

# Fourth Sunday in Lent: A Service of Holy Communion

## Leader's Guide

### GATHERING

**\*Weekly Announcements**

**(begin at 10:05 a)**

**\*Prelude**

**(begins at 10:15a)**

**Welcome**

**Pastor Dustin (begins at 10:20a)**

Messiah Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and welcomes all people into full participation in the body of Christ without regard to race, nationality, ethnicity, ability, marital status, gender identity or sexual orientation.

### Kyrie Eleison

**VIDEO**

P. Holy and merciful God,  
we come to you confessing we have sinned in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone....

**A.**

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of two systems of music. The first system begins with the lyrics: "Greek Ky - ri-e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri-e e - le - i - son. English Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy." The second system continues with: "Ky - ri-e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri-e e - le - i - son. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy." The score includes vocal lines for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass, with lyrics written below the notes. The bass line is a simple accompaniment of whole notes.

P. We have not loved you with our whole heart, soul, and strength.  
We have not expressed the mind of Christ.  
We have not stayed in step with the Spirit....

**A. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.  
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

P. Our lives are distorted and the lives of others diminished by our self-indulgence and sloth, pride and privilege, fearfulness and faithlessness, avoidance of our kin, apathy towards other species, degradation of your creation, and disregard for future generations....

**A. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.  
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

P. O God our Savior, amidst our being overwhelmed by our individual and collective transgressions, by the harm that we have caused our neighbors near and far, by the persistence of evil in our lives and in the world, we seek your mercy, illumination, and might....

**A. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.  
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

P. Forgive us, we pray, through Christ our Lord, guide us by your Word, and strengthen us in your Spirit, so that we may increasingly discern and do the fast acceptable to you and so embody your love for the world.  
Amen.

## **Gathering Hymn – *Amazing Grace***

**VIDEO**

### **Welcome**

P. The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**A. And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

P. O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**A. Amen.**

P. We shall continue with our first reading.

## WORD

### **First Reading – Numbers 21:4-9**

### **NEW VIDEO**

From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

### **Musical Meditation**

### **VIDEO music with overlay video**

### **Gospel Reading - John 3:14-21**

### **Rev. Jonathan Vanderbeck**

[Jesus said:] "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "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. "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. Those 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. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But 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."

### **Sermon**

### **Rev. Jonathan Vanderbeck**

### **Hymn of the Day – *As Moses Raised the Serpent Up***

### **VIDEO**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

- P. We ask that you lift up your prayers in the comments section of Facebook Live (or in your hearts) at this time.
- P. Hear us, O God
- A. Your mercy is great.**

## **Intro to Response to God's Call: Lord You Are My Strength**

- P. In this Lenten Season, we are reminded of the brokenness of this world and our need for God. But we are also reminded that we are called by God to enter into this world and to respond to the brokenness. We call for God to strengthen us in our response.

## **Response to God's Call: Lord You Are My Strength      VIDEO**

### **Peace**

- P. And may the peace of Christ be with you always.
- A. And also with you.**
- P. Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

## **MEAL**

### **Contact Us and Offering\*\*\***

**TWO SLIDES**

- P. We know that some are joining us here at Messiah for the first time. If you'd like to learn more about our ministries and activities, or for any one with questions about Messiah, please contact us by email or by phone. At this time, if you'd like to make an online gift using [tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) or via mail to Messiah, feel free to do so.

### **Offering interlude music and slide**

**VIDEO**

### **Offering Prayer**

- P. 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 Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

P. The Lord be with you.

**A. And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts!

**A. We lift them up to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P. Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty  
to give thanks to you at all times and in all places,  
O Lord our Creator,  
almighty and everlasting God!

You created heaven with all its hosts and the earth with all its plenty.  
You have given us life and being,  
and preserve us by your providence.

But you have shown us the fullness of your love  
in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ,  
the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation.

For the precious gift of this mighty Savior who has reconciled us to you  
we praise and bless you, O God.

With your whole Church on earth and with all the company of heaven  
we worship and adore your glorious name, together we say:

**A. Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

*(Brief Silence)*

P. Most righteous God,  
we remember in this Supper  
the perfect sacrifice offered once on the cross by our Lord Jesus Christ  
for the sin and suffering of the whole world.

In the joy of his resurrection and in expectation of his coming again,  
we offer ourselves to you as holy and living sacrifices.  
Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

**A. Christ has died!**  
**Christ is risen!**  
**Christ will come again!**

P. Send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray,  
that the bread which we break  
and the cup which we bless  
may be to us the communion of the body and blood of Christ.  
Grant that, being joined together in him,  
we may attain to the unity of the faith  
and grow up in all things into Christ our Lord.  
And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf,  
and these grapes from many hills into one cup,  
grant, O Lord, that your whole Church  
may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth  
into your kingdom.  
Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

## **Lord's Prayer**

**VIDEO**

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

P. On 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.

## **Invitation to Communion**

- P. Even when we cannot be physically together, we are one in Christ Jesus united around a common table. Indeed, at this table, Jesus gathers us all together: the humble and the proud, the joyful and the grieving, the pious and the profane, those of strong faith and those who only long for faith, to everyone, without exception. Come siblings in faith, and join in Spirit filled community!

## **Distribution of the Sacrament**

**VIDEO**

*At this time, all may share Holy Communion amongst their families.*

## **Post Communion Blessing**

- P. The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious blood strengthen you, and keep you in God's Grace. Amen.
- A. **Amen.**

## **Prayer After Communion**

- P. 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.**

## **Blessing**

- P. 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.

## **Sending Hymn – *May the Grace of Christ Our Savior***

**VIDEO**

## **Benediction**

- P. Go in peace. Share the good news.
- A. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

**VIDEO**