

# LIVING LORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Vero Beach, Florida, 32966

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est. 1986

## Our Mission Statement

*“Living Lord Lutheran Church is a family of believers, renewed through the Holy Spirit, to be the real presence of the Risen Christ in this place, our community, and the world.”*

**PASTOR**

The Rev. Gregory Shreaves, ELCA

**MINISTER OF MUSIC**

Adria Ryan

**MUSICIAN EMERITUS**

Pamela Wilcox

## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION - 10:00 AM

Living Lord Lutheran Church is a church of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (www.elca.org.) With over 9,100 congregations and 4 million members throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands, we are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God’s grace. We are church. We are Lutheran. We are church together. We are church for the sake of the world.

We believe and teach that Christ’s body and blood are truly present and are really given in, with, and under the bread and wine of the Holy Eucharist. Communion at present is given in one kind – that is, the consecrated Body of Christ. It is given, along with the words spoken by the Presiding Minister, “The Body of Christ, the Blood of Christ.” Children and adults are invited to come forward to receive a blessing if you do not wish to receive the Sacrament.

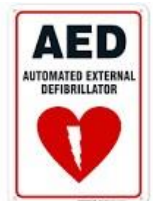
Our parish family extends a warm welcome to all newcomers, as well as those returning home to Living Lord today. We do not consider newcomers to be visitors. This is the church of Jesus Christ, and there is a place for you here. We invite you to join the conversation, participate fully in the spiritual life of this community, and proclaim with us the Good News to all the world. Again, welcome to Living Lord Lutheran Church. If you are visiting today, please inform an usher or the Pastor. Restrooms are located in the hallway off the lobby of the church.

**Pastor Greg’s contact information**

email: gbsbuckeye1@gmail.com

mobile phone: 610.295.9774

**In the event of emergency, an AED device is located in the lobby/narthex of the church. You will find it on the wall leading to the restrooms**



**Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Service of Holy Communion**  
**LENT 5**



**WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP HERE TODAY**

*As the music begins please silence your phones and end your conversation with your neighbor and begin your conversation with the LORD.*

+ *Indicates that the congregation is invited to stand as you are able.*

**INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY** *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.*

**ALL SING**                    **"God Wil Take Care of You"**  
*see back of bulletin*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

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

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins. The assembly is invited to stand as you are able...*



+ **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.*

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

+ P: In the name of the Father, and of  
the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another  
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

C: **we confess to you our faults and failings.**

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;  
 we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;  
 we spoil rather than steward your creation;  
 we cause hurt though you call us to heal;  
 we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
 as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

P: Hear the good news:  
 God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,  
 so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!  
 God embraces you with divine mercy,  
 † forgives you in Christ’s name,  
 and revives you in the Spirit’s power.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God!

+ENTRANCE HYMN “*Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord*”  
*see back of bulletin*

+ APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

L: 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

Kyrie

Mass of John Carroll

Micheal Joncas

1. You raise the dead \_\_\_ to life in the Spir - it: Ky - ri - e e -  
 2. You bring par - don and peace to the sin - ner: Chri - ste e -  
 3. You bring light \_\_\_ to those in the dark-ness: Ky - ri - e e -

4  
 le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 le - i - son. Chri - ste, Chri - ste, Chri - ste e - le - i - son.  
 le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

9  
 Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 Chri - ste, Chri - ste, Chri - ste e - le - i - son.  
 Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

## +PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (*The assembly prays together. A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*)

C: 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. Amen.

*The assembly is invited to be seated...*

## WORD

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



### **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."*

<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, "Prophecy 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."

*The reading may be concluded:*

L: The word of the Lord.

*The assembly responds:*

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**            **Psalm 130**

I wait for you, O Lord; in your word is my hope. (*Ps. 130:5*)

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths

I cry to you, O Lord;

<sup>2</sup>**O Lord, hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

<sup>3</sup>If you were to keep watch over sins,

O Lord, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>**Yet with you is forgiveness,**

**in order that you may be feared.**

<sup>5</sup>I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

<sup>6</sup>**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,**

**more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is steadfast love;

with the Lord there is plentiful redemption.

<sup>8</sup>**For the Lord shall redeem Israel**

**from all their sins.**

**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.*

<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.

*The reading may be concluded:*

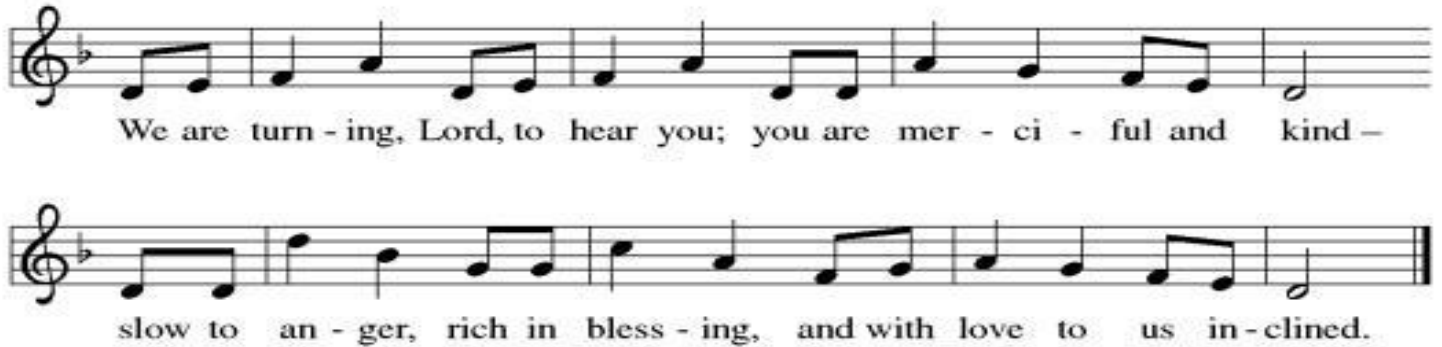
L:        The word of the Lord.

