

# **Holy Spirit Lutheran Church**

**Third Sunday in Lent**

**March 23, 2025**

**Vicar Tom Kaye (Smoot)**

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

2205 Old Liberty Road, Eldersburg, MD 21784

Church Office 410-795-6333

HSLC Website--[www.hslceldersburgmd.org](http://www.hslceldersburgmd.org)



***We extend the warmest welcome*** to all worshipping with us today. Whether this is your first time worshipping with us, you haven't been in a while, or you are here regularly; we are so glad you are here! If this is your first time with us, we ask that you sign our Friendship Book, so that we might pray with/for you, get to know you better, and check-in with you from time to time.

***Holy Communion is open to all.*** In this church, we preach, teach, and confess that this is the table of Jesus, and it is Jesus who invites you to His table. You need not be a member of this church, or any other church; anyone who desires a deeper walk with Christ is invited. The ushers will direct you to proceed up the center aisle. You are invited to take an empty, individual cup from the silver tray near the baptismal font, and red wine, the blood of Christ, will be poured for you at the altar rail. You will also find red grape juice, the blood of Christ, in sealed individual cups in that same tray. As you come to the altar rail, you may stand or kneel as you are able, and the minister will place bread, the body of Christ, in your hand. If you are in need of a gluten free host, please let the minister know. If you prefer not to receive the Communion elements, Jesus still invites you into His Holy Communion; at the altar rail you may fold your arms and the minister will pray with and bless you.

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Please rise, in body or spirit.*

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: The act of confessing our sin is not simply a recitation of our faults and wrongs, but also an opportunity to receive God's mercy and share in that abundant grace. As we remain dedicated to the disciplines of Lent, we also remain confident of God's love for us. Let us confess our sin." (*We pause for reflection*) , Compassionate One,

**C: You are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering one's home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN: *Eternal Father Strong to Save – LBW (Green) - 467***

## Eternal Father, Strong to Save



1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the  
2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -  
3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os  
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in



rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its  
mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and  
dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and  
dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we  
calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we  
give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we  
tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall



cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825–1878, alt.  
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

### 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

Assembly  
*mf* *a tempo*

9 Ky-ri-e, e-le-i-son. Chri-ste, e-le-i-son.

Assembly  
*mf* *a tempo*

9 Ky-ri-e, e-le-i-son. Chri-ste, e-le-i-son.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-9

<sup>1</sup> Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup> Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. <sup>3</sup> Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup> See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup> See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. <sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 63:1-8

<sup>1</sup> O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

<sup>2</sup> **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.**

<sup>3</sup> For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

<sup>4</sup> **So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.**

<sup>5</sup> My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

<sup>6</sup> **When I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.**

<sup>7</sup> For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

<sup>8</sup> **My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

### **A reading from 1 Corinthians**

<sup>1</sup> I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup> Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup> Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did.

<sup>7</sup> Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." <sup>8</sup> We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup> We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup> And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup> These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come.

<sup>12</sup> So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup> No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Refrain**  
*S, A, Assembly*

Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ,

5 *div.* King of end - less glo - ry! King of end - less glo - ry! *Last time rit.*

## GOSPEL: LUKE 13:1-9

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup> At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.<sup>2</sup> [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?”<sup>3</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

<sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ <sup>8</sup> He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord

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

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY: *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me, LBW (Green) – 327*

*Please rise, in body or spirit, as we lift our hearts and voices together in song.*

## Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;  
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778  
Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872

### APOSTLES' CREED

A: Lets us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed,

**C: We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. We 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. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the  $\dagger$  resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

A: We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions. God, in your mercy,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home. God, in your mercy,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live. God, in your mercy,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion (*especially*). Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters and human conflict (*especially*). Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild. God, in your mercy,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for this assembly, called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless food pantries, community gardens and kitchens, clean water projects, and all ministries that address human hunger and thirst. God, in your mercy,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended (*especially*). May their witness inspire our own. God, in your mercy,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

A: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**C: Amen.**

## **PASSING THE PEACE**

**P:** The Peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C: And also, with you.**

**P:** Let us share a sign of peace with one another.

## **OFFERING**

*Here at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, there are many ways you are able to give. Our ushers will pass around an offering plate, in which you can place your weekly offering. If you are attending worship online or you simply wish to give online, you may do so by visiting our website, [hslceldersburgmd.org/give](https://hslceldersburgmd.org/give). We give thanks to God for the ways you continually offer your time, talent, and treasure for the sake of God and neighbor in our ministry. Please rise, in body or spirit.*

## **OFFERTORY HYMN**

**We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You: We are an offering.  
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands. Lord use our lives, they are Yours. We are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering; we are an offering.**



## OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray together. Gracious Provider,

**C: You set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

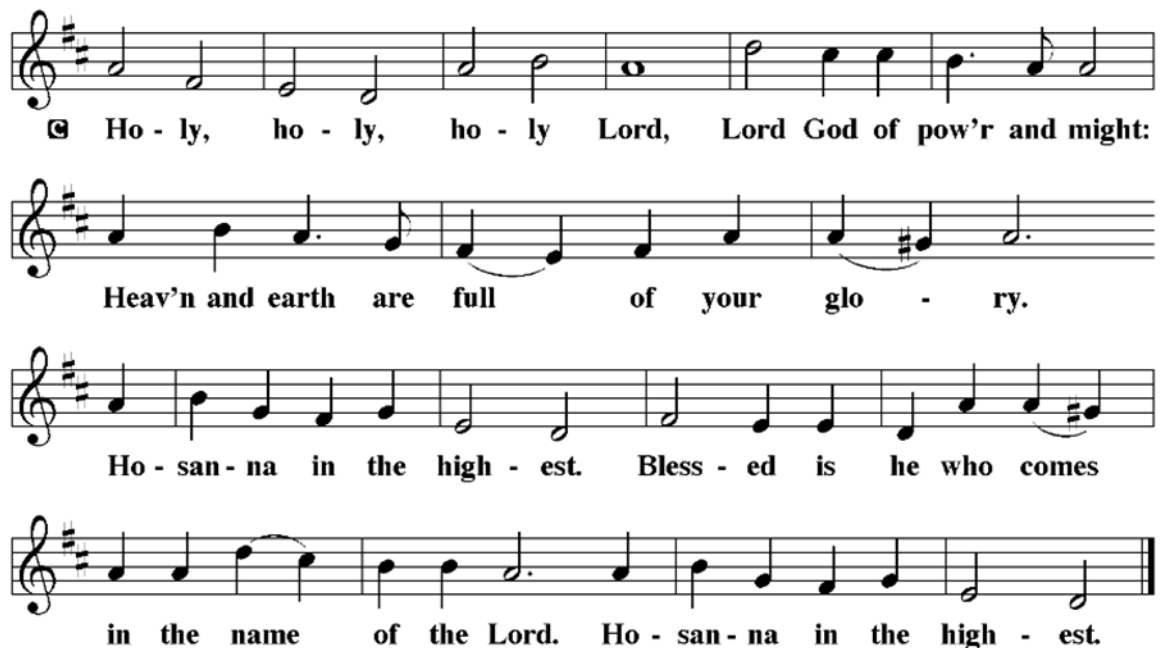
**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

P: The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

**C: We praise you, O God.**

P: Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

**C: We bless you, O God.**

P: We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

**C: We thank you, O God.**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, 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.

P: 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.

P: Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us, in the language of our hearts:

**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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

**C: Amen.** *Please be seated.*

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, have mercy on us, have mercy.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, have mercy on us, have mercy.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*Please come forward at the direction of the ushers.*

## **SONG DURING COMMUNION**

*After all have communed, please rise, in body or spirit.*

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless us and keep us in God's grace, from now and until life everlasting.

**C: Amen.**

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Let us pray.

P: Generous Host, 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 the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

P: You are exactly who God created you to be. Created in Christ Jesus for good works. Created and called holy. Created and called beloved. Now go forth into the world in peace and be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no one an evil thing for an evil thing. Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Show Christ's love to everyone and let the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the +Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you now and forever.

**C: Amen**

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious  
bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me with your  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on  
pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es,  
feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.  
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.  
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

**DISMISSAL**

**A:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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

**A:** Our purpose is to love God,

**C:** **And bring people into a growing relationship with Jesus and his church.**

***“We all serve as ministers in the mission of the Church.”***

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**ACTIVITIES AT HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH:**

Sunday (03/23) 9:30 am – Worship with Holy Communion

11:00 am – Sunday School  
 Sunday (03/30) 9:30 am – Worship with Holy Communion  
 11:00 am – Sunday School  
 Wednesday (03/26) 5:30 pm- 7:00pm – Snacks and Scripture (show up when you can! We will gather in the multipurpose room)

**Please contact Vicar Tom** via call/text at 443-841-9634, or by email at HSLC.pastor@comcast.net if you would like to meet, have any questions, or for any pastoral emergencies.

**Volunteers**

	<i><b>THIS WEEK (03-23-2025)</b></i>	<i><b>NEXT WEEK (03-30-2025)</b></i>
Greeters	Heather Timko	Danielle Grimelli
Ushers	Rob Timko Bradley Timko	Mitch Kallemyn Dave Larson
Acolyte	Maryann Foelber	Abby Palmer
Assisting Minister	Megan Foelber	Laura Blum
Communion Assistant	John Foelber	Laura Blum
Lector	Lily Kallemyn	Cara Krol
Altar Care	Holly deBenedictis	Linda Larson