

## Where Two or Three are Gathered: Worship for Small Assemblies

### Lent Year C March 6 – April 14, 2019

#### Planning Notes for Leaders

- Hear, see, and sing the incarnation and resurrection hope in a way that also acknowledged the reality of loss and death. Lent is a time when everything we do in worship – reading, music, colors, liturgical arts – can remind us simultaneously of the reality of death, the reality of resurrection life, and Jesus’ experience of life, death, and resurrection life with us.
  - We come to God in rawness. Choose fabrics which are “raw”, with unfinished edges. Try combining old, unmarked, clean sacks, with a strip of purple linen.
  - Use natural items to adorn the space – dry tree branches, thorny stalks, tall, dry grasses
  - A bowl with stones, filled with water can remind us of this journey in our baptism.
- Fasting and Feasting – Our association with starkness and denial in Lent are contrasted with our lessons in Year C. We hear stories of the joyful father throwing a feast, oil used on Jesus’ feet, and manure piled high to coax a tree back to life. Are there ways you can bring alive this fasting and feasting in your worship life? Every Sunday when we receive communion or give thanksgiving for the Word, we are feasting.
- Unlike Good Friday, Palm/Passion Sunday does not end with Jesus’ death but with the feast – holy communion. Joining together in the Apostles’ creed after hearing the Passion reading is a powerful moment where fast and feast come together in a communal statement of faith, which becomes tangible in the meal we share.

*The above notes are compiled from Sundays and Seasons, 2019, Year C © 2018 Augsburg Fortress, pp. 107-108, and Worship Guidebook for Lent and the Three Days © 2009, Augsburg Fortress pp. 62-63.*
- Silence has been included before the reading of the Lessons. Give people the time to calm their body and minds. In the hectic world we live in, sometimes this is the only silence people receive during the week. Treat it as a gift that can be savoured. Are there other places within the service where silence might be appropriate?

#### Music

Each week the service opens with the same gathering song – “What we need is here.” – a reminder that no matter where we are, God is also there. This song and another suggested song during the Second Week in Lent can be led paperlessly. The organization, Music that Makes Community, has videos, which demonstrate how these can be led.

- What we need is here – Music that makes community:  
[https://www.musicthatmakescommunity.org/what\\_we\\_need\\_is\\_here](https://www.musicthatmakescommunity.org/what_we_need_is_here)
- Come, Bring Your Burdens to God (Woza Nomthwalo Wakho)  
[https://www.musicthatmakescommunity.org/paulvasile/come\\_bring\\_your\\_burdens\\_to\\_go\\_d\\_woza\\_nomthwalo\\_wakho](https://www.musicthatmakescommunity.org/paulvasile/come_bring_your_burdens_to_go_d_woza_nomthwalo_wakho)

The Holy Communion liturgy is for use when an Ordained or Authorized Lay Minister is present to preside.

# Sundays in Lent, Year C

## Holy Communion

### GATHERING

GATHERING SONG            “What we need is here” (see Planning Notes for Leader)  
   or ELW #319 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

### GREETING

The God of healing, hope, and wholeness be with you all.

**And also with you.**

The Son of righteousness fill you with hope and peace.

**May it be the same for our neighbors and friends.**

The Spirit of holiness and resurrection stir within you.

**May the wind that brought forth creation from chaos continue to do so.**

### KYRIE

*Use verse 1 of ELW #151 as the response*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*Kyrie eleison...*

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

*Kyrie eleison...*

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

*Kyrie eleison...*

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

*Kyrie eleison...*

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Kyrie eleison...*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Use the applicable Prayer of the Day for each Sunday in Lent, Year C, found on pp. 26 – 29 of Evangelical Lutheran Worship Pew Edition.*

### WORD

#### WE PREPARE

As we gather this day, we hear and proclaim God’s Word among us. Let us take a few moments of silence to prepare – to prepare our ears, to prepare our hearts, to prepare our very being – to listen.

