



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Mid-week Lenten Worship - 12:15 p.m.- March 25, 2020

“The Heart Renewed”

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, Father, Son, + and Holy Spirit, who forgives all our sin, and whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and are not worthy to be called your children. Please forgive us and turn us from our sinful ways. Bring us back to you as those who once were dead but now have life, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

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.

P: Let us pray:

C: God of new life, on this Lenten journey we are increasingly aware of the numbness we feel in our hearts. We have set them on the things of this world, only to be disappointed and discouraged. Turn our hearts to you, in confidence that you will breathe new and joyful life into our souls. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE READINGS:

A RESPONSIVE READING FROM PSALM 130

P: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;

C: My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.

P: O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord There is steadfast love; with the Lord there is plenteous redemption.

C: For the Lord shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

EZEKIEL 37:1-14

¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on 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." ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, sud-

denly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath,² and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹ Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹² Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here."

The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God.

HOMILY.....Pastor Schul

PRAYER AT NOONTIME

A: Let us pray. Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, at this hour you bore our sins in your own body and the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness. Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death, and grant to us, your servants, with all others who devoutly remember your blessed Passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and, through your grace, eternal glory in the life to come; where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, God forever. Amen.

WE SHARE THE LORD'S PEACE

PRAYER IN TIME OF NATIONAL DISTRESS

P: Eternal God, amid all the turmoil and changes of the world your love is steadfast and your strength never fails. In this time of danger and trouble, be to us a sure guardian and rock of defense. Guide the leaders of our nation with your wisdom, comfort those in distress, and grant us courage and hope to face the future; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

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.

P: Almighty and Merciful God,
The Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C: Amen.

THE SENDING

A: Go in peace, Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



**Join us again next Wednesday April 1, for Lenten worship
as we continue to offer worship online.**

The Rev. Scott E Schul, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick, Pastor

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