

REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

4955 W. 158<sup>th</sup> Street

Oak Forest, Illinois 60452

708-687-2432

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022

9:30A.M.

The cost of our Bulletin cover is donated by  
**McKENZIE FUNERAL HOME**  
15618 Cicero Avenue Oak Forest, Illinois (708) 687-2990



4<sup>th</sup>  
**Sunday**   
*in* **Lent**

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*Leader~ Tony Ogarek/ Sermon~ Jan Strojny*  
*Organist/ Piano~ Amy Ogarek*  
*Office Administrator~ Deb Frawley*

Music Coordinator~ Jan Strojny  
Videographer~ Art James  
Ministers- The People of Redeemer's

**LECTOR**            **Kathy Meckel**



Altar flowers  
are given in celebration of  
Grandson Jacob's 14<sup>th</sup> birthday  
&  
Granddaughter Jordyn's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday!

*March 27 there will be a short congregational meeting to accept the Annual book of reports.*

*Easter is around the corner, and again we are taking orders for Easter Lilies to adorn the chancel area for Easter morning. The cost is \$15 each. Please put money in a separate envelope with your name and quantity on it and put in the offering plate. Orders need*



*to be paid for by Palm Sunday, April 10. Again, you will be able to take yours home or gift it after worship on April 17.*



**Meal in the Upper Room**  
**April 14, 2022**  
**7pm**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ settings under the  
name of \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ (name) would like to read a Bible passage during  
the service.

Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ (name) is able to help with the preparation of the  
meal.

Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ (name) is able to help with the clean up after the  
meal.

**\*\*\*Please make your reservation as soon as possible.\*\*\***

**PLEASE PLACE IN OFFERING PLATE.**



**March 27, 2022**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

*“Discovering Christ’s community through building relationships”*

++++  
*We have embarked on a “journey of the heart,” walking these Lenten days toward resurrection. Embracing transformation, new possibilities, and new life is what our journey is all about. But we still have work to do before we arrive in the garden with an empty tomb*

Prelude: “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”

Welcome  
(Please stand as able)

*Brief Order of Confession & Forgiveness:*

P: In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. **Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection*

**C: Holy One, we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you

under wings of love. In † Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

**C: Amen.**

*Passing of the Peace:*

*“During this time of Covid, please remain in your pew, but share a sign of peace with the neighbors around you”*

*Gathering Song:* "Surely the Presence"

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,  
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.  
I can hear the brush of angel's wings,  
I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place**

*Greeting*

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*

**Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy. (repeat)  
Christ, have mercy on us; O Christ have mercy. (repeat)  
Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy. (repeat)**

***The Prayer of the Day***

**C: 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. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

*The first reading is from the 5<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Joshua*

*First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12*

*By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.*

<sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

**C: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Postlude:*



*Wednesdays during Lent: Study at 7pm  
March 30 & April 6*

*Sunday, April 10: Palm Sunday 9:30am*

*Thursday, April 14: Maundy Thursday/Good Friday 7pm*

***Sunday, April 17: 9:30am***

***The Resurrection of Our Lord!***

Your people cry for help in times of distress. Resolve disagreements among family members. Save those experiencing financial hardship. Hear our prayers for those who are sick or grieving (*especially*). Console us with the promise that everything can become new. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Your love comes to us when a table is set and a feast is prepared. Bless the feeding ministries of this congregation. Bring an end to hunger in our community and around the world. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

The one who was dead is alive again. We give thanks for those who have died, confident that steadfast love surrounds them. Shelter them in your love until we are gathered at your heavenly banquet. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**  
*(Please stand as able)*

**Offertory Prayer**

**C: Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.**

**Lord's Prayer (spoken):**

**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.**

**Blessing**

P: You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ☩ bless you this day and always.

**C: Amen.**

**Sending Hymn: "Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land" Red book #333**

Page 3

L: Word of God. Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Song:

"He Grew the Tree"

Jan

*The second reading is from the 5<sup>th</sup> Chapter of 2 Corinthians*

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

*One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.*

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L: Word of God. Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as able)*

**Gospel Acclamation: "Turn Back to the Lord"**

**C: Turn back to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in love and faithfulness. Slow to anger and abounding in love and faithfulness.**

*The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter*

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Gospel Reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32*

*Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.*

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>“There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

**P: The Gospel of the Lord.**

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

*Sermon*

*(Please stand as able)*

**Sermon Hymn:**

**“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”**

**red book# 338**

**Apostle’s Creed**

**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**

*(Please be seated)*

*Prayers of Intercession*

P: Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Jesus formed the disciples in the ways of extravagant mercy and profound welcome. Lead your church to be a community marked by forgiveness, hospitality, and celebration. Send us to transform a world plagued by fear and condemnation. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You make the land to produce a harvest that sustains your entire creation. Equip farmers and farm workers who till the soil. Nourish the earth with ample rainfall and abundant sunshine. Heal grounds tainted by pollution or misuse. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Countries are divided and leaders often harbor grudges. Reconcile nations that experience conflict (*especially*). Act quickly to bring an end to war. Anoint peacemakers trained in the art of diplomacy and foster a spirit of collaboration among political rivals. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**