

American Lutheran Church

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Interim Pastor Bob Albing
Ministers: All the People of God
4th Sunday of Lent

March 30, 2025

Welcome! Your presence here is a gift to God and to others this morning.

We have committed as a church to pray for all those in our community who are living in the darkness of addiction. We have lit a candle in the front of the sanctuary as we pray for the light of Christ to break into their lives. Before worship begins, you are invited to light a candle for a friend or family member for whom you are praying.

Welcome/Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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. **Amen**

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Most merciful God, 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

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the Name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen**

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 – "Lord, Have Mercy"

p. 156

Hymn of Praise - "All Glory be to God"

p. 159

Prayer of the Day

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Choir

Joshua 5: 9-12 Reader: Millie Brumbaugh

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.' And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were encamped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

The Gospel - Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

So he told them this parable:

Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.' "So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon - Christian Britton

Hymn of the Day

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" #631

- Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
 Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
 Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
 visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- 2) Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest. Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.
- 3) Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
- 4) Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee! Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise!

Affirmation of Faith

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church; to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition will end with "Lord, in your mercy," the congregation responds with "hear our prayer."

Offering: There is a basket at the back of the Sanctuary. You may also make your offerings online on our website: american luther anchurch.net or mail them to the church – PO Box 653- Newport, WA 99156

The Great Thanksgiving p.161

'Holy, Holy, Holy' p.162

Words of Institution p.162

Christ had died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again

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. 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.

Invitation to Communion - All are welcome at the Lord's Table. This is God's gift, God's grace, God's life — given freely in love for you. Grape juice and gluten, soy, dairy and corn-free wafers are available. If you need communion brought to you at your seat, please let the usher know.

"Lamb of God" p.164

Communion Hymns: 335, 474, 623

Blessing Prayer Benediction

Sending Hymn

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

#708

Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

- 1) Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet, master who acts as a slave to them. Refrain
 - 2) Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race, neighbors are nearby and far away. Refrain
- 3) These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love; all these are neighbors to us and you. Refrain
 - 2) Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet: this is the way we will live with you. Refrain

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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Masks are optional, but we recognize that COVID is still a reality and a concern for many who are vulnerable. Please wear a mask if you are feeling under the weather at all. Thank you so much!

This Week

Monday 10 am Bible Study. All are welcome!

Noon Al-anon
Tuesday 10 am Quilting
Wednesday 5:45 Soup Supper

6:30 Lenten Service

7pm Choir Sunday 10 am Worship

Remember in Prayer: Clara Wilner, Carla Thorson, Cyndy Akre Grady (Peggy Smith's sister), Jim Pletsch, Gladys Gerow, Susan Fox, Christian Britton's daughter, Annika and his family, Val Urbat, Shelly Hendrickson's family (Liessa Thorsen's friend), Elanie Faires, Judy Bell, Merle Simons (at the request of the Graffs), Stephanie Wasserman (Marva's daughter), Nathaniel and Dan (at the request of Terry Zakar), Ronny Vasquez Sr (at the request of the Graffs), Chris Vullo (at the request of Judy Bell), Della Grice and family, Val Samson, Imo and Mike Jones, Pastor Matt Goodrich, Nakia Salazar and his daughter Gabriella, Dawn Morey, Kapple family, Erin, CC and baby Patrick, Shae Courtney (Son-in-Law of the Lewis') and baby Norah Courtney, Colleen (friend of Dawn Morey), Ed & Lynda Heckman, Carlene Connely, Judy Schoesler, Nancy Thome, Dick Bockemuehl, Becky Anderson (former Pastor of UCC),, Sandy Rock (Joy Peralta's sister-in-law), Billie Goodno, Jean Oxreider, Joy Peralta, Dewey Moore (Cindy Robertson's dad), Joel Robertson, Scone Bender, Carol Rock, Annika Hughes, Dorothy Funden.

Announcements:

Giving Update: February 2025 Giving \$13,186.48. Goal was \$17,083.33

Lutherhaven Summer Camp: Campership funds available for summer camp at Lutherhaven. Please contact Terry Zakar.

Anna's Circle: We will be meeting upstairs until the weather gets warmer.

Tax Information: For taxpayers over 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ who do not itemize, there is a key planning opportunity to get an additional benefit for donations to charity. You can make donations to the same charities you donate to now through your IRA. The IRA funds then become non-taxable to you. These donations also count toward your annual required minimum distribution from your IRA once you reach 70 $\frac{1}{2}$. This is a huge opportunity to maximize the higher standard deduction and also deduct your charitable donations at the same time".

This is done through your investment adviser.

If you have any questions please give me a call or email me. Vicki Richter <u>vickidrichter@hotmail.com</u>

Please sign up for Coffee Hour

Building Use: We have a new Building Use Agreement and fee schedule. If you are planning an event at the church please fill out the use agreement when booking your space/time.

Please deposit prayer request slips in the Offering basket (so they make it to the office).

Reminder: Please don't forget to set the alarm before leaving the church. If you do not have a code please text/call Lauretta 509-447-3440

Pastor Bob Albing can be reached at (208)446-5206 and pinetreepadre@gmail.com. In an emergency, if you are unable to reach Pastor Bob, Pastor Chris Hill is available: pastorchrishill@yahoo.com 320-279-2374

Also, Annie Frederick is available to answer any questions you may have about the transition: 509-270-0496 and afrederick 2018 @outlook.com

If you would like to be on our email list, please send your information to alc.churchoffice@gmail.com