

MOSAIC

03 / 29 / 2020

**FIFTH
SUNDAY
IN LENT**

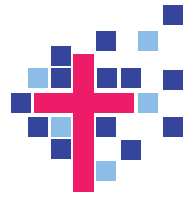
CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

*By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:
Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all*

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Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

*By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:
Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all*



In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.



GATHER

WORDS OF WELCOME

Pastor Dave Thomas

OPENING SONG

Fairest Lord Jesus

Verse 1, v2, chorus, v3, ch, v4

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru - ler of all na - ture, O Thou of God and
 2. Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the wood - lands, robed in the bloom - ing
 man the Son: Thee will I cher - ish, thee will I hon - or, thou,
 garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er, who
 1. my soul's glor - ry, joy and crown. You are fair - er still, to - day:
 makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 you are fair - er still, to - day. Prec - ious Je - sus, Lord, you are a - dored, as we
 1. wor - ship, as we wor - ship. You are wor - ship.
 2.

3. Fair is the sunshine,
 Fairer still the moonlight,
 And all the twinkling starry host;
 Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
 Than all the angels heaven can boast.

4. Beautiful Savior!
 Lord of all the nations!
 Son of God and Son of Man!
 Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
 Now and forever more be Thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. pub. New York, 1850, alt.
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune 1842
 Chorus words and music: Nathan Nockels, Christy Nockels

GATHERING PRAYER

- P Let us pray: God of light and life, when confronted by the distressing news that his dear friend had suddenly become seriously sick, Jesus demonstrated his power even over illness and death. He consoled the sorrowful, sharing in their tears. Then to your glory he raised Lazarus from the dead. May we remember that by placing our faith in Jesus, we need not fear, for in him is life everlasting. Grant us the courage to trust all the more, and the will to act in ways that demonstrate our faith and are life-giving for us and all. This we pray in the name of Christ, your Son, our Lord,
- C who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**
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LESSONS

FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 37:1-14 (The Message)

L A reading from Ezekiel.

¹⁻² God grabbed me. God's Spirit took me up and set me down in the middle of an open plain strewn with bones. He led me around and among them—a lot of bones! There were bones all over the plain—dry bones, bleached by the sun.

³ He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Master God, only you know that."

⁴ He said to me, "Prophecy over these bones: 'Dry bones, listen to the Message of God!'"

⁵⁻⁶ God, the Master, told the dry bones, "Watch this: I'm bringing the breath of life to you and you'll come to life. I'll attach sinews to you, put meat on your bones, cover you with skin, and breathe life into you. You'll come alive and you'll realize that I am God!"

⁷⁻⁸ I prophesied just as I'd been commanded. As I prophesied, there was a sound and, oh, rustling! The bones moved and came together, bone to bone. I kept watching. Sinews formed, then muscles on the bones, then skin stretched over them. But they had no breath in them.

⁹ He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath. Prophecy, son of man. Tell the breath, 'God, the Master, says, Come from the four winds. Come, breath. Breathe on these slain bodies. Breathe life!'"

¹⁰ So I prophesied, just as he commanded me. The breath entered them and they came alive! They stood up on their feet, a huge army.

¹¹ Then God said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Listen to what they're saying: 'Our bones are dried up, our hope is gone, there's nothing left of us.'

¹²⁻¹⁴ "Therefore, prophecy. Tell them, 'God, the Master, says: I'll dig up your graves and bring you out alive—O my people! Then I'll take you straight to the land of Israel. When I dig up graves and bring you out as my people, you'll realize that I am God. I'll breathe my life into you and you'll live. Then I'll lead you straight back to your land and you'll realize that I am God. I've said it and I'll do it. God's Decree.'"

L Word of God. Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God!

PSALM

Psalm 130 (The Message)

L A Song of Ascents

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning,

more than those who watch for the morning.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love,

and with him is great power to redeem.

It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:6-11 (The Message)

L A reading from Romans.

⁶⁻⁸ Those who trust God's action in them find that God's Spirit is in them—living and breathing God! Obsession with self in these matters is a dead end; attention to God leads us out into the open, into a spacious, free life. Focusing on the self is the opposite of focusing on God. Anyone completely absorbed in self ignores God, ends up thinking more about self than God. That person ignores who God is and what he is doing. And God isn't pleased at being ignored.

