



# ST. GEORGE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

803 West Main St, Brighton, MI 48116

[www.stgeorgelutheran.org](http://www.stgeorgelutheran.org)

March 26, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Phone 810-229-6670

[stgeorgebrighton@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgebrighton@gmail.com)

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion

**Welcome! We are glad you're here!**

A warm welcome is extended to all!

Your presence enriches us at this time of celebration together.

**Prelude**

**Adagio; Passacaglia (Secret Garden)**  
**Gail Boyd & Mary Katharine Morgan**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prepare our Hearts for Worship   Jesus Remember Me   #616**

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. (Sing 3 times)

**Sharing of the Peace**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

If it is true that God has recorded our failings, we hope it will never be published. But in truth, if the book was opened, every page would be blank, for God forgives us of everything we have done, or failed to do. So, let us wait for God's mercy and grace, as we come with our prayers for forgiveness, saying,

**We are set free by your saving grace, Generous God, yet we must confess how we are still bound by our pride and arrogance. We seem unable to throw off our habitual sin. We cling to our fears, for they are so familiar and make such good companions.**

**Forgive us, and break the bonds of sin and terror, giving us new strength and hope for the journey, and calling us to new life through the love and sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

You can put your hope in God, dear friends, for God offers us that love which never fades, that life which never ends.

**We wait for God, and God does not fail us. God's hope, God's love, and God's grace are forever. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### **Entrance Hymn:**

O day full of grace that now we see  
appearing on earth's horizon,  
bring light from our God that we may be  
replete in His joy this season.  
God, shine for us now in this dark place;  
Your name on our hearts emblazon.

O day full of grace, O blessed time,  
our Lord on the earth arriving;  
then came to the world that light sublime,  
great joy for us all retrieving;  
for Jesus all mortals did embrace,  
all darkness and shame removing.

For Christ bore our sins, and not His  
own, when He on the cross was hanging;  
and then He arose and moved the stone,  
that we, unto Him belonging,

### **O Day Full of Grace**

**#627**

might join with angelic hosts to raise  
our voices in endless singing.

God came to us then at Pentecost,  
His Spirit new life revealing,  
that we might no more in death be lost,  
its pow'r over us dispelling.  
This flame will the mark of sin efface  
and bring to us all true healing.

When we on that final journey go  
that Christ is for us preparing,  
we'll gather in song, our hearts aglow,  
all joy of the heavens sharing,  
and there we will join God's endless  
praise, with angels and saints adoring.

Scandinavian folk hymn, Geral Thorson, Christoph Weyse © 1978

## **Apostolic 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.

**Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **Youth Message**

## **First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14**

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. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 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.” So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 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. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

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.’ Therefore prophesy 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. And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 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.”

L     The Word of the Lord

All    Thanks be to God

## **Psalm 130**

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!**

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

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

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.**

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 Reading: Romans 8:6-11**

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

L The Word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God**

**All: Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

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

## **Gospel: John 11:1-45**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now

Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

P     The Gospel of the Lord

**All Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Sermon

## Hymn of the Day:

Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won;  
and, although the way be cheerless, we  
will follow, calm and fearless; guide us  
by your hand to the promised land.

If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let  
no faithless fears o'er-take us, let not  
faith and hope forsake us; safely past the  
foe to our home we go.

When we seek relief from a long-felt  
grief, when temptations come alluring

## Jesus, Still Lead On

#624

make us patient and enduring; show us  
that bright shore where we weep no  
more.

Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won;  
heav'ly leader, still direct us, still  
support, console, protect us, till we safely  
stand in the promised land.

*Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf; Jane L. Borthwick; Adam Drese*

## Apostle's 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, and 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.** \* 'catholic' here meaning 'universal'

## Prayers of Intercession:

L Lord, in your mercy....

C Hear our Prayer

## Offertory

Take my life, that I may  
be consecrated, Lord, to  
thee; take my moments  
and my days; let them  
flow in ceaseless praise.

