



## **Christ Lutheran Church**

*Fourth Lenten Wednesday*

*March 18, 2026*

***Giving Up a Bad Habit for Lent***

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We are glad that you are here to worship with us today! Please sign the pew booklets in the pews. If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself and sign our guest book in the narthex along with the pew booklet.

\**Please stand as you are able.*

†*Please be seated.*

Prelude: Chris Starr

## GATHERING

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

### Welcome

#### \*Call to Worship

Come and let us walk in the light of the Lord. And He will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in His paths. **Amen.**

### Gathering Song

“Amazing Grace”

ELW # 779

### Prayer for Lent

Show your servants your works, O Lord.

**And their children your glory.**

Let your merciful kindness be upon us.

**As we put our trust in you.**

Not to us, O Lord, not to us.

**But to your name be the praise.**

Lord, hear our prayer.

**And let our cry come to you.**

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!** Let us pray:

Dear God, **thank you for the many good habits we have that outnumber our bad habits. Help us to replace the bad with the good. Encourage us and help us to take positive action to make a positive change in behavior. Give us patience to go forward and help us when we fall. Show us that we can give up bad habits with your help. Amen.**

## †The Decalogue

God spoke these words and said: I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods.

**Lord have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

**Lord have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

**Lord have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

Honor your father and mother.

**Lord have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

You shall not kill.

**Lord have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

You shall not commit adultery.

**Lord have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

You shall not steal.

**Lord have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

**Lord have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

You shall not covet.

**Lord have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

## Our Response to God

Jesus summarized the Decalogue into two great commandments: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it; You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."

**The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart. The commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to our eyes.**

## WORD

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

### †Luke: 19:1-10

19 He entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup>A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. <sup>3</sup>He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup>So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. <sup>7</sup>All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." <sup>8</sup>Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." <sup>9</sup>Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

*This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

### Lenten Video

### Message

*Rev. Erik Karlson*

## STEWARDING GOD'S GIFTS

*We offer to God what is God's own*

### †Offering

*[Please remember to send your much appreciated and needed weekly tithes and offerings.]*

### \*Offering Prayer

And let us pray ... **Heavenly Father, you gave your only Son to be a life to redeem us, an example to follow, the word for our rule, the grace for our guide, the lamb on the cross for the sins of our souls. Bless these thy gifts for you and your beloved children in this time of need. Send your Spirit to enter into us and take possession of our hearts, and dwell with us forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### 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, forever and ever. Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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

### **Announcements**

#### **\*Blessing**

Let us pray ... **Lord, we thank you that you have taught us what you would have us believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep your Word in pure hearts, that we may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and in death. Amen.**

### **Sending Song**

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

**ELW # 338**

### **Dismissal**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Now go in peace and share in our Lenten journey. The Almighty Triune God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you, always.

**Amen and thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude: Chris Starr**



**A special thank you to all who assisted with today's worship service:**

Thank you to Roxanne Wavra, Chris Starr, and Chad Sauter for their assistance during worship this evening.