

# Welcome to Holy Spirit Lutheran Church!

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 11, 2018

## † STAND

WOV: BLUE HYMNAL      ELW: RED HYMNAL



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## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

WOV p. 10

† HYMN ELW 666 “What Wondrous Love Is This”

## † GREETING

## † KYRIE

WOV, p. 28

## † PRAYER OF THE DAY

WOV, p. 30

## BLESSING OF THE READER

## FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4-9

*Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.*

## LIFT UP THE SUFFERING SYMBOL

They grew tired of bread from heaven  
And of Moses and of God  
They longed to live the life of slavery once again  
So they muttered and they grumbled  
And they whimpered and they whined;  
With each faithless word, sank deeper into sin  
He took the pen of pain once more  
To write upon their hearts  
The lesson they had been so slow to learn  
But writing in the sand, the fiery serpents came to call  
With a holy message and a bite that burned

Chorus:

Lift up the suffering symbol, and place it high upon a pole  
Tell the children to look up and be made whole  
So Moses made a metal snake, and nailed it to a pole

Sent out the saving word so they would know  
That the symbol of their suffering was now the focus of their faith  
And with a faithful glance, the healing power would flow

In time the brazen serpent became an idol in the land  
And they left the living God to worship clay  
When they forgot their suffering  
Soon true faith had disappeared  
So some idolize a brazen cross today

Chorus

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**SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:1-10**

*Saved by grace through faith for good works*

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

**SPECIAL MUSIC** “Pie Jesu”

- Lightfoot

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**† GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** “Return to the Lord”

WOV, p. 31

**†GOSPEL: John 3:14-21**

**SERMON** "A Suffering Symbol" Pr. William Matlack

**† HYMN ELW 323** "God Loved the World"

**† THE CREED** WOV, p. 32 or p. 33

**† THE PRAYERS & THE PEACE** WOV, p. 34

**THE OFFERING**

**† OFFERTORY HYMN** "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" WOV, p. 35

**† GREAT THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION LITURGY** WOV, p. 36

**† HYMN** "Holy, holy, holy Lord"

**† THE LORD'S PRAYER** WOV, p. 39

**All those who are baptized are welcome to celebrate Holy Communion.** We believe that in the sacrament, we receive assurance that our sins are forgiven, that we are spiritually strengthened, and through our participation, we join with all Christians in an expression of faith that Jesus Christ is Lord. The center circles of the communion trays have white grape juice.

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

**SONG** "Lamb of God" WOV, p. 39

**ELW 336** "Lamb of God"

**ELW 329** "As the Sun with Longer Journey"

**† COMMUNION BLESSING** WOV, p. 41

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**† BENEDICTION**

**† HYMN 660** "Lift High the Cross"

**† DISMISSAL** WOV, p. 41

**POSTLUDE**

**THE WORSHIP HAS ENDED... LET OUR SERVICE BEGIN!**

The Flowers are given by The Meyer Family in memory of Oma & Opa Meyer. This month's Sanctuary Candle is given by The Sweda Family in memory of John Sweda, Tom's father; and by The Casagrande Family in memory of Vern Casagrande, Ken's father.

## Ministry Opportunities

Mon 3/12

6:30 PM Zumba

Tue 3/13

9:00 AM Yoga

10:00 AM Prayer Shawl

Wed 3/14

6:00 PM Soup Supper – Pine Hill

7:00 PM NA Meeting

Thu 3/15

6:00 PM WELCA Meeting

6:30 PM Zumba

Fri 3/16

7:00 PM AA Meeting

Sat 3/17

9:30 AM Zumba

Sun 3/18

8:45 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:00 AM Worship Service

10:45 AM Sunday School

7:00 PM NA Meeting

## Worship Assistants

Pastor - William J. Matlack

Greeter & Reader – Terry Rowland

Ushers – Dennis Kunkel, Bob Burns,

Doug Opthoff, Bill Thayer, Tom Sweda

Counters – George & Chris Kuljurgis,

Jeanne Myers or Sandy Thayer

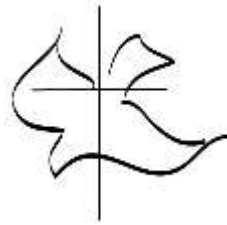
Altar Guild – Ruth Dziuba, Cindy Ward

Lead Musician - Bonnie Sweda

Choir - Marinda Jenkins

Handbell Choir - Heinz Mattern

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## Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

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[www.spiritdrivenchurch.com](http://www.spiritdrivenchurch.com)

**As a courtesy to others, please silence your electronic devices.**

May you find inspiration and joy in your time here. It is our hope that you feel welcomed into our community of faith. We ask that you sign our guestbook in the entry. If you live in the area, we invite you to consider making Holy Spirit your church home.

**Please remember that the time before service in the sanctuary is for many a time for meditation and prayer.** Please conduct your conversations before the service in the entry. Also, please leave all refreshments outside the sanctuary.

Our Mission: We are CALLED by Christ in Baptism, GATHERED into community and SENT out to share God's grace.