



LUKE 13:7

I have  
come  
looking  
for fruit



## The Third Sunday in Lent

### Saturday, March 19, 2022 5pm

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*The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!*

#### GATHERING

#### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One,

**we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In ✠ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

**Amen.**

#### GATHERING HYMN      "As the Deer Runs to the River"

#### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

**Amen.**

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.

<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.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM: 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 First 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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**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.’”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY      “Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”**

## **CREED**

*We confess our faith.*

**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, he 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

## **OFFERING**

*We give thanks to God for the gifts that God provides, and for the gifts that you share with the church.*

*Offerings to the church may be placed in the box on the table near the entrance to worship or be sent through the mail, through automatic withdraw, or through the Tithe.ly app on our website.*

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray.

**Amen.**



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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 holy name.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs, we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert pouring out his life for the world.

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

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

## 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

*Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Please follow the directions of the pastors to receive communion. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion will receive a blessing.*

*Those worshiping with us at home may use their own bread and wine or juice for communion. On site, please follow the directions of the pastors to receive communion.*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.  
**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.  
**Amen.**

## BLESSING

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✠ bless you this day and always.  
**Amen.**

1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!  
2 My Sav - ior, you have led me with - in your ho - liest place,  
3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.  
4 Oh, grant me then, well - strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here

The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.  
and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;  
And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.  
my course on earth is length - ened, to serve you, free from fear;

O won - drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes!  
for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,  
My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,  
and bring me home to praise you where none can peace de - stroy,

My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank - ful song o'er - flows!  
the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.  
and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.  
where I will ev - er raise you glad songs in end - less joy.

## SENDING SONG

## “O Living Bread from Heaven”

vv. 1 &amp; 4

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

**Thanks be to God.**

Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.

Michelle Weltzin-Trainor	Madison Russo	Andrew Arp
Ron McFate	Anna Schneider	Jan Carlson
Nancy Meyer	Ed Stoltz	Gayla Tighe
H.O. Nelson	Judy Knoer	Lowell Lines
Sheila Baustian	Jan Kluever	Craig
Sally Puls	June Dierks	Lois
Duane Miller	Michael Schafer	John
Tim Winter	Karen Muetzel	Mary
Jensen Spencer	Peyton Langebartles	Dorie
Ann Kuehl	Meyer Mixdorf	Clif
Carol Judge	Bob Morehead	Kelly
Carolyn Scheibe	Patty Mixdorf	Vaughn
Sarah Costello	Melissa Alden	
	Sue Vogel	

## THIS WEEK AT FAITH



Saturday, March 19	5pm	Worship
Sunday, March 20	8am	Worship
	9:15am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Jubilation Worship
	12:30pm	Council Retreat
Monday, March 21	<i>Office Closed</i>	
Tuesday, March 22	1pm	Bible Study
	5:30pm	Food Pantry
Wednesday, March 23	5pm	Confirmation Meal
	5:30pm	Confirmation Conversations
	6pm	People of Praise
	7pm	Lenten Worship
	7:45pm	High School Youth
Thursday, March 24	5:15pm	Resounding Joy!
	6:30pm	Council Meeting
Friday, March 25	9:30am	Food Pantry
Saturday, March 26	5pm	Worship
Sunday, March 27	8am	Worship
	9:15am	Sunday School
	9:15am	Usher Training
	10:30am	Worship

"The People Versus Jesus", this year's Lenten drama series, will continue this week on Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m., when the jury will hear testimony from James, Jesus' brother.



### **Ushers and those interested in becoming Ushers...**

Our Church Council recently adopted a security plan. The Ushers have a important role in the safety and security of our church. Part of the plan requires quarterly training for the Ushers. The 1<sup>st</sup> Training will be held on **Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> @9:15am** in the Sanctuary. Please plan to attend!

***Contact Tom Bauer for more information.***

## **Season of Lent Collection**

This coming May, the North Scott Food Pantry plans to provide cleaning supplies to clients. The Service in the World committee would like to contribute to this effort by collecting cleaning supplies during Lent which begins on March 2, 2022. The food pantry provides laundry soap, dish soap and bar soap on a regular basis, but all other cleaning supplies are needed and appreciated.

If you would like to contribute, donations can be dropped off in the marked collection box under the coat rack. The cleaning supply collection will continue up until Easter.

