

**Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Laetare Sunday  
30 March 2025**

**HIGHWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH  
419 Northmount Drive NW  
Calgary, Alberta T2K 3H7  
Telephone: 403-289-8206**

**Pastor:** Rev. Michael Wellman

**Organist:** Rick VanderWoude **Secretary:** Liz Northam

**Office Email:** [secretaryhlc@outlook.com](mailto:secretaryhlc@outlook.com)

**Email:** [pastorhlc@outlook.com](mailto:pastorhlc@outlook.com)

**Website:** [www.highwoodlutheran.com](http://www.highwoodlutheran.com)

**Organist's Blog:** <https://highwoodorganist.wordpress.com>

**Zoom:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4111340591>

PW: highwood

**Zoom by Telephone** Dial 1-587-328-1099

Meeting ID: 411 134 0591 # Passcode: 592794 #



~~~~~

**+ HOLY COMMUNION SETTING ONE +**

**ORGAN PRELUDE**

**GATHERING** Pg. 94

**CATECHETIC MOMENT**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** Pg. 94

**GATHERING HYMN** Come, Ye Disconsolate **No. 607**

**GREETING/ KYRIE** Pg. 98

**P** REJOICE, ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her: all ye that love her. Rejoice for joy with her: all ye that mourn for her. I was glad when they said unto me: Let us go into the house of the Lord.

**C** **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**P** We pray. 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.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

**FIRST LESSON** A Reading from the Book of Joshua

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 camped 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. (*Joshua 5:9-12*)

**A** The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** *Sung* **Psalm 32**

Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,  
and whose sin is | put away!

Happy are they to whom the Lord im- | putes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there | is no guile!

While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,  
because of my groaning | all day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my | sin to you,  
and did not con- | ceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions | to the Lord."

Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of  
trouble;

when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.

You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;  
I will guide you | with my eye.

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not  
stay near you."

Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the Lord.

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the Lord;  
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.

## SECOND LESSON

A Reading from the Second Letter to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.  
(2 Corinthians 5:16-21)

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Let your steadfast love...

Pg. 103

*Please stand as you are able.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

P The Holy Gospel...

**C Glory to you, O Lord**

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: "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 traveled 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.' "  
(Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32)

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "Alas! And Did My Saviour Bleed" **No. 337**

**THE APOSTLES CREED**

Inside Front Cover and Page 105

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Please stand as you are able.*

The response to "*Hear us, O God.*" is "**Your mercy is great.**"

A Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

A God of abundant grace, guide your church to look upon people as you look upon them, with compassion and as deserving of mercy. Shape us to be worthy ambassadors of Christ. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Bestow dignity on migrant and seasonal farm and factory workers. When the time comes for them to leave jobs, provide new ways for them to make a livelihood. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Inspire musicians and poets to point to your unfathomable beauty and creativity. Enhance our vision of your holiness through their works. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Protect and preserve all people who look to you to be their hiding place. Be their respite from trouble, and give them hope. Bring peace to Ukraine and all that are torn apart by warfare and violence. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Erase the pain of trauma and the shame and stigma of social contempt. Change the hearts of those who bully or mistreat others, and heal broken relationships. Heal the sick and comfort the grieving. We pray for: Bruce Beamer, Anna

Berwanger, Simret Bogale, Chrystine Cuch, Mariette Erasmus, Adeline Erick, Dolores Hollowell, Donna Harbor, Genevieve Janssen, Julie Janssen Downe, Mary Joselin, Eleanora Lahoda, Fay Larsen, Amy Lynch, Jean McCowan, Mark Mutschlechner, Bruce and Judith Nagel, Karin Olafson (Dakota, Remi and Ada), Jerry Rasmuson and family, Jim and Joyce Rasmussen, David Sr. and Joan Richardson, Ron Sauer, Vern Schnell, Rose Sinclair, John Watt, those we name aloud ... and those we carry in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A We pray for your holy catholic Church:

- the Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod, synod staff, pastors, people, and Bishop Jason Zinko
- the Northern Area Leadership Team, pastors, people, and Rev. Anna Thede, Dean
- our Synod Campus Ministries and especially for Rev. George Koopmans, Chaplain for Medicine Hat College
- retired bishops, pastors, deacons, and other retired church leaders
- Edmonton New Life Chinese Lutheran, Edmonton, and Holy Spirit Lutheran, Edmonton
- the students, faculty, and staff of Luther College, Regina, Saskatchewan
- San Marcos Congregation, Bucaramanga, Colombia
- the pastors and people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Argentina
- the ministers and people of the United Church of Canada
- the pastors and people of the Anglican, Mennonite, and Moravian Churches of Canada

