



Midweek Lenten Service

***First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Galveston, TX***

Midweek Lenten Worship
ELW Service of the Word

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Pastor In the name of the Father,
 and of the ✙ Son,
 and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Pastor Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Pastor Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Pastor Most merciful God,

All we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

GATHERING SONG

The time of gathering song may be brief or extended, and may include one or more of the following: hymns, psalms; a Kyrie; a canticle of praise.

GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.

KYRIE



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**
Lord, have mer - cy:



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **Christ, have mer - cy.**
Christ, have mer - cy:



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**
Lord, have mer - cy:

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

2 Corinthians 4: 7-12

⁷ But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Lector The word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

The assembly is seated.

Clay jars are fragile and often get chipped if not cracked and broken – yet God chooses to pour God's treasure into clay jars and blesses us to be a blessing. During Lent we will explore examples of clay jars that may have looked like or felt like cracked pots.

February 24 Samson

March 3 Puah

March 10 Hosea
March 17 Esther
March 24 Eudias and Syntyche

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

APOSTLES' CREED

Pastor Let us join in professing the faith with the ancient words of the Apostles' 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,
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 INTERCESSION

*The prayers will be offered by the congregation. Please offer petitions aloud – concluding the petition with Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

Pastor With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Petitions will be offered.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.

CHARGE

Pastor Go out into the world in peace;
 have courage;
 hold on to what is good;
 return no one evil for evil;
 strengthen the faint hearted;
 support the weak and help the suffering;
 honor all people;
 love and serve the Lord,
 rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

BLESSING

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, in Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of almighty God, Father

✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

We have this treasure in clay jars – go and share.

Thanks be to God.

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church



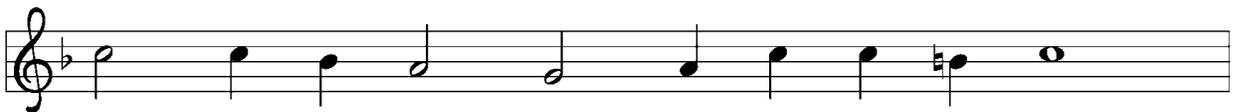
1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
so we are dead and live with you in God.
so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–2003

Music: OLD 124TH, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

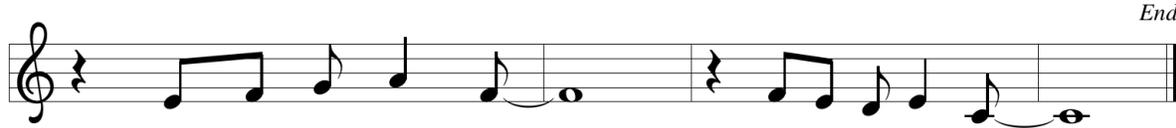
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Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa
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