

Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Cross!

**Check our programs at
www.Lutheranvictoria.ca**

**The audio for worship will be muted until
worship begins**

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

Rev. Lyndon Sayers, Pastor

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 30, 2025 – 10:00 AM

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Season of Lent

***God welcomes us back in love, now matter how many times
we stray from the path of faith.***

*Liturgy and songs are by various copyright holders and used under
OneLicense 727619-A and Augsburg Fortress SBT005569. All rights reserved.*

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

**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.

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

Gathering Song
Mercy, We Abide in You – No. 1077

Refrain: Mercy, we abide in you.
Stir in us, we pray.

Leader

Vs. 1 In peace, may we assemble.
In peace, may we unite.
In peace, may we be whole.
Move within each heart.

Refrain: Mercy, we abide in you.
Stir in us, we pray.

Assembly

Hm . . . Stir in us, we pray.
Stir in us we pray.
Stir in us we pray.

Refrain: Mercy, we abide in you.
Stir in us, we pray.

Vs. 2 For all who suffer in war,
for all who struggle for comfort,
for all who slumber in ease.
Move within each heart.

Refrain: Mercy, we abide in you.
Stir in us, we pray.

Vs. 3 We are broken, longing for peace,
forgiveness, flow among us.
May we be reconciled.
Move within each heart.

Refrain: Mercy, we abide in you.
Stir in us, we pray.

Kyrie – No. 158

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Psalm 32

¹ Happy are they whose transgressions ¹ are forgiven,
and whose sin is ¹ put away!

² **Happy are they to whom
the LORD im- ¹ puts no guilt,
and in whose spirit there ¹ is no guile!**

Refrain: ***Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in
the Lord.***

³ While I held my tongue, my bones with- ¹ ered
away, because of my groaning ¹ all day long.

⁴ For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.

⁶ Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.

Refrain: ***Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord.***

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve ^l me from trouble;

you surround me with shouts ^l of deliverance.

⁸ **“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that ^l you should go; I will guide you ^l with my eye.**

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no ^l understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will ^l not stay near you.”

**¹⁰ Great are the tribulations [|] of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust [|] in
the LORD.**

¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice [|] in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are [|] true of heart.

Refrain: ***Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in
the Lord.***

Lenten Acclamation – No. 176

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.
Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Hymn of the Day
What Is the World Like – No. 1047

Vs. 1 What is the world like when God's will is done?
Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive:
roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun.
This is how God moves us each to believe.

Vs. 2 What is the world like when God's will is done?
Witness the wandering child coming home;
watch as the parent breaks into a run.
This is how God longs for us when we roam.

Vs. 3 What is the world like when God's will is done?
No more is neighbour just ally or friend;
peace thrives in places where once there was none.
This is how God works when rivalries end.

Vs. 4 What is the world like when God's will is done?
Ready for feasting, we watch through the night,
tending our lamps till the new day's begun.
This is how God readies us for the light.

Vs. 5 These are the stories that Jesus imparts,
filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.
Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,
this is a new world where God's will is done.

Prayers of the People

God, in your mercy
receive our prayer.

Peace Sharing

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering Song

Now Is the Time of Grace – No. 918

Refrain: Now is the time of grace,
now is the day of salvation.
Turn now, and seek God's face,
now behold God's invitation.

Vs. 1 This is the fast that God would choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to let the captives go free,
and to break the yoke of oppression.

Refrain: Now is the time of grace,
now is the day of salvation.
Turn now, and seek God's face,
now behold God's invitation.

Vs. 2 Sharing your bread with the hungry
and welcoming homeless in,
offering hope and offering help,
this is what God requires.

Refrain: Now is the time of grace,
now is the day of salvation.
Turn now, and seek God's face,
now behold God's invitation.

Vs. 3 Then shall your light break forth as dawn,
and healing shall come to you quickly;
then you shall call and God shall answer,
God's love shall go before you.

Refrain: Now is the time of grace,
now is the day of salvation.
Turn now, and seek God's face,
now behold God's invitation.

Great Thanksgiving

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give our thanks and praise to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy

Sanctus - F. Schubert - choir

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth
as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin
against us. Save us from the time of trial and
deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the
power, and the glory are yours, now and
forever. Amen**

Lamb of God

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

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

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

Communion Songs

***What Wondrous Love Is This* – No. 666**

Vs. 1 What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

Vs. 2 When I was sinking down,
sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

Vs. 3 To God and to the Lamb
I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb,
who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

Vs. 4 And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free,
I'll sing God's love for me,
and through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.

***Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling* – No. 608**

Vs. 1 Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.

See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.

Refrain: "Come home, (Come home,)
come home! (come home!)"

You who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

Vs. 2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me?

Refrain: "Come home, (Come home,)
come home! (come home!)
You who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

Vs. 3 Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me!

Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me.

Refrain: "Come home, (Come home,)
come home! (come home!)"

You who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

***This Is Christ's Body* – No. 967**

This is Christ's body, broken and blest.
Feed us with mercy and love. (with mercy and love.)
We are Christ's body, broken and blest.
Heal us and make us one.

Sending Song

Amazing Grace How Sweet the Sound – No. 779

Vs. 1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

Vs. 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Vs. 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

Vs. 4 The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

Vs. 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Worship Leaders and Assistants

Speaker: Daisy August

Assisting Minister: Jeanie Stann

Kantor: Nathan McDonald

Musician: Carolyn Hoekstra

Choral Scholars: Abby Corpus, DJ McGrath

Livestreaming: Craig Knight

Communion: Susanne Standeven, Raiza Wilson

Ushers: Barbara McDavid, Bob Kohlert

Give Online

Visiting www.Lutheranvictoria.ca.

Select "Give Online" on the top right corner and follow the instructions.