For all these, Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Invite your whole company of saints into eternal, joyful feasting. When we question your abundant mercy, soften our hearts to receive the gifts of faith and love. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A For all virtually gathered for this service, and those attending to the care of others and to beneficial endeavours that keep them away from worshipping. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**P** Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

Pg. 106

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

**C And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** “The Lord’s Prayer” (Egyptian).

*Setting of the altar and reception of the Offerings.*

*Please be seated.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** (Lent)

Pg. 64

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Pg. 107

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** (Version II)

Pg. 112

**THE FRACTION**

**P** When we eat this Bread, we share the Body of Christ; when we drink the Cup, we share the Blood of Christ.

**C Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as once you revealed yourself to the disciples.**

**LAMB OF GOD**

Pg. 112

**THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*Please be seated. Assistants and those in need commune first.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

Our Father, We Have Wandered

**No. 606**

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

**No. 779**

**TABLE BLESSING**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER** (Lent)

Pg. 65

*Please be seated.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY**

**BENEDICTION**

Pg. 114

**SENDING HYMN** We Sing to You, O God

**No. 791**

**DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace...

**C** Thanks be to God!

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**



**WELCOME** to all gathered here today. Join us for refreshments and conversation downstairs after worship, Questions? Ask one of today’s servants or speak with the pastor.

**SPECIAL THANKS** to Christopher Poromon for enriching our service today with his musical talent.

**WE THANK TODAY’S SERVANTS**

- Usher: Walter and Elizabeth Anderson
- Lector: Walter Anderson
- Assistant: Dave Wong
- Altar Guild: Helen Sandau
- Refreshments: Sam and Helen Sandau
- Zoom Host: Phil Tang, Ahmed Conteh

**OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE**

|               |          |             |
|---------------|----------|-------------|
| Last week     | 23 March | Budget 2025 |
| Current       | \$ 1,438 | \$2,911     |
| Benevolence   | \$ 0     |             |
| Building Fund | \$ 40    |             |
| Other         | \$ 50    |             |
| Attendance    | 42       |             |

**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**

|           |        |          |                             |
|-----------|--------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Today     | 30 Mar | 11:45 PM | Fellowship and Refreshments |
|           |        | 2:00 PM  | CFMA Worship                |
| Monday    | 31 Mar | 7:00 PM  | Council                     |
|           |        | 7:00 PM  | 12 Step Program             |
| Tuesday   | 1 Apr  | 1:00 PM  | HLW Bible Study             |
|           |        | 6:30 PM  | S.A.F.E. Place Peer Support |
| Wednesday | 2 Apr  | 10:00 AM | 12 Step Program             |
|           |        | 7:00 PM  | 12 Step Program             |
| Friday    | 4 Apr  | 7:00 PM  | 12 Step Program             |
| Saturday  | 5 Apr  | 9:00 AM  | House of Hope Worship       |
|           |        | 10:00 AM | Men’s Breakfast Ace Casino  |



## Airport

Sunday            6 Apr 10:30 AM    Fifth Sunday in Lent

**HIGHWOOD HIGHLIGHTS** – the April issue is now available in the narthex and downstairs.

**CLEANING BEE** – A huge Thank You to everyone that came out for the Cleaning Bee. A lot was done cleaning, repairing the hymnal ribbons, and staining/painting the napkin holders. A few repairs were done, including the furnace and vents. Great job everyone! The Sanctuary looks and smells great.

**HIGHWOOD LUTHERAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY** – Tuesday 1 April 2025 at 1:00 PM All ladies are welcome to attend our bible study downstairs. Rides can be arranged with Pat, Clarice, or Helga. Bring a friend if you like, as we all learn from each other.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** – Come and socialize with the Highwood men. at Ace Casino Airport for our monthly breakfast on Saturday 5 April 2025. Hear humour from Art Wildeman and learn about Lutheran Hospital Ministries from our dedicated Dave Wong.

**FOOD BANK DRIVE** – Our Food Bank Drive has officially started! Our goal is to gather donations and have everything ready for Palm Sunday, the Second Sunday in April so we can deliver them to the distribution centre. We encourage you to drop off your non-perishable items or food box donations at the Narthex. Every contribution counts, and your support is greatly appreciated! Thank you for your generosity and commitment to helping those in need.

**EASTER FLOWERS** – Are you able to donate funds to provide flowers for Easter Sunday? If so, please mark your envelope. Thanks for your generosity!

**HOTSHOTS** – Tuesday 15 April 2025 at 10:00 AM join us for the movie “Jack the Bear” with a soup and bun lunch to follow. We have great discussions about the movies, so add your thoughts to the mix. Sign up sheet is downstairs.

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE** – If you need a ride to church, contact Elizabeth Anderson 587 897 0548 or Bill Strand 403 239 9894

|                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b> | Fifth Sunday in Lent |
| Isaiah 43:16-21             | Psalm 126            |
| Philippians 3:4b-14         | John 12:1-8          |

**LENTEN SERVICES**

|                      |               |          |
|----------------------|---------------|----------|
| <b>HOLY WEEK</b>     | April 13 – 20 |          |
| Palm Sunday          | 13 April      | 10:30 AM |
| <b>THE TRIDUUM</b>   |               |          |
| Maundy Thursday      | 17 April      | 7:00 PM  |
| Good Friday          | 18 April      | 10:30 AM |
| <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> | 20 April      | 10:30 AM |