⁹⁻¹¹ But if God himself has taken up residence in your life, you can hardly be thinking more of yourself than of him. Anyone, of course, who has not welcomed this invisible but clearly present God, the Spirit of Christ, won't know what we're talking about. But for you who welcome him, in whom he dwells—even though you still experience all the limitations of sin—you yourself experience life on God's terms. It stands to reason, doesn't it, that if the alive-and-present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, he'll do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus, bringing you alive to himself? When God lives and breathes in you (and he does, as surely as he did in Jesus), you are delivered from that dead life. With his Spirit living in you, your body will be as alive as Christ's!

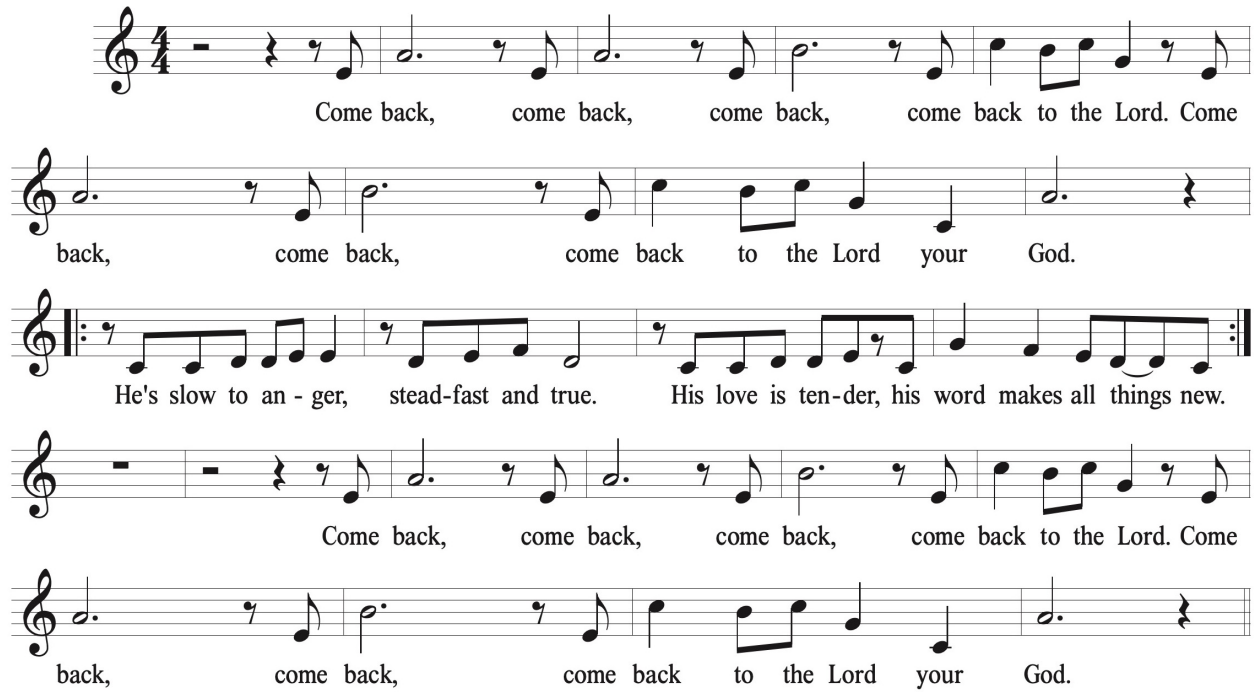
L Word of God. Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God!

L Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lenten Acclamation



Come back, come back, come back, come back to the Lord. Come
back, come back, come back to the Lord your God.
He's slow to an - ger, stead-fast and true. His love is ten-der, his word makes all things new.
Come back, come back, come back, come back to the Lord. Come
back, come back, come back to the Lord your God.

Words and Music: David Hendrix

↑ HOLY GOSPEL

John 11:1-45 (The Message)

P Hear the good news, as recorded in St. John the 11th chapter.

¹⁻³ A man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. This was the same Mary who massaged the Lord's feet with aromatic oils and then wiped them with her hair. It was her brother Lazarus who was sick. So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Master, the one you love so very much is sick."

⁴ When Jesus got the message, he said, "This sickness is not fatal. It will become an occasion to show God's glory by glorifying God's Son."

⁵⁻⁷ Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, but oddly, when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed on where he was for two more days. After the two days, he said to his disciples, "Let's go back to Judea."

⁸ They said, "Rabbi, you can't do that. The Jews are out to kill you, and you're going back?"

⁹⁻¹⁰ Jesus replied, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in daylight doesn't stumble because there's plenty of light from the sun. Walking at night, he might very well stumble because he can't see where he's going."

