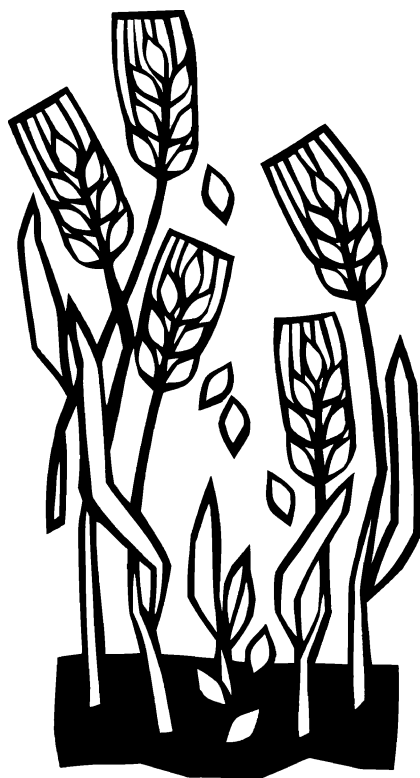


Welcoming Statement

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church is committed to welcoming, loving, and embracing all. We open our door to people regardless of gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, race, ethnicity, mental or physical abilities, neurodiversity, addiction, citizenship status, housing status, or past imprisonment. We acknowledge and honor our different backgrounds and life experiences, commit ourselves to the work of equity and anti-racism, and come together to celebrate the gifts of unity and diversity as one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12). As Jesus loves us, we are called to love one another (John 15:12).

4101 37th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55406
(612) 722-9527
www.minnehahacommunion.org



March 17, 2024
Fifth Sunday in Lent

A special welcome to all visitors, it's a joy to worship with you!

Welcome to Worship at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church!

PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES AND PAGERS. THANK YOU!

Worship Information

Hymns and liturgies for the service today are included in the bulletin. The congregation reads aloud anything in bold print following the “C”. You will note directions in the service for when to stand as you are able or to sit. If you would prefer to remain seated throughout worship, please feel free to do so.

Children Are Welcome!

Infants and children are encouraged to be present during worship. Youngsters are welcome and valued as important participants in worship and witness!

Hospitality

An elevator is available and can be accessed by taking the ramp at the front of the worship center entering the chapel and turning right. Restrooms are located off the stairwells leading to the Fellowship Hall and also outside the church office. Diaper changing tables have been placed in both the women’s and men’s restrooms off of Fellowship Hall.

Trouble Hearing?

Personal hearing amplifiers are available in the narthex. Please ask an usher to assist you.





God promises Jeremiah that a “new covenant” will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God’s heart through Christ and draws God’s love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God’s love with all the world.

CENTERING

This is an intentional time to find a place of calm and to prepare through silent prayer and contemplation.

BELLS

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

C: Amen.

L: Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Holy God,

C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

L: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times we strew his way and his sweet prais - es
 4 We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made a -

me, love to the love - less shown that they might
 stow; the world that was his own would not its
 sing; re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas
 way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of

love - ly be. Oh, who am I that
 Sav - ior know. But, oh, my friend, my
 to our king. Then “Cru - ci - fy!” is
 life to slay. Yet cheer - ful he to

for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
 friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend!
 all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.
 suf - f'ring goes that he his foes from thence might free.

Verse 6

Here might I stay and sing—no story so divine!
 Never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.
 This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, 1624-1683, alt.

GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God,

C: With steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

READING

Jeremiah 31:31–34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

PSALM 51:1–12

Create in me a clean heart, O God. (Ps. 51:10)

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother’s womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and

mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in

stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL

John 12:20–33

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Matt

HYMN OF THE DAY

"I Love to Tell the Story"

ELW 661

Verses 1 & 2



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Please respond with your mercy is great after each petition)

L: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

L: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

"Seed That in Earth Is Dying"