*Silence – each week, try to lengthen this time of silence.*

## FIRST READING

<b>Week 1 – March 10, 2019</b>	Deut 26:1- 11
<b>Week 2 – March 17, 2019</b>	Gen 15: 1-12, 17-18
<b>Week 3 – March 24, 2019</b>	Isa 55:1-9
<b>Week 4 – March 31, 2019</b>	Josh 5:9-12
<b>Week 5 – April 7, 2019</b>	Isa 43:16-21

## PSALM

<b>Week 1 – March 10, 2019</b>	Ps 91:1-2, 9-16	<i>or #787 ELW On Eagle's Wings</i>
<b>Week 2 – March 17, 2019</b>	Ps 27	<i>or #768 ELW Lead Me, Guide Me</i>
<b>Week 3 – March 24, 2019</b>	Ps 63:1-8	<i>or #613 ELW Thy Holy Wings</i>
<b>Week 4 – March 31, 2019</b>	Ps 32	<i>or #795 ELW God, My Lord, My Strength</i>
<b>Week 5 – April 7, 2019</b>	Ps 126	<i>or #329 ELW As the Sun with Longer Journey</i>

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.  
Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.**

## GOSPEL

<b>Week 1 – March 10, 2019</b>	Luke 4:1-13
<b>Week 2 – March 17, 2019</b>	Luke 13: 31-35
<b>Week 3 – March 24, 2019</b>	Luke 13: 1-9
<b>Week 4 – March 31, 2019</b>	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
<b>Week 5 – April 7, 2019</b>	John 12:1-8

## SERMON/MEDITATION

### HYMN OF THE DAY

<b>Week 1 – March 10, 2019</b>	ELW #325 – I want Jesus to walk with me
<b>Week 2 – March 17, 2019</b>	ELW #323 – God loved the world
<b>Week 3 – March 24, 2019</b>	ELW #624 – Jesus, still lead on
<b>Week 4 – March 31, 2019</b>	ELW #779 – Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
<b>Week 5 – April 7, 2019</b>	ELW #343 – My song is love unknown

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

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

#### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

#### MEAL

#### OFFERING

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen** (*ELW, p. 64*)

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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, (*Worship Guidebook for Lent and the Three Days, Augsburg Fortress, 2009, p. 48*).

**Holy, holy, holy Lord.  
God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### LORD'S PRAYER

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet,  
for all is now ready

#### COMMUNION SONG

<b>Week 1 – March 10, 2019</b>	ELW #808 – Lord Jesus, you shall be my song
<b>Week 2 – March 17, 2019</b>	“Come, bring your burdens to God/ Woza Nomthwalo Wakho” or ELW #468 – Around You, O Lord Jesus
<b>Week 3 – March 24, 2019</b>	ELW #484 – You satisfy the hungry heart
<b>Week 4 – March 31, 2019</b>	ELW #587/588 – There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy
<b>Week 5 – April 7, 2019</b>	ELW #335 – Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.** (*ELW, p. 65*)

#### SENDING

#### BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever.

**Amen.** (*ELW, p. 115*)

SENDING SONG

<b>Week 1 – March 10, 2019</b>	ELW #326 – Bless Now, O God, the Journey
<b>Week 2 – March 17, 2019</b>	ELW #328 – Restore in Us, O God
<b>Week 3 – March 24, 2019</b>	ELW #342 – There in God's Garden
<b>Week 4 – March 31, 2019</b>	ELW #603 – God, When Human Bonds Are Broken
<b>Week 5 – April 7, 2019</b>	ELW #339 – Christ, the Life of All the Living

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Sundays in Lent, Year C

## Service of the Word

### GATHERING

GATHERING SONG            “What we need is here” (see Notes for Leader)  
   or ELW #319 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

### GREETING

The God of healing, hope, and wholeness be with you all.

**And also with you.**

The Son of righteousness fill you with hope and peace.

**May it be the same for our neighbors and friends.**

The Spirit of holiness and resurrection stir within you.