¹¹ He said these things, and then announced, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep. I'm going to wake him up."

¹²⁻¹³ The disciples said, "Master, if he's gone to sleep, he'll get a good rest and wake up feeling fine." Jesus was talking about death, while his disciples thought he was talking about taking a nap.

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ Then Jesus became explicit: "Lazarus died. And I am glad for your sakes that I wasn't there. You're about to be given new grounds for believing. Now let's go to him."

¹⁶ That's when Thomas, the one called the Twin, said to his companions, "Come along. We might as well die with him."

¹⁷⁻²⁰ When Jesus finally got there, he found Lazarus already four days dead. Bethany was near Jerusalem, only a couple of miles away, and many of the Jews were visiting Martha and Mary, sympathizing with them over their brother. Martha heard Jesus was coming and went out to meet him. Mary remained in the house.

²¹⁻²² Martha said, "Master, if you'd been here, my brother wouldn't have died. Even now, I know that whatever you ask God he will give you."

²³ Jesus said, "Your brother will be raised up."

²⁴ Martha replied, "I know that he will be raised up in the resurrection at the end of time."

²⁵⁻²⁶ “You don’t have to wait for the End. I am, right now, Resurrection and Life. The one who believes in me, even though he or she dies, will live. And everyone who lives believing in me does not ultimately die at all. Do you believe this?”

²⁷ “Yes, Master. All along I have believed that you are the Messiah, the Son of God who comes into the world.”

²⁸ After saying this, she went to her sister Mary and whispered in her ear, “The Teacher is here and is asking for you.”

²⁹⁻³² The moment she heard that, she jumped up and ran out to him. Jesus had not yet entered the town but was still at the place where Martha had met him. When her sympathizing Jewish friends saw Mary run off, they followed her, thinking she was on her way to the tomb to weep there. Mary came to where Jesus was waiting and fell at his feet, saying, “Master, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

³³⁻³⁴ When Jesus saw her sobbing and the Jews with her sobbing, a deep anger welled up within him. He said, “Where did you put him?”

³⁴⁻³⁵ “Master, come and see,” they said. Now Jesus wept.

³⁶ The Jews said, “Look how deeply he loved him.”

³⁷ Others among them said, “Well, if he loved him so much, why didn’t he do something to keep him from dying? After all, he opened the eyes of a blind man.”

³⁸⁻³⁹ Then Jesus, the anger again welling up within him, arrived at the tomb. It was a simple cave in the hillside with a slab of stone laid against it. Jesus said, “Remove the stone.”

The sister of the dead man, Martha, said, “Master, by this time there’s a stench. He’s been dead four days!”

⁴⁰ Jesus looked her in the eye. “Didn’t I tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?”

⁴¹⁻⁴² Then, to the others, “Go ahead, take away the stone.”

They removed the stone. Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and prayed, “Father, I’m grateful that you have listened to me. I know you always do listen, but on account of this crowd standing here I’ve spoken so that they might believe that you sent me.”

⁴³⁻⁴⁴ Then he shouted, “Lazarus, come out!” And he came out, a cadaver, wrapped from head to toe, and with a kerchief over his face.

Jesus told them, “Unwrap him and let him loose.”

The Man Who Creates God-Signs

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁸ That was a turnaround for many of the Jews who were with Mary. They saw what Jesus did, and believed in him.

P This is good news!

C **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

Pastor Dave Thomas

All Rise

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG

I Will Rise – Chris Tomlin

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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.



BENEDICTION

P May God Creator bless you and keep you.

May Christ be ever light for your life.

May the Spirit of Love be your guide and your path for all of your days.

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CLOSING SONG

I Stand Amazed



1. I stand a - mazed in the pres - ence of Je - sus the Naz - a - rene, and
2. He took my sins and my sor - rows he made them his ve - ry own. He
3. When with the ran - somed in glo - ry his face I at last shall see 'twill



won - der how he could love me, a sin - ner con - demned, un - clean.
bore the bur - den of Cal - v'ry and suf - fered and died a - lone.
be my joy through the ag - es to sing of his love for me.



Refrain
How mar - vel - ous, how won - der - ful and my song shall ev - er be:



How mar - vel - ous, how won - der - ful is my Sav - ior's love for me!

Words and Music: Charles Hutchison Gabriel
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↑ **SENT TO SERVE**

P Jesus said, "As I have been sent, so also I send you."
By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ,
we are called to:

C **Worship God,**
Grow in Faith,
Share the Gospel,
Serve Others,
Welcome All. — Thanks be to God!