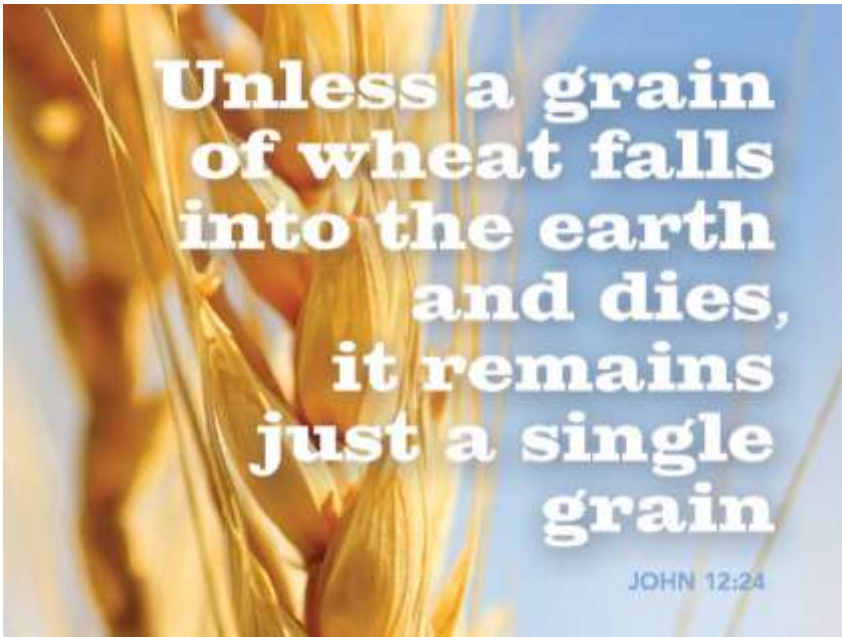


Fifth Sunday in Lent



March 21, 2021 | 9:00 a.m.

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church
308 North Third Street
Milan, Minnesota*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to worship at Kviteseid Lutheran Church... Some people said to the disciple Philip, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus” (John 12:21). We are here because we too wish to see Jesus. Open your heart: Jesus is here. Welcome.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please read the words to the hymns silently.

Please read aloud the **bold texts**.

Please read the italicized texts silently in your heart as your own words.

OPENING HYMN “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” ELW #803

INTRODUCTION

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.

OPENING PRAYER

P Lord, be with us this day as we commit ourselves to being your disciples. Help us to face the future unafraid, trusting in your loving care and presence with us. We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P Let us pray for the cleansing of our hearts, *Ps. 51:10*
 confessing our sins to the One whose mercy is everlasting.

C *Redeeming God,*
 we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart,
 and have not loved our neighbors as we ought;
 *we have strayed from your commandments. *Ps. 119:10**
 *Do not remember our sins, but forgive our iniquities, *Jer. 31:34**
 *that we may fix our eyes on you and sin no more, *Ps. 119:15b**
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Sisters and brothers, by the faith of Christ, your sins are forgiven. May you delight in the joy of your salvation. Amen.

SUFFRAGES

P Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
C *have mercy on 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.**

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**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.**

APOSTLES' CREED

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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 Pilot,
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.**

SUFFRAGES

P O Lord, I cry to you for help.
C *In the morning my prayer comes before you.*
P Let my mouth be full of your praise
C *and your glory all the day long.*

P Every day will I bless you,
C *and praise your name forever and ever.*
P Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
C *O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.*
P Bless the Lord, O my soul,
C *and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.*
P You redeem my life from the grave,
C *and crown me with mercy and steadfast love.*
P Lord, hear my prayer,
C *and let my cry come before you.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Let us pray.
C *O God, 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.*

LESSON: 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.

PSALM 119:9-16

L ⁹How shall the young keep their way clean? By keeping to your word.
C ¹⁰*With my whole heart I seek you; let me not stray from your commandments.*
L ¹¹I treasure your promise in my heart, that I may not sin against you.
C ¹²*Blessed are you, O LORD; instruct me in your statutes.*
L ¹³With my lips I recite all the judgments of your mouth.
C ¹⁴*I take greater delight in the way of your decrees than in all manner of riches.*
L ¹⁵I will meditate on your commandments and give attention to your ways.
C ¹⁶*My delight is in your statutes; I will not forget your word.*

LESSON: Hebrews 5:5-10

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 12th chapter.

C *Glory to you, O Lord.*

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.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C *Praise to you, O Christ.*

HYMN "Now the Green Blade Rises" ELW #379

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Lift High the Cross" (vs. 1-3) ELW #660

SHARING THE PEACE

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

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

P May these gifts signify our commitment to you and to the gospel revealed by your Son, Christ Jesus our Lord. Receive these offerings and lead us in his path. We ask it in his name, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P Hear us, O God.

C *Your mercy is great.*

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

****CHARGE**

P Jesus said, “Whoever serves me must follow me, *John 12:26*
and where I am, there will my servant be also.”
Go in peace to love and serve Christ.

****BLESSING**

P May God, whose hand has written the law of love upon your heart, *Jer. 31:33*
fill you with peace from deep within and the commitment to live in harmony.
And the blessing of God, who loves, forgives, and calls us home,
be with you now and always.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” ELW #338

DISMISSAL

P Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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