ELW 330

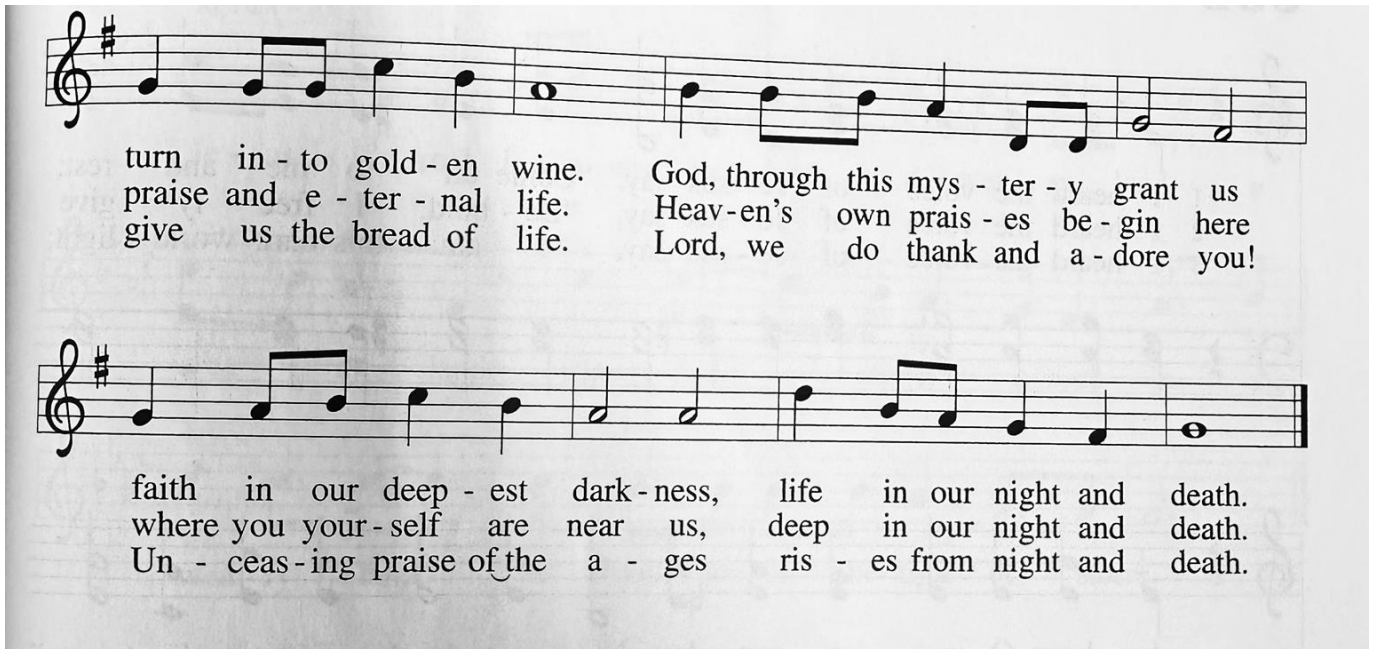
Verses 1 & 2

(All, as are able, rise for the last verse of the hymn as the ushers come forward with the gifts)

1 Seed that in earth is dy - ing grows in - to ears of
2 We were bap - tized in Je - sus, in - to his death and
3 Seed that in earth is dy - ing ris - es to bear much

grain.
grave,
fruit.

Grapes that are crushed in the ves - sel
to res - ur - rec - tion's prom - ise:
Christ, as we meet at your ta - ble,



turn in - to gold - en wine. God, through this mys - ter - y grant us
 praise and e - ter - nal life. Heav - en's own prais - es be - gin here
 give us the bread of life. Lord, we do thank and a - dore you!

faith in our deep - est dark - ness, life in our night and death.
 where you your - self are near us, deep in our night and death.
 Un - ceas - ing praise of the a - ges ris - es from night and death.

Text: Svein Ellingsen, b. 1929; tr. Hedwig T. Durnbaugh, b. 1929 English text © Hedwig T. Durnbaugh, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray.

C: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus teaches us,

C: 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.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW 357

(Verse 1 only)



Lamb of God, pure and sin - less, once on the cross an of - f'ring,



pa - tient, low - ly, guilt - less, for - sak - en in your suf - f'ring:



from sin's grasp you have torn us, from gloom to hope have borne us.



- 1 Grant us your mer - cy, O Je - sus.
- 2 Grant us your mer - cy, O Je - sus.
- 3 Your peace be with us, O Je - sus. A - men.

Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1485–1550; tr. composite
Music: O LAMM GOTTES, UNSCHULDIG, Nikolaus Decius
Text © 1978, 1999 Augsburg Fortress

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

L: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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DISMISSAL

L: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

BELLS

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INTERIM PASTOR: Matthew Johnson

ORGANIST: Richard Duncan

OFFICE MANAGER: Sophie Geister-Jones

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Brenda Robbins

STREAMING TEAM: Zack Robbins, Roxanne Dunlop, Brenda Robbins, Paultina Rollay, Erin Brothen, Karl and Nick Salkowski

CANTORS: Margaret Wilkes, Bobbie Kuhlman READER: Rob Graber

USHERS: Helen Holtti, Sue Mooney

TELLERS: Janet Lovejoy Marilyn Boehm

COOKIE AND COFFEE SERVERS: Pat Botten & Adams Family

Short-Term Prayer Requests:

Vi Bjorkstrand, Harley Ring, Don Ruscheinsky, Chuck Dolezalek (dear friend of Susan & Brian Albers, diagnosed with stage 4 cancer), Eileen Finley, Kathy Mackdanz, and the MCLC Call Committee

Long-Term Prayer Requests:

(ongoing spiritual support for recovery, life-transitions, conditions, and emotional support)

Please pray for: Sharesti Anderson; Raelynn Anderson; Norm Arlandson; Jon Borodine; Allen Eckman; Linda Erickson (sister of Vicky Anderson); Carol Fisher; Jan Foster; Nancy Gallo; Doug Houge; Wanda Jenne (Sherry Trego's sister-in-law); Deb Lindquist; David & Andrea Olson; LaRhae (longtime friend of Richard); Paultina Rollay; Darlene Sandey; Mickey Trego; Peggy Williams & family; Carol (friend of Roxanne); Peter & family; baby William & mother Isabelle; and those we name in our hearts...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Crafternoon

March 24 | 1–3 PM

You are invited to a fun afternoon working on your craft projects. We'll meet in the fireside room and enjoy a bit of fellowship and fun. Bring your project, or try something we have. MCLC members and everyone in the surrounding community are welcome.

Kids Choir!

There will be a brief post-worship rehearsal each Sunday in Lent for any child interested in singing as part of a choir on Palm Sunday and Easter. Eat your treats quickly and then come upstairs to sing around the piano!

Easter Breakfast

Please join us for breakfast before church on Easter Sunday. Food will be served continuously from 8:30–9:30 am. We'll be having deviled eggs, cinammon rolls, ham, orange juice, and coffee. We hope to see you there! If you would like to donate eggs or OJ, please contact Erin Brothen at ebrothen@gmail.com

Tea Party!

Saturday, April 20 | 11 am to 1:30 pm

Women of all ages are invited to attend WELCA's Annual Tea. A variety of tasty treats—sandwiches, salads, and desserts—will be served. The speaker this year is author, actor, and playwright Lorna Landvik. She is also a fellow Southsider and graduate of Roosevelt High School. Call the office for reservations by April 9th.

Gertens Flowers

Order your spring annuals and perennials through our church fundraiser through Gertens! Flowers will be delivered to the church on the morning of Monday, May 13. All orders must be placed *before* 10 pm on Monday, April 1st.

To order your flowers, go to:
www.gertensfundraising.com and use store ID 594.

Holy Week

We are partnering with St. Peder's for our Holy Week worship services this year.

Maundy Thursday (3/28) at MCLC | 7 pm

Good Friday (3/29) at St Peder's | 7 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 18–24		
Tuesday March 19	11 am 4:30 pm 6:30 pm 7 pm	MCLC Staff Meeting Property Committee Church Council Alcoholics Anonymous
Wednesday March 20	Noon 7 pm	<i>Illuminator</i> Deadline Lent Potluck & Bible Study Alcoholics Anonymous
Thursday March 21	7 pm	Narcotics Anonymous
Friday March 22	7 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous
Saturday March 23	4:30 pm	Recovery Group
Sunday March 24	9:45 am 1 pm	Worship/Sunday School <i>(Palm Sunday)</i> Sunday Crafternoon