THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

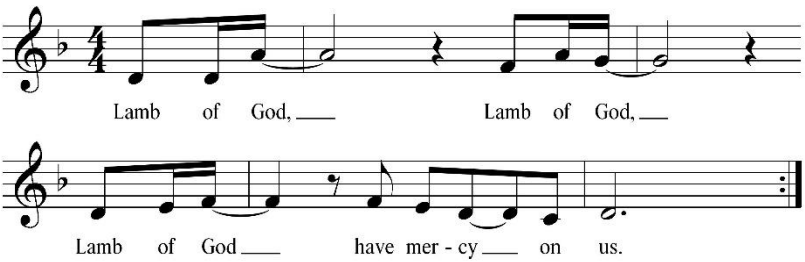
ORDER OF WORSHIP • MARCH 30, 2025 • 9:00 AM

✝ *Indicates the congregation should stand as able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

✝ SONG OF CONFESSION LAMB OF GOD, LAMB OF GOD

The cantor sings the petitions. All sing the refrain:



✝ CONFESSION

WL: Beloved in the Lord, hear these words from the Prophet Isaiah:

He was despised and rejected by mankind,
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.
Like one from whom people hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.
Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.
5 But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed.
We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

Let us silently confess our sins before the throne of the Lamb.

a time for silent confession and reflection

✢ ABSOLUTION

WL: People of God, take heart! The Lord has heard your cry.
The Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
The one who gave his life in love always stretches forth his arms to welcome the wandering ones home.
Go now, restored and forgiven. Take up your cross and follow him.
In the name of the Father, and of the ✢ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

✢ PRAYER OF THE DAY

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

WL: Let us pray. 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.

All: Amen.

FIRST LESSON — ISAIAH 12:1-6

R: The First lesson for this Fourth Sunday in Lent is from the twelfth chapter of the prophet Isaiah.

In that day you will say:

"I will praise you, Lord. Although you were angry with me, your anger has turned away and you have comforted me.
Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.
The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense;
he has become my salvation."
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

In that day you will say:

"Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done,
and proclaim that his name is exalted.
Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things;
let this be known to all the world.
Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,
for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON — 2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21

R: Our Epistle lesson is from the 5th chapter of Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.

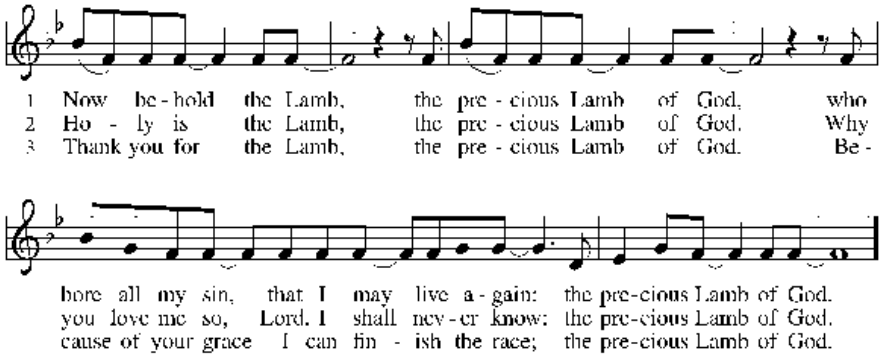
So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

✢ VERSE — NOW BEHOLD THE LAMB

LED BY THE PARISH CHOIR — BY KIRK FRANKLIN



☩ HOLY GOSPEL — LUKE 15:1-3, 11-32

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord!

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

"Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

"The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

"'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, O Christ!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

TODAY'S MESSAGE

✢ MESSAGE HYMN ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME

LSB #328, STANZAS 1, 2, 3, 6, 7

✢ PROFESSION OF FAITH *Apostles' Creed*

WL: With God's people throughout the ages, let us boldly confess our faith, with the words of the Apostles' Creed:

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

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Service of the Sacrament

✢ PREFACE

WL: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
WL: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them to the Lord.
WL: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

✢ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

✢ THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

✢ PAX DOMINI

WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
All: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION HYMN JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA
LBW # 296

✢ THE DISMISSAL

WL: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.
All: Amen.

✢ CLOSING PRAYER

WL: Let us pray. Lamb of God, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in your holy name.

All: Amen.

✢ BLESSING

WL: 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.

All: Amen.

✢ SENDING SONG — THIS TRAIN IS BOUND FOR GLORY

This train is bound for glory *(3X)*
Children, get on board!

No more weepin' and a-wailin'. *(3X)*
Children, get on board!

This train is bound for justice. *(3X)*
Children, get on board!

No more weepin' and a-wailin'. *(3X)*
Children, get on board!

✢ SENDING

WL: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God.

PRINCE of PEACE
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TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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LAMB OF GOD, LAMB OF GOD
Text and Music: David Ludwig, Jr.

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