Lord and Savior.

## SERVICE OF PRAYER AND THE WORD

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

Elder of the Day

**OPENING HYMN**

*“O Holy Spirit, Enter In”*

LSB 913

**AN ACT OF ADORATION**

**Pastor:** Let us adore our Heavenly Father, who created us, who sustains us, who loves us with an everlasting love and gives the light of knowing of His glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

**People:** **We praise You, O God, we acknowledge You to be the Lord.**

**Pastor:** Let us glory in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, though He was rich, yet for our sakes became poor; who in every respect was tempted as we are, yet without sinning; who went about doing good and preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom; who became obedient unto death, even death on a cross; who died and is alive forevermore; who has opened the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers; who is seated at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father; who will come again, as Judge and King.

**People:** **You are the King of Glory, O Christ.**

**Pastor:** Let us rejoice in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, by whom we are born into the family of God, and made members of the body of Christ; whose witness confirms us, whose wisdom teaches us, whose power enables us to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think.

**People:** **All praise to You, O Holy Spirit.**

## AN ACT OF CONFESSION

**Pastor:** O God our Father, since you have set forth the way of life for us in Your beloved Son, we confess with shame our slowness to learn of Him, our failure to follow Him, our reluctance to bear the cross.

**People:** **Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.**

**Pastor:** Forgive us that so little of Your love has reached others through us, that we have been thoughtless in our judgments, hasty in condemnation, grudging in forgiveness, slow to seek reconciliation, unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.

**All:** **Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord. Have mercy on us O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Create in us clean hearts, O God and put a new and right spirit within us. Amen.**

## AN ACT OF ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:** God has sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Good Shepherd. He has laid down His life for our forgiveness and has taken His life back up again in His glorious resurrection. As a called and ordained servant of the risen Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **The Lord restores us and leads us in paths of righteousness. Amen.**

## ✠ READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE ✠

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Ezekiel 37:1–14*

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and He brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And He led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” Then He said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord.” So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were

sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O My people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O My people. And I will put My Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**~ *Read Responsively*

*Psalm 130*

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord!

**People: O Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

Leader: If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

**People: But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.**

Leader: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope;

**People: my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption.**

Leader: And He will redeem Israel from all His iniquities.

**All: Glory be the Father and to the ✠ Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## EPISTLE READING

*Romans 8:1-11*

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN

*“Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death”*

LSB 697

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 11th chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL READING

*John 11:17-27, 38-53*

Now when Jesus came, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met Him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever You ask from God, God will give You.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?” She said to Him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that

You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.” Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to Him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. I knew that You always hear Me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that You sent Me.” When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what He did, believed in Him, but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, “What are we to do? For this Man performs many signs. If we let Him go on like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.” But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all. Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.” He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. So from that day on they made plans to put Him to death.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**SERMON HYMN**                    *“The Lord, My God, Be Praised”*

LSB 794

**SERMON**    *“Spirit Controlled”*

*Romans 8:1-11*

**OFFERING**

**AN ACT OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Almighty God, we lift our hearts in gratitude to You, and for all Your loving kindness we bless Your holy name. For life and health, for love and friendship, and for the goodness and mercy that have followed us all the days of our life.

**People: We thank and praise You, O God.**

Pastor: For the wonder and beauty of the world; and for all the things true and honorable, just and pure, lovely and gracious.

**People: We thank and praise You, O God.**

Pastor: For the gift of Jesus Christ, Your only-begotten Son; for the grace and truth which came by Him; and for His obedience unto death on a cross.

**People: We thank and praise You, O God.**

Pastor: For His glorious Resurrection and ascension to Your right hand, and for His kingdom and glory and everlasting dominion.

**People: We thank and praise You, O God.**

Pastor: For the Holy Spirit, the Counselor, the Lord and Giver of life; for Your holy church throughout the world; for all the means of grace; and for the fellowship of the redeemed in heaven and on earth.

**People: We thank and praise You, O God. Glory, thanksgiving, and praise be to You, O Father Almighty, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

**HYMN**

*“We All Believe in One True God”*

LSB 953

### **AN ACT OF SUPPLICATION**

Pastor: The resurrection to eternal life has come to the world in Christ Jesus. Let us pray for the deliverance of all who belong to Christ by faith and for all for whom He died and rose again. O God, as You created everything out of nothing by Your mighty Word, so You have brought resurrection and eternal life to light by the mighty command of Your Son, Jesus, who went through death and emerged victorious over death.

**People: Help us to live as Your resurrection people, bringing the might of Your Word to all.**

Pastor: As our Lenten season soon transitions to Holy Week, help us continue to recognize our sin, our need for repentance, and our dependence on our Savior.

**People: Help us learn to continually put to death those things of the flesh that lead us astray, that we be fed and led by Your life-giving Spirit.**

Pastor: We lift up those who mourn and carry grief and sorrow in the loss of loved ones.

**People: Enable and equip us to be heralds of the hope that is ours and witness to Christ and the power of His resurrection.**

Pastor: Inspire and bless all called to preach Your Word and administer Your Holy Sacraments with resurrection power, that they do not grow weary but grow in compassion and perseverance.

**People: For the sake of Your Word, by which You cause repentance and faith to issue from human hearts, guide the leaders of nations and communities in our world to pursue ways of peace and tranquility among people, that Your Word be preached for the salvation of all.**

Pastor: Comfort and heal all those who are sick or infirm, disabled, or troubled, [*especially . . .*]. Breathe Your life-giving Spirit into all in need, that hope, comfort, and peace in You may be theirs. Remind us that our ultimate healing is in the resurrection of the dead and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: (*Special petitions that end in, "Lord, in Your mercy"*).

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

## BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN     *"Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower"*     LSB 694

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## OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### 9:00AM SUNDAY

**Rick Melius**

Elder

**Bella Reif**

**Karlee Small**

Acolytes

**Sarah Peterson**

Organist

**Mike Beyer**

Congregational Chairman

**Rick Melius**

Head Elder