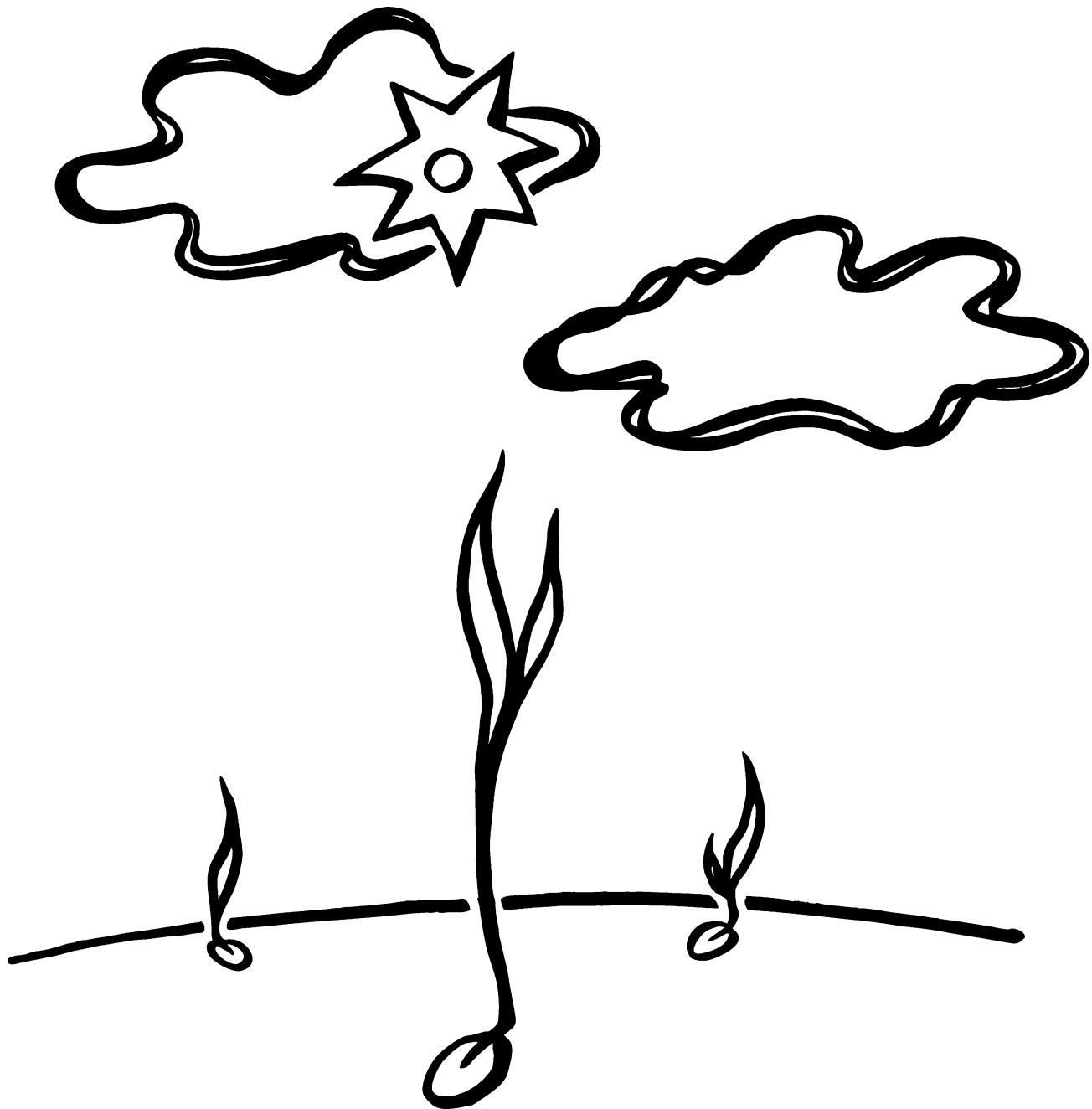




**Lord of Life**  
Lutheran Church



*You matter to God.  
You matter to us.  
Fifth Sunday in Lent  
March 21, 2021*

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
Service of the Word

**THE GATHERING**

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

**Prelude: A Reflection on the Cross**

**arr. Heather Sorenson**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism for the Season of Lent**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness,  
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, fountain of living water,  
source of mercy, tender and mighty,  
you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.  
**Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

Your love flows through water,  
satisfying the thirst of all living things,  
sustaining life in this community,  
nourishing and delighting us.

We bless you for these gifts of water:  
Your steadfast love fills the earth.  
**Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

Your love flows through water,  
a sign of your saving power:  
Noah and the animals survive the flood,  
Hagar discovers your well.  
The Israelites escape through the sea,  
and they drink from your gushing rock.  
Naaman washes his leprosy away,

and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.  
Your steadfast love fills the earth.  
**Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

Your love flows through the water of baptism  
joined to your life-giving Word:  
your well of mercy and cleansing flood,  
your sea of deliverance from death into life,  
your healing river washing sin away,  
your living water springing up to eternal life.  
Your steadfast love fills the earth.  
**Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

Shower us with your Holy Spirit.  
Fill us with your love.  
Clothe us and all your people with grace.  
Embolden us to do justice.  
Bless us to love mercy.  
Guide us to walk humbly with you,  
whom we thank and praise, through Jesus Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **Gathering Song: Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land**

**ELW 333**

Jesus is a rock in a weary land,  
a weary land, a weary land;  
my Jesus is a rock in a weary land,  
a shelter in a time of storm.

No one can do like Jesus,  
not a mumbling word he said;  
he went walking down to Lazarus'  
grave,  
and he raised him from the dead.

Jesus is a rock in a weary land,  
a weary land, a weary land;  
my Jesus is a rock in a weary land,  
a shelter in a time of storm.

