

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

10:00 am

# **Spanaway Lutheran Church**

16001 A Street South  
Spanaway, Washington  
(253) 531-7000

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020 \* 10:00 am

*Before worship, speak to God in prayer.*

*During worship, listen to God.*

*After worship, speak to each other.*

***Welcome To Our Worship.*** *During these uncertain times, we are bringing you our worship in an abbreviated form. We hope you will find hope, love and peace this week. We ARE the church and please know that you are part of this community. This might be a very unconventional worship, but it is brought forward with prayers and love for you all.*

***Prayer Requests and Announcements.*** *If you have a prayer request, or wish for Pastor to make an announcement for you, please email or call the office and we will update our prayer list for next Sunday.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

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.

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

*Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."*

### **Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11**

*For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.*

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

*Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.*

# WELCOME

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

**C Amen.**

**A** If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

*- Silence is kept for reflection -*

**A** Gracious God,

**C** have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

**P** Receive good news: God turns to you in love. “I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by His authority I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, † and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## GREETING

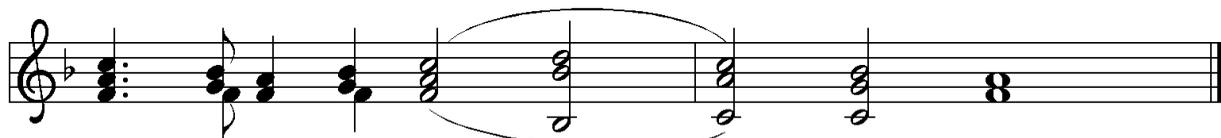
**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

# KYRIE



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.  
1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.  
2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . . have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Chris - te e - le - i - son.  
Lord, . . . have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. 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.

**C Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON

*Ezekiel 37:1-14*

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>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."

<sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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.” <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>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.’ <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>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.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 130

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.  
<sup>2</sup>LORD, hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my supplications!  
<sup>3</sup>If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
LORD, who could stand?  
<sup>4</sup>But there is forgiveness with you,  
so that you may be revered.  
<sup>5</sup>I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,  
and in his word I hope;  
<sup>6</sup>my soul waits for the LORD  
more than those who watch for the morning,  
more than those who watch for the morning.  
<sup>7</sup>O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love,  
and with him is great power to redeem.

<sup>3</sup>It is he who will redeem Israel  
from all its iniquities.

## SECOND LESSON

*Romans 8:6-11*

<sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>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, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(repeat once)*



Re - turn to God with all your heart, the source of grace and



mer - cy; come seek the ten - der faith - ful - ness of God.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 11:1-45*

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup>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.”<sup>5</sup> Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus,<sup>6</sup> after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.<sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.”<sup>8</sup> The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?”<sup>9</sup> 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.<sup>10</sup> But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.”<sup>11</sup> After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.”<sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.”<sup>13</sup> Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep.<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead.<sup>15</sup> For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”<sup>16</sup> Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”<sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.<sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away,<sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother.<sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home.<sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.<sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.”<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”<sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,<sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”<sup>27</sup> She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

<sup>28</sup>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.”<sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him.<sup>31</sup> 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.<sup>32</sup> 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.” <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>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.” <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>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.” <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” <sup>44</sup>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.”

<sup>45</sup>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.

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

**SERMON**

*Pastor John Schier-Hanson*

**NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*\*“catholic” means “universal”*

## **THE PRAYERS**

**A** Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God of life, bind your faithful people into one body. Enliven the church with your Spirit and bless the work of those who work for its renewal (*like Hans Nielsen Hauge, whom we commemorate today*).

Accomplish your work of salvation in us and through us, for the sake of the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of life, you love the world you have made and you grieve when creation suffers. Restore polluted lands and waterways. Heal areas of the world ravaged by storms, floods, wildfires, droughts, or other natural disasters. Bring all things to new life.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of life, show redemption to all who watch and wait with eager expectation: those longing for wars to cease, those waiting for immigration paperwork to finalize, those seeking election, and those in dire need of humanitarian relief. Come quickly with your hope.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of life, you weep with those who grieve. Unbind all who are held captive by anxiety, despair, or pain, especially Kim Cleveland, Dave Pearcy, Lenville Sutherland, Angie Rivera, **Justin & Adri Wright Osborn, Glen Ruediger, Diane Kraus, Kathy Olsen, Richard, Olsen,** Rose Raben, Michael Luberts, David Yu, Al Wright (*brief pause*). Fill us with compassion and empathy for those who struggle, and keep us faithful in prayer.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of life, we give thanks for opportunities for this congregation to collaborate with our community in caring for the needs of our neighbors. Strengthen our ties with other local congregations, agencies, and services. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of life, you are our resurrection. We remember all those who have died and trust that, in you, they will live again (*especially*). Breathe new life into our dry bones, that we, too, might live with you forever. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

**P** According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C** **And also with you.**

## **OFFERING**

*~Please take a few minutes to prepare your offering for the week.~*

# OFFERTORY HYMN



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your



pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -



store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,



and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

# OFFERTORY PRAYER

**A** Let us pray. Holy and generous host,

**C** you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

**P** God's love is poured out in Christ for you. Open yourselves to receive it.

## BENEDICTION

**P** Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, † bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace.

**C Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C Thanks be to God.**