**May the wind that brought forth creation from chaos continue to do so.**

### KYRIE

*Use verse 1 of ELW #151 as the response*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*Kyrie eleison...*

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

*Kyrie eleison...*

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

*Kyrie eleison...*

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

*Kyrie eleison...*

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Kyrie eleison...*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Use the applicable Prayer of the Day for each Sunday in Lent, Year C, found on pp. 26 – 29 of Evangelical Lutheran Worship Pew Edition.*

### WORD

#### WE PREPARE

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*Silence – each week, try to lengthen this time of silence.*

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PSALM

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.  
Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.**

GOSPEL

<b>Week 1 – March 10, 2019</b>	Luke 4:1-13
<b>Week 2 – March 17, 2019</b>	Luke 13: 31-35
<b>Week 3 – March 24, 2019</b>	Luke 13: 1-9
<b>Week 4 – March 31, 2019</b>	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
<b>Week 5 – April 7, 2019</b>	John 12:1-8

SERMON/MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY

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<b>Week 4 – March 31, 2019</b>	ELW #779 – Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
<b>Week 5 – April 7, 2019</b>	ELW #343 – My song is love unknown

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

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

#### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

#### THANKSGIVING

#### OFFERING

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen** (*ELW, p. 107*)

#### THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

*ELW, p. 220*)

#### LORD'S PRAYER

#### SENDING

#### BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever.

**Amen.** (*ELW, p. 115*)

SENDING SONG

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<b>Week 5 – April 7, 2019</b>	ELW #339 – Christ, the Life of All the Living

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion**  
April 14, 2019  
Holy Communion

**GATHERING**

*If possible, the assembly gathers at a designated place outside the usual worship space, so that all may enter in procession. Palm branches, or branches of other trees and shrubs, are distributed before the service begins.*

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

**PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL**

Luke 19:28-40

**BLESSING OF PALMS**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept.*  
We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.  
Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed  
messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way.  
Bless these branches and those who carry them.  
Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross,  
so that, joined to his death and resurrection,  
we enter into life with you;  
through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**PROCESSION**

Let us go forth in peace,  
**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Sing: ELW #344 – All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrections, let us pray.

Everlasting God,  
you have established your rule in the human heart  
through the servanthood of Jesus Christ.  
By your Spirit,  
keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues  
confess Jesus as Lord  
and with their lives praise him as Savior;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.** (*Worship Guidebook for Lent and the Three Days, Augsburg Fortress, 2009, p. 78-82*).

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Isa 50:4-9a

### PSALM

Ps 31:9-16

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Christ humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

**Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name.**

### GOSPEL

Luke 22:14 – 23:56

*or* Luke 23:1-49

### SERMON/MEDITATION

### HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #340 – A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

*or* ELW #345 – Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

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

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## MEAL

### OFFERING

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life.  
Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ  
our Lord.

**Amen** (*ELW, p. 64*)

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. 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. (*Worship Guidebook for Lent and the Three Days, Augsburg Fortress, 2009, p. 88*).

**Holy, holy, holy Lord.  
God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### LORD'S PRAYER

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet,  
for all is now ready

#### COMMUNION SONG

ELW #338 – Beneath the Cross of Jesus  
ELW #616 – Jesus, Remember Me

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.** (*ELW, p. 65*)

#### SENDING

#### BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever.

**Amen.** (*ELW, p. 115*)

SENDING SONG

ELW #347 – Go to Dark Gethsemane

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

# **Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion**

April 14, 2019

Service of the Word

## **GATHERING**

*If possible, the assembly gathers at a designated place outside the usual worship space, so that all may enter in procession. Palm branches, or branches of other trees and shrubs, are distributed before the service begins.*

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## **PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL**

Luke 19:28-40

## **BLESSING OF PALMS**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept.*

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed  
messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way.

Bless these branches and those who carry them.

Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross,  
so that, joined to his death and resurrection,  
we enter into life with you;

through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **PROCESSION**

Let us go forth in peace,

**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Sing: ELW #344 – All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna in the highest.**



## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrections, let us pray.

Everlasting God,  
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through the servanthood of Jesus Christ.  
By your Spirit,  
keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues  
confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Saviour;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.** (*Worship Guidebook for Lent and the Three Days, Augsburg Fortress, 2009, p. 78-82*).

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Isa 50:4-9a

### PSALM

Ps 31:9-16

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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Luke 22:14 – 23:56

*or* Luke 23:1-49

### SERMON/MEDITATION

### HYMN OF THE DAY

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*or* ELW #345 – Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

## APOSTLES' CREED

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

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## THANKSGIVING

### OFFERING

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen** (*ELW, p. 107*)

### THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

*ELW, p. 220*)

## SENDING

### BLESSING

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grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
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**Amen.**

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### SENDING SONG

ELW #347 – Go to Dark Gethsemane

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**