

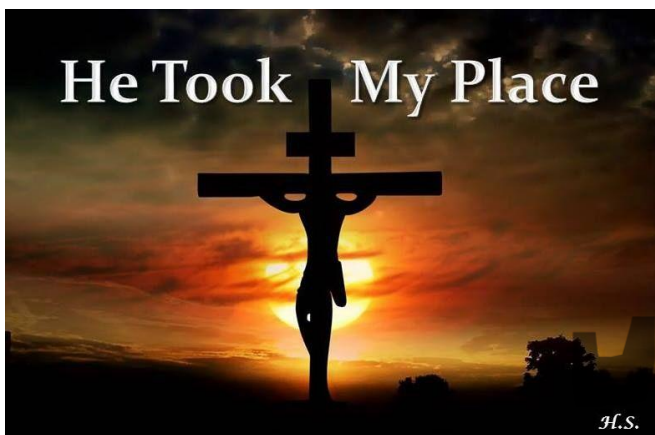


# Risen Christ Lutheran Church

March 26, 2025 7pm

† Lenten Mid-week Service †

**REMEMBER, YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER HIS SANCTUARY, PLEASE SIT QUIETLY, PRAY, AND READ THROUGH THIS WORSHIP FOLDER TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP.**



Lenten Midweek Series – Good News from the Beginning: The Gospel in Genesis

*Tonight's Theme – Good News of a Savior Who Gives Himself In Our Place*

***Risen Christ Lutheran Church***

***46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170***

***734.453.5252      [www.risenchrist.info](http://www.risenchrist.info)***

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.  
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**ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION** – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe that the Lord's Supper is not symbolic. We believe what Jesus Himself said: that His body and blood are truly present in this, His meal that He instituted for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above and you are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and you have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to the Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the "individual" and "common" cups of wine. (Note: White Grape Juice is in the center of the tray.)

**OFFERING** – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world through your here! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting [www.RisenChrist.info](http://www.RisenChrist.info)

**A WORD TO OUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS** – Welcome and thank you for coming. Everyone please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. For Guests, Pastor will send you a welcome card and please indicate that you "desire" a call for any further contact.

**Large Print Bulletins** – Available from an usher.

**Listening Assistance Devices** – Available at the Sound Booth.

**Parent Room** – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby ("Narthex")

**For Children** – Children's Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

**As We Gather** (*to read quietly prior to the service*) – One of the newest jobs on offer today is being a "tasker." A tasker does jobs that people do not have the time or the inclination to do—like holding a place in line for a concert, sports event, or any kind of sale. Websites and apps invite potential customers to describe their task, choose their tasker from the list provided, and thus get their job done. They list locations where taskers can be hired across the United States and even internationally. Then, taskers can choose from a list of jobs where they might take the customer's place. Throughout the season of Lent, we tell and retell how Jesus, the very Son of God, took our place and became a sacrifice to pay the price of our sins. This greatest of tasks He did not for any material payment but because of His dying love for us!

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Invocation**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G** Amen.

## My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
 2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;  
 3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,  
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my  
 My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my  
 Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's  
 Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!  
 love to Thee Pure, warm, and change-less be, A liv - ing fire!  
 tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.  
 trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

## Psalms 32

- P** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- C** **Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**
- P** For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.
- C** **For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**
- P** I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- C** **Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.**
- P** You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- C** **I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.**
- P** Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.
- C** **Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord.**
- P** Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Salutation and Prayer

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

God of love, You lifted up Your Son on the cross so that You could draw all people to Him. Fill us with thanksgiving for this incredible love that we dare to believe is ours. Help us to be faithful servants of Your new covenant, reaching out to all those whom You claim; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## First Reading Genesis 22:1–18

<sup>1</sup>After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>2</sup>He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” <sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” <sup>8</sup>Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup>When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>12</sup>He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

<sup>15</sup>And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup>and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, <sup>18</sup>and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Prayer Response

**P** Let us pray.

Gracious Father in heaven, in countless ways we have sinned against You, but You have been merciful to us and have forgiven our transgressions. As Your Son covered Himself in our guilt that our sins may be covered in His redeeming blood, help us to find our peace in Him, who gave Himself for us, for in Him we are protected from trouble, and Your grace is our hiding place; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Second Reading Galatians 3:7–14

<sup>7</sup>Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. <sup>8</sup>And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." <sup>9</sup>So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

<sup>10</sup>For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." <sup>11</sup>Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." <sup>12</sup>But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them." <sup>13</sup>Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—<sup>14</sup>so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Verse Romans 10:17

**C Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.**

## Holy Gospel John 3:16–17

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Lamb of God



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have  
2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and  
3 I was so lost, I should have died, But You have



sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y  
scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a  
brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and



sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.  
fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.  
rod, And to be called a lamb of God.



