

**Third Sunday in Lent**  
**March 7, 2021**



**GOLD HILL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*A CONGREGATION OF THE MONTANA SYNOD OF  
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA)*

*Welcome to Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church,  
and a special welcome to our guests and those returning after a time away.  
We're gathered as a Christian community to worship the Lord!*

*Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!  
Please let us know if there are other ways we can be of service.*

***Our Congregation's Mission Statement:  
EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE***

***The Guiding Principles of God's People at Gold Hill Lutheran***

*Principle 1: Jesus Christ is our Lord & Savior*

*Principle 2: The Holy Spirit & worship strengthen us*

*Principle 3: We are a welcoming & inviting community in Christ*

*Principle 4: We share the Word with confidence and courage*

*Principle 5: Our faith leads us to serve joyfully*

*Principle 6: We are generous with our gifts*

**[www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT](http://www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT)**

**Check out our NEW website at [www.GoldHillELCA.org](http://www.GoldHillELCA.org)**

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**Today's Worship Leader**

**Worship Leader:**

**Pastor Marlow Carrels**

**Lector:**

**Heatherlynn Meeks**

**Music Leader:**

**Dave Coleman**

**Ushers:**

**Chris Ketchum**

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## **Third Sunday in Lent**

### **March 7, 2021**

Bolded texts are said in unison.

### **Gathering**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **Invocation**

We gather in the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

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**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

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**

***Entrance Hymn: Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery ELW 334***

- 1 Tree of life and awesome myst'ry,  
in your death we are reborn;  
though you die in all of hist'ry,  
still you rise with ev'ry morn,  
still you rise with ev'ry morn.
- 2 We remember truth once spoken,  
love passed on through act and word;  
ev'ry person, lost and broken  
wears the body of our Lord,  
wears the body of our Lord.
- 3 Christ, you lead and we shall follow,  
stumbling though our steps may be;  
one with you in joy and sorrow,  
we the river, you the sea,  
we the river, you the sea

*The following may be sung as the final stanza:*

*Lent 3*

Living Water of salvation,  
be the fountain of each soul;  
springing up in new creation,  
flow in us and make us whole.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

**Greeting**

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.**

**Kyrie**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**  
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
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. **Lord, have mercy.**  
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us  
pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**  
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen**

## **Prayer of the Day**

**Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

## **Word**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## **Blessing of Lectors**

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from you. Bless those who will read to us the scriptures. Make us hunger for the Word of life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## **Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

## **Psalm: Psalm 19**

<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky proclaims its maker’s handiwork.

<sup>2</sup>**One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

<sup>3</sup>Although they have no words or language,  
and their voices are not heard,

<sup>4</sup>**Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the  
ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

<sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

- <sup>6</sup>**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**
- <sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
- <sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**
- <sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**
- <sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- <sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**
- <sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get  
dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of  
a great offense.
- <sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be  
acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

**Gospel: John 2:13-22**

*As the gospel is announced:*

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 2nd chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

*As the gospel is concluded:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Old Testament: Exodus 20:1-17**

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Pastor Marlow Carrels

*Hymn of the Day: In the Cross of Christ I Glory ELW 324*

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,  
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story  
gathers round its head sublime.
- 2 When the woes of life o'er-take me,  
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
never shall the cross forsake me;  
lo, it glows with peace and joy.
- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming  
light and love upon my way,  
from the cross the radiance streaming  
adds more luster to the day.
- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
by the cross are sanctified;  
peace is there that knows no measure,  
joys that through all time abide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872

**Apostles' Creed**

**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**

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*\*Or, He descended to the dead.*

### **The Prayers**

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation,  
let us pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

*Each portion of the prayer concludes:*

**Your mercy is great.**

### **Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### **Meal**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### **Offering Prayer**

Faithful God,  
you walk beside us in desert places,  
and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.  
Accompany us in this meal,  
that we may pass over from death to life  
with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