## *Take My Life, That I May Be (Verses 1-3)*

Take my hands and let  
them move at the impulse  
of thy love; take my feet  
and let them be swift and  
beautiful for thee.

**ELW 685**

Take my voice and let me  
sing always, only, for my  
King; take my lips and let  
them be filled with  
messages from thee.

## **Offertory Prayer**

**O God,**

**accept and bless these gifts which we offer in response  
to the gracious gift of your life-giving Spirit to us.**

**May these gifts and our lives be used to flesh out  
your love and justice, mercy and peace  
as they are revealed in and through Jesus,  
your Son and our Savior. Amen**

## **Words of Institution**

**The Lord's Prayer: 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, for ever and ever. 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.**

**Holy Communion:**

**Chaconne; Heartstrings  
Gail Boyd & Mary Katharine Morgan**

### **Breathe on Me, Breath of God**

Breathe on me, breath of God; fill me  
with life anew, that I may love all that  
you love and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, breath of God; until my  
heart is pure, until with you I will one  
will to do and to endure.

**LBW#488**

Breathe on me, breath of God; so shall I  
never die, but live with you the perfect  
life of your eternity.

*Text: Edwin Hatch; Aaron  
Williams*

### **I Am the Bread of Life**

“I am the Bread of life. You who come to  
me shall not hunger, and who believe in  
me shall not thirst. No one can come to  
me unless the Father beckons.”

**#485**

*Refrain:* “And I will raise you up,  
and I will raise you up, and I will  
raise you up on the last day.”

“The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, and if you eat of this bread, you shall live forever, you shall live forever.” *Refrain*

“Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man and drink of his blood, and drink of his blood, you shall not have life within you.” *Refrain*

“I am the resurrection, I am the life. If you believe in me, even though you die, you shall live forever.”  
*Refrain*

Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who have come into the world. *Refrain*

Suzanne Toolan 1927

### **Post Communion Blessing:**

L The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C Amen

### **Post Communion Canticle: *Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am* (sing 3x) #814**

Take, oh, take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

### **Benediction:** (based on Psalm 130)

Wait for the LORD,

**I wait with deep longing; and in his word I stand, waiting in hope.**

Hope in the LORD!

**For with the LORD there is steadfast love,  
and with the LORD is great power to save.**

Go into the world with assurance, hope and promise:

the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ rest upon you;

the love of God, creator and giver of life, embrace you;

and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit uphold you,

this day and all your days. **Amen.**

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### **Sending Hymn**

*Refrain:* Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

### **Lift High the Cross**

**#660**

All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*

Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod, our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*

So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
praise to the Crucified for victory!

*Refrain*

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956  
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## **Dismissal**

Go in peace, serve the Lord,

**Thanks be to God.**

**Current Budget Report: as of 03/19/2023**

**Last week's giving: \$3,363.00**

**Needed to meet budget: \$5,357.69**

**Year to Date: \$50,700.88**

**Ahead (Behind) Budget: (\$13,591.43)**

<b>Sunday 03/26</b>	<b>8 AM Fellowship Meeting 9 AM Traditional Worship, 11AM Contemporary Worship,</b>
<b>Monday 03/27</b>	
<b>Tuesday 03/28</b>	<b>Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM, 7:30 PM AA</b>
<b>Wednesday 03/29</b>	<b>8 AM Men's Club, 6:15 PM Soup, 7:00 PM Lent Service</b>
<b>Thursday 03/30</b>	<b>Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM, 10 AM Bible Study, 6:30 PM Book Club, 7:00 PM AA</b>
<b>Friday 03/31</b>	<b>Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM, 10 AM Musikgarten</b>
<b>Saturday 04/01</b>	