*The assembly responds:*

C:        **Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly is invited to stand as you are able as we welcome the gospel among us.*

## + GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -  
slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

## + GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

*Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.*

*The gospel is announced...*

P: The holy gospel according to St. John, the 9<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

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

*The reading may be concluded:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

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

*The assembly is seated.*

## SERMON The Rev. Gregory Shreaves

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon. The assembly is invited to stand as you are able...*

## + HYMN OF THE DAY *“Goodness is Stronger Than Evil”* *ELW #721 (x3)*

### 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 [Christian] church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*The prayers are said responsively. The worship leader follows each petition with these or similar words: “God of grace”. The assembly follows with “**Hear our prayer**”.*

**A:** Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.  
*A brief silence.*

*During the prayers, other intercessions may be offered. The Presiding Minister concludes the prayers with these or similar words...*

**P:** In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

*The service continues with the sharing of the peace.*

### **+THE PEACE**

**P:** The Lord Jesus prayed for the unity of his disciples.  
We look for the day when the church will shine forth  
in unity at his holy supper. The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*The ministers and the assembly may greet one another with a gesture of Christ’s peace.*

*The service continues with the Offering.*

### **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*



### **THE OFFERING OF THE GIFTS**

*The Offering is received as the Lord’s table is prepared. All are invited to place their offering in the offering plates as they are passed among the assembly. All are invited into quiet reflection as the Offertory is played.*

### **OFFERTORY**

**“Blessed Assurance” ELW #638**

*The assembly is invited to stand as you are able...*

**+ OFFERING PRAYER**

A: God of good gifts,  
receive these and all our offerings  
as we present them in faithful service  
for the sake of your gospel.  
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal  
as you pour out your very presence  
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.   **C: Amen.**

**+ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*The presiding minister offers the Words of Institution over the bread and wine...*

P: The Lord be with you.  
**C: And also with you.**  
P: Lift up your hearts.  
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**  
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**+ PREFACE**

P: 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 name and join their unending hymn:



## +SANCTUS

### Holy, Holy, Holy Great Thanksgiving

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937  
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*The Presiding Minister continues...*

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.

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.

O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,  
O God our strength and our song,  
you show us a vision of a tree of life  
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life,  
the life of the Father to the Son,  
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,  
life in you, now and forever.           **Amen.**

P:       And now we pray boldly as our LORD Christ taught us to pray:

### **+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; 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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P:       Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

*The assembly is seated...*

# LAMB OF GOD

*Cantor*  
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,  
*All*  
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.  
*Cantor*  
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,  
*All*  
grant us peace, grant us peace. \_\_\_\_\_

*The Sacrament is distributed.*

J. Michael Joncas  
Music © 1989, WLP

*As the Presiding Minister offers these words, “The body of Christ, given for you”, and the Assisting Minister offers these words, “The blood of Christ, shed for you” each is invited to respond with “Amen.”*

## COMMUNION HYMN/S *“Spirit of the Living God”* *See back of bulletin*

*After the distribution of the Sacrament is completed, all are invited to stand as you are able...*

+ P: The body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C: **Amen.**

## + POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Embodied God,  
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.  
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,  
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors  
and touch the world with your love. C: **Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*



### **+BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

P: God, the giver of love,

✝ Christ, the resurrection and the life,  
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth

bless you in this Lenten journey. C: Amen.

*The assembly is invited to be seated for Ministry Announcements...*

### **MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*The assembly is invited to stand for the Sending Hymn, as you are able. ...*

### **SENDING HYMN**

***“God is So Good”***  
***see back of bulletin***

### **DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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### **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

**March 26, 2023**

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

***Coming and Going***

There is a lot of coming and going in today’s gospel. Mary and Martha send a messenger to Jesus with news that Lazarus is ill. Jesus and his disciples do not go right away, but eventually they come to Martha after Lazarus has died. We learn that many had come to console the sisters. Martha proclaims Jesus “the Messiah, the Son of God, is the one coming into the world” (John 11:27). She then goes to get Mary, who comes quickly to Jesus. Mary is weeping, and so are those who come with her. When Jesus asks where Lazarus is, they invite him to come and see. They all go to the tomb. With all of this coming and going, it is not surprising that Jesus tells Lazarus to come out and that Jesus commands others to unbind him so he can go.

Lazarus emerging from the tomb is a remarkable moment, but just as remarkable are the connections of all of this story’s coming and going with our daily lives. Our health comes and goes. Jobs come and go. People come into our lives and go. Kids go, and perhaps come back again. Sometimes we are the ones who come and go. The grief of loss and death comes and goes. Tears come and go. Hope can even come and go.

Amid this movement, we come together in worship. We come to gather around the font and the table and hear again the stories of Jesus coming into the world, going to the cross, and coming again in the resurrection. We come together with our griefs and joys, our struggles and celebrations, all that binds us and sets us free. We come to gather, surrounded by God's grace. Having come, we will go in peace to serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!