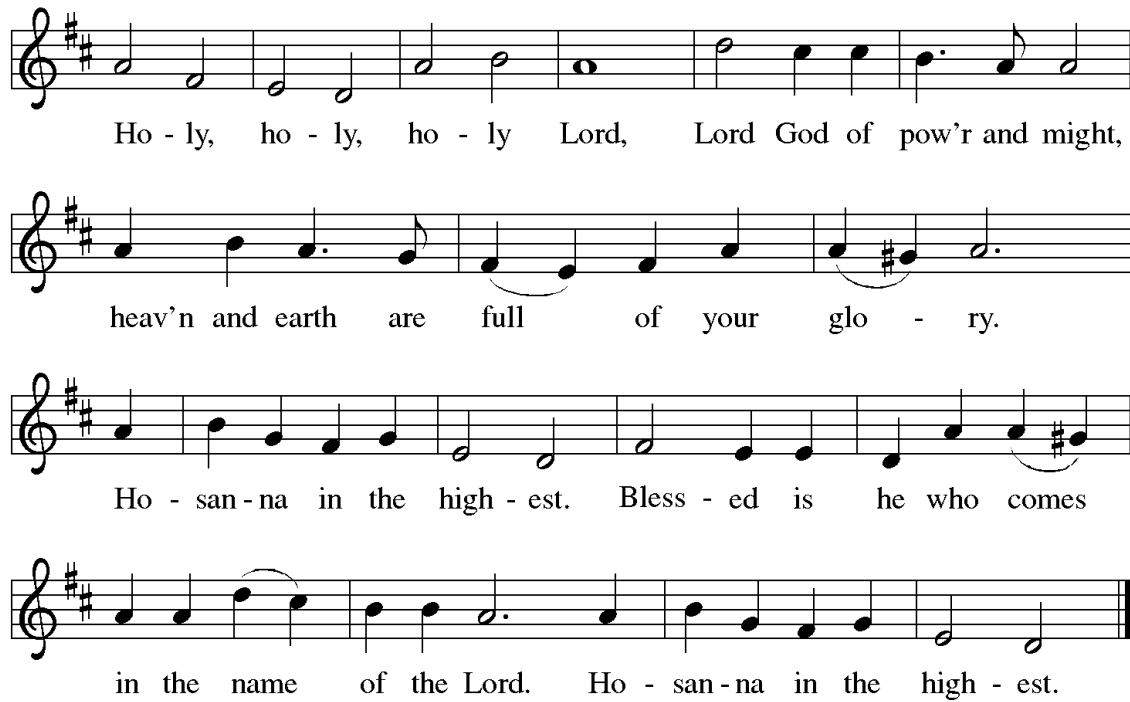
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Although our road has been stony going, you have given us the power to stand firm in the face of wickedness and to rejoice in triumph over death and the grave. And so, with the multitude from east and west, from north and south, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we lift our voices in the unending hymn:

### **Holy, Holy, Holy**



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

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the redemption you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts to establish in us a living faith and prepare us joyfully to receive our Redeemer who comes to us in his body and blood.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

### **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**

### **Distribution of Communion**

#### **Prayer**

God of steadfast love,  
at this table you gather your people  
into one body for the sake of the world.  
Send us in the power of your Spirit,  
that our lives bear witness to the love  
that has made us new  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

*Silence for reflection.*

### **Sending**

#### **Benediction**

You are what God made you to be:  
created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
chosen as holy and beloved,  
freed to serve your neighbor.  
God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing,  
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.  
**Amen**

***Sending Hymn: Lift High the Cross ELW 660***

Refrain:

Lift high the cross,  
the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore  
his sacred name.

- 1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,  
our king victorious, Christ, the son of God.

Refrain:

Lift high the cross,  
the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore  
his sacred name.

- 2 All newborn servants of the Crucified  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.

Refrain:

Lift high the cross,  
the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore  
his sacred name.

- 3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.

Refrain:

Lift high the cross,  
the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore  
his sacred name.

- 4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
praise to the Crucified for victory!

Refrain:

Lift high the cross,  
the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore  
his sacred name.

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**