O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!



O wash me in His pre-cious blood, My Je-sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

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## Sermon – “Good News of a Savior Who Gives Himself In Our Place”

1. In the near-sacrifice of Isaac, the main point is not the testing of Abraham’s faith—although his faith was, indeed, tested.
2. In the near-sacrifice of Isaac, “the sacrifice of Isaac” is not the main point—particularly since Isaac was not actually sacrificed.
3. In the near-sacrifice of Isaac, the most important point is that God saved Isaac by providing a sacrificial substitute—pointing ahead to how we would be saved by Christ.
4. Christ Has Saved Us by Giving Himself as Our Sacrificial Substitute.

## Sermon Response – “This Is the Moment”

The moment heaven's King took His final breath  
Darkness roared and heaven wept  
But hope was held in nail-pierced hands  
Even death was not the end  
Now we see  
He changed everything **CHORUS**

**CHORUS: This is the moment  
Here is the moment  
We've been waiting for  
This is the moment  
Here is the moment  
We've been waiting for**

Adam Wesley, Adam Wright, Chris Griffin, John Craig Larson, Micah Massey  
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There in the silent tomb  
The Savior drew a breath  
Heaven roared and darkness fled  
Creation shook the stone was rolled away  
The love of God overcame the grave  
Now we see  
He changed everything  
From death to life  
He set us free **CHORUS**

The crown of thorns worn upon His brow  
The heavy cross where blood poured down  
Mercy flowed from sinless hands  
Behold the King the great I Am  
He's reaching out in grace and truth  
The Son of God making all things new  
Love bursting forth from a conquered grave  
He is alive Jesus reigns! **CHORUS**

## Apostles' Creed

**☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at [www.RisenChrist.info](http://www.RisenChrist.info) –** Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a **Worship Card** so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

## Passion Reading John 18:28–32

<sup>28</sup>Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. <sup>29</sup>So Pilate went outside to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" <sup>30</sup>They answered him, "If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you." <sup>31</sup>Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." <sup>32</sup>This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

**📖** This is the Gospel of the Lord. **☩ Thanks be to God.**

## Responsive Litany

- P** Hear our prayer, O Lord. **C** **Let our cry come to You.**
- P** Gracious God, heavenly Father, as You did not withhold Your Son, Your only Son,  
**C** **but gave Him up for us,**
- P** grant us peace and assurance **C** **in the knowledge of Your saving love.**
- P** For this is love—not that we have loved You but that You have loved us  
**C** **and have given Your Son as the atoning sacrifice for our sins.**
- P** Grant that this Good News spread throughout creation that more people in every place may know  
that You so loved the world that You gave Your only Son,  
**C** **that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.**
- P** Hear us, O Lord, as we silently bring You our private petitions.

### *Silent prayer*

- P** Trusting in Your mercy, we pray as Your Son taught us:  
**C** **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.**

## The Old Rugged Cross

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1. On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross<br/>The emblem of suff'ring and shame<br/>And I love that old cross<br/>where the dearest and best<br/>For a world of lost sinners was slain</p>           | <p>2. O the old rugged cross<br/>so despised by the world<br/>Has a wondrous attraction for me<br/>For the dear Lamb of God left his glory above<br/>To bear it to dark Calvary <b><u>CHORUS</u></b></p>      |
| <p><b><u>CHORUS:</u> So I'll cherish the old rugged cross<br/>Till my trophies at last I lay down<br/>I will cling to the old rugged cross<br/>And exchange it some day for a crown</b></p>                   |   |
| <p>3. In the old rugged cross<br/>stained with blood so divine<br/>A wondrous beauty I see<br/>For 'twas on that old cross<br/>Jesus suffered and died<br/>To pardon and sanctify me <b><u>CHORUS</u></b></p> | <p>4. To the old rugged cross I will ever be true<br/>It's shame and reproach gladly bear<br/>Then He'll call me some day to my home far away<br/>Where his glory forever I'll share <b><u>CHORUS</u></b></p> |

## Benediction and Dismissal

- P** The Lord bless you, defend you from all evil, and bring you to everlasting life. **C** **Amen.**
- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**