

# First Lutheran Church, Morris MN

## Lenten Midweek Service: Wednesday, March 24, 2021

"Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this: "And you shall love your neighbor as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these (Mark 12: 29-31) – The Jesus Creed

## Gathering

### Prelude

**Greeting:** *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.*

**Hymn:** "Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church" #321

1. Eternal Lord of love, behold your church  
walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent,  
led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,  
moved by your love and  
toward your presence bent:  
far off yet here the goal of all desire.
2. So daily dying to the way of self,  
so daily living in your way of love,  
we walk the road, Lord, Jesus, that you trod,  
knowing ourselves baptized into your death;  
so we are dead and live with you in God.
3. If dead in you, so in you we arise,  
you the firstborn of all the faithful dead;  
and as through stony  
ground the green shoots break,  
glorious in springtime dress of leaf and flow'r,  
so into life and glory shall we wake.

*Text: Thomas H. Cain. Public Domain*

### Opening Prayer

## Word

**Reading:** I Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. <sup>4</sup> Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup> It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup> Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. <sup>9</sup> For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; <sup>10</sup> but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. <sup>12</sup> For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup> And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

**Message** "Love is....."

**Hymn:** "Take, O Take Me as I Am" #814 (sing 3x)

Take, oh, take me as I am;  
summon out what I shall be;  
set your seal upon my heart  
and live in me.

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### 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 again 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.**

### Offering/Offertory

### Prayers & Lord's Prayer

## **Sending**

**Hymn:** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" #803

1. When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss  
and pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
save in the death of Christ, my God;  
all the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.
3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?
4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

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### Blessing

### Sending

### Postlude