## **Announcements**

**Bible Study:** Thursdays at 10:00 at the Parish House and via Zoom.

**Senior Worship/Luncheon:** Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM.

**Lenten Supper/Service:** Wednesday at 6:15/7:00 PM.

**Needleworks:** Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

**Fellowship Meeting:** Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM.

**Friends and Family Breakfast:** Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

**Friendship Circle:** Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM in the Parish House.

**Musikgarten:** Fridays at 10:00 AM.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10-11 AM.

**St. George Book Club:** Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the Parish House.

	March 26	April 2	April 9	April 16	April 23	April 30
	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
Asst. Min	Chris K.	Keith B.	Chris K.	Joan V.	Lorna D.	Chris K.
Lay Reader	Chris K.	Keith B.	Chris K.	Joan V.	Lorna D.	Chris K.
Greeter						
Usher	Jerry	Kathy	Michele	Cindy		
Media	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn
Fellowship	Sally		Easter Breakfast			
Altar Care	Cindy	Sally	Linda G.	Joanne	Linda F.	Judy

## **Prayers of Grace & Support**

### **Please pray for:**

- Linda Garr, having surgery on March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Mark Wilson, hospitalized with brain tumor.
- Jeanie Petersburg, recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- Georgia, Gail's friend's granddaughter born premature and having health concerns.
- Gail's piano teacher and friend who had back surgery.
- Mary, Gail's friend, whose nephew died suddenly at 35 years old.
- Tracy M., friend of Bryan Rush, for healing from shoulder injury and safe travel on vacation.
- All those affected by gun violence, especially students, faculty, and staff at Michigan State University.
- John D, friend of Bryan Rush, suffering from Diabetes Type II.
- People of Turkey and Syria suffering from the aftermath of the major earthquake.
- Alia's daughter, being treated for thyroid cancer.
- Mary Anne Eppley, Linda Walton's sister-in-law, recovering from brain surgery.
- Davian Bennett, Gail's piano student, who is recovering from ear surgery.
- Lynne Morris, Michele Hirschman's friend, for a successful March surgery outcome.
- Karen Hedden, Colene's daughter-in-law, recovering from surgery.
- Susan Zaske recovering from a liver transplant.
- Bryan Rush for a successful court date coming soon.
- Bill Foster in assisted living.
- Kathy Boyes with health challenges.
- Melissa Alofalter, Angela Martin's friend, battling an unknown medical issue, beginning with MS and COVID.
- Ray, Alia's older brother, who has COVID along with severe RA and heart problems.
- Dottie Woodman, recovering.
- Arlene, Alia's friend, suffering persistent pain in her neck, shoulder and arm.
- Margaret Doane, Kristiina H.'s friend, with breast cancer.
- Micah, Alia's nephew, with a chronic infection and declining health.
- Barb Gienapp with health concerns.
- Ethan and his mom, Marianne, as they are dealing with major physical and emotional struggles. From Linda Walton.
- Theo Evans being treated for leukemia.
- Joan Richardson, dealing with health concerns.
- Cindy Brach with health issues.
- John Brach with health issues.
- Prayers for all those suffering in Ukraine.
- Charlie Davis, Marylou's husband, with cancer.
- Jon Brach and his family with health and life difficulties.

- Pan Norton, Cindy Brach's son's mother-in-law.
- Jackie (Gail's piano student) diagnosed with throat cancer.
- Theresa Pope, fiancé of Michael Knight, for her battle with breast cancer.
- Niece of Elaine McIntyre, Patsy McIntyre Costin, diagnosed with colon cancer.
- Terry Pitt, Collene Hedden's brother -in-law, with auto-immune disease.
- Vicki, Kristiina Herbst's neighbor, with health concerns.
- Beulah & Mark who are having health and life difficulties.



St. George is a warm, friendly, spirit-filled congregation that has been blessed throughout many years. Most Christian denominations develop a distinct emphasis of the Christian faith and practice, and this is also true for Lutherans.

**The Lutheran emphasis, in a word, is God's grace.**

We emphasize the grace of God which forgives us, makes us God's children, and empowers us to serve others. **We welcome, include, and value all people.**