When Jesus was on earth,  
the flesh was very weak;

he took a towel and girded himself  
and he washed his disciples' feet.

Jesus is a rock in a weary land,  
a weary land, a weary land;  
my Jesus is a rock in a weary land,  
a shelter in a time of storm.

Yonder comes my Savior,  
him whom I love so well;  
he has the palm of victory  
and the keys of death and hell.

Jesus is a rock in a weary land,  
a weary land, a weary land;  
my Jesus is a rock in a weary land,  
a shelter in a time of storm.

## **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**

**Have mercy on us, Lord,  
and hear our solemn prayer.  
We come to hear your living word;  
it saves us from despair.**

**Have mercy on us, Christ,  
and wash away our sin.**

**Pour out your grace and make us  
whole  
that new life may begin.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord;  
make sin and shame depart.  
Renew us with your saving pow'r;  
create in us new hearts.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## THE WORD

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

### First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

*The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.*

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

A reading from Hebrews.

*Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.*

<sup>5</sup>Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

<sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup>and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**We are turning, Lord to hear you;  
you are merciful and kind —  
slow to anger, rich in blessing,  
and with love to us inclined.**

### **Gospel: John 12:20-33**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.*

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup>“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world

will be driven out.<sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.”<sup>33</sup> He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day: *As the Sun with Longer Journey*

**ELW 329**

As the sun with longer journey  
melts the winter's snow and ice,  
with its slowly growing radiance  
warms the seed beneath the earth,  
may the sun of Christ's uprising  
gently bring our hearts to life.

Through the days of waiting, watching,  
in the desert of our sin,  
searching on the far horizon  
for a sign of cloud or wind,  
we await the healing waters  
of our Savior's victory.

Praise be given to the maker  
of the seasons' yearly round:  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit--  
Source, Sustainer, Lord of life,  
as the ever turning ages  
roll to their eternal rest.

## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;**

he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need... **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### **MEAL AND OFFERING**

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

### **Offering: Create in me a Clean Heart**

**ELW 186**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

### **Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Thanksgiving for the Word

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

*Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

**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.**

## THE SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## Announcements

### Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\pm$  give you peace.

**Amen.**

**Sending Song: *The Lord Now Sends Us Forth***

**ELW 538**

The Lord now sends us forth  
with hands to serve and give,  
to make of all the earth  
a better place to live.

that falls to you and me  
and all who are made free.  
Help us, O Lord, we pray,  
to do your will today.

The Lord now sends us forth  
with hands to serve and give,  
to make of all the earth  
a better place to live.

The angels are not sent  
into our world of pain  
to do what we were meant  
to do in Jesus' name;  
that falls to you and me  
and all who are made free.  
Help us, O Lord, we pray,  
to do your will today.

The angels are not sent  
into our world of pain  
to do what we were meant  
to do in Jesus' name;

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: *Beautiful Savior***

**setting, Greg Bottomley**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Worship on the Web**

Bible study: Mondays at 7 PM

Sunday school: Sundays 10 AM

Confirmation: Visit <https://www.lordoflife.online/confirmation.html> for information on your class.

### **Via Zoom:**

<https://bit.ly/2YYHkGh>

Meeting ID: 563 582 7371

Passcode: Luther

### **Phone in at:**

(312)626-6799

Meeting ID: 563 582 7371

Passcode: 456037

### **Upcoming Worship Gatherings**

- Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> Parking Lot Service, 4:00 PM
- Easter Sunday Parking Lot Service, 10:00 AM
- Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup> In-Person Service

You will be receiving a letter in the mail in the next few days with further information from your Music and Worship team. If you have any other questions or would like to sign up for the above dates, please don't hesitate to call the office at (563) 582-7371.

### **Easter Lilies**

With Easter Sunday right around the corner, sign up to donate lilies for the altar! The cost is \$8.00. Call the office to sign up, and provide payment by mail to the church or drop it off during our office hours, 9 AM - 3 PM Monday through Friday.

### **Midweek Lenten Services**

Join us each Wednesday at 7:00 PM during Lent as we read the Psalms and hear messages of hope in Jesus Christ as provided by seminarians. We will use Evening Prayer as our framework as we encounter Christ on our journey through Lent and into Holy Week. Visit [lordoflife.online/worship-online](http://lordoflife.online/worship-online) to join.

### **First Communion Instruction**

Pastor Paul will be offering First Communion Instruction for all who are interested, particularly for any current 5th or 6th graders and families. If you'd like to be included in updates about how we will offer instruction, please let us know by contacting the church office at (563) 582-7371 or by emailing Pastor Paul at [pastor@lordoflifedbq.org](mailto:pastor@lordoflifedbq.org) today.

## Monday Bible Study

Join Pastor Paul and friends Monday evenings at 7:00 PM each week as we read through the lessons for the coming week and share some conversation.

## Do you have news or an announcement to share?

Fill out our new form! Visit <https://lordoflife.breezechms.com/form/a76319> and provide the requested information or call our office at (563) 582-7371. The form collects your email address if I have any questions for you. Thank you.

## Prayer List

Tricia and Alec Roschen

Dave & Barb Morreim

Tom & Coral Mosbo

Bryan & Kristy Mours and family

Deron & Tamara Muehring and family

Kirk & Linda Mushrush

Dean Niklasen and family

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Share our Abundance...imagine Lord of Life  
debt free in the next decade...picture the  
congregation staffed with a faith formation  
director...In four short weeks we launch our  
campaign as we prepare to Share our  
Abundance to care for each other, our  
community, and the world in the coming  
years...stay tuned for more in the  
weeks ahead!

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**NOW Worship Leader**  
Bri Ensign

**Faith Formation Coordinator**  
Vacant

**Choir Director**  
Susan Hansen

