



Huntersville Lutheran

*A Changeless Message for
A Changing Community*

8000 McIlwaine Rd Huntersville, NC 28078

Worship @ 9:00am | Family Bible Hour @ 10:30 am

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Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Our service is centered on our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lived, died, and rose from the dead so that we would have eternal life in him. God reveals this soul saving message in his Word. We gather to find strength through God's powerful and holy Word. Take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the order of service, readings, and hymns, and fill out the take action card. May God bless our time together this morning.

About Our Worship

The gospel is the good news about what Jesus did to be the Savior for sinners. It is also the power of God—the very thing he uses to work faith in our hearts and transform our lives. Therefore, gospel-centered worship places the gospel in central focus. This order of service is called the liturgy. In the message, in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. Gospel-centered worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children).

For Your Convenience

Restrooms are located in the gathering space, to the left of the kitchen. There is also a family restroom located in the classroom

Cry Room: If your little one needs some room to move around, head to the back of the sanctuary and you'll find a cry room. You can also go into the Classroom off the gathering space if you need more space.

Service Participants

Rev. Douglas Van Sice, *pastor of Huntersville Lutheran*

Mrs. Andrea Van Sice, *pianist*

The Season | *The Sundays in Lent* |

The word Lent comes from an Old English word for spring (“lengten,” the time of the year when the days grow longer). For the last 1700 years, the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of special preparation. It is a time of repentance and renewal.

During Lent, our rejoicing is muted as we remember our Lord’s suffering and death. But it is with a purpose: we know that the Lord who died took up his life again on Easter Sunday morning. So our 40 days of Lent are ones lived in the certain hope of the resurrection. (For the precise counters in our congregation, the Church speaks of 40 days of Lent because they did not count the Sundays, which retained their significance as “little Easters.”)

The color of the season is purple. Purple is the ancient color of royalty. We have this kind of king: he wore a crown of thorns, and carried a cross for us. Thanks be to God!

The Series | *Exactly What I Need* |

The season of Lent is a time when we recognize our greatest needs. During Lent, we see that in Christ all our greatest needs are met. God knows what I need even when I don’t have any idea. The Holy Spirit makes it clear, week after week, that if I lack Christ, I have nothing. But if I have Christ, I have exactly what I need.

The Theme | *Life* |

I recognize the danger of death. I am tempted to wonder whether my life was worth it if I do not leave a legacy or live on in the memories of my loved ones after I die. When my soul separates from my body, will I also be eternally separated from God in hell? Jesus promises much better. He promises life. One day I will be reunited with my believing loved ones, both soul and body. I will live with Jesus forever in eternity. Jesus raised people from the dead to prove his power over death. That’s exactly the power I need.



GATHERING RITE FOR LENT

Lent is a more pensive and contemplative season of the Church Year. For centuries Christians have adapted the worship service to focus hearts on our need for Christ's perfect life that led to his sacrificial death and resurrection. This opening uses a hymn which encourages our souls to kneel before God and confess our sins, confidently knowing that through Christ's redemptive work we have forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace with him.

Invocation

L In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

L We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children.

C **It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people,
the sheep of his pasture.**

Psalm 100:3

L But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment.

C **We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way.**

Isaiah 53:6

L Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.



1 A - rise, my soul, a - rise, shake off your guilt - y fears;
2 He ev - er lives a - bove, for me to in - ter - cede,



the bleed - ing Sac - ri - fice in my be - half ap - pears.
his all - re - deem - ing love, his pre - cious blood to plead.



Be - fore the throne my Sure - ty stands, be - fore the
His blood a - toned for ev - 'ry race, his blood a -



throne my Sure - ty stands; my name is writ - ten on his
toned for ev - 'ry race, and sprin - kles now the throne of



hands, my name is writ - ten on his hands.
grace, and sprin - kles now the throne of grace.

L Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

C **The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

L He was led like a lamb to the slaughter.

C **He took up our pain and bore our suffering.**

L He was pierced for our transgressions,

C **He was crushed for our iniquities;**

L The punishment that brought us peace was on him,

C **And by his wounds we are healed.**

Isaiah 53:4-7

Silence for meditation and reflection

The leader sings:

3. Five bleeding wounds he bears, received on Calvary;
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for us.
"Forgive them, O forgive," they cry,
"Forgive them, O forgive," they cry,
"Nor let those ransomed sinners die,
Nor let those ransomed sinners die!"

L As a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I say to you what God says to you: your sins are all forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**


L Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;

C **Give thanks to him and praise his name.**

L For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;

C **His faithfulness continues through all generations.**

Psalm 100:4,5



4 My God is rec - on - ciled; his par - d'ning voice I hear.
 He owns me for his child, I can no long - er fear.
 With con - fi - dence I now draw nigh, with con - fi -
 dence I now draw nigh, and "Fa - ther, Ab - ba, Fa - ther!"
 cry, and "Fa - ther, Ab - ba, Fa - ther!" cry.

Prayer of the Day

L Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Be seated



THE WORD

First Reading

2 Kings 4:17–37

¹⁷But the woman became pregnant, and the next year about that same time she gave birth to a son, just as Elisha had told her.

¹⁸The child grew, and one day he went out to his father, who was with the reapers. ¹⁹He said to his father, "My head! My head!"

His father told a servant, "Carry him to his mother." ²⁰After the servant had lifted him up and carried him to his mother, the boy sat on her lap until noon, and then he died. ²¹She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, then shut the door and went out.

²²She called her husband and said, "Please send me one of the servants and a donkey so I can go to the man of God quickly and return."

²³"Why go to him today?" he asked. "It's not the New Moon or the Sabbath."

"That's all right," she said.

²⁴She saddled the donkey and said to her servant, "Lead on; don't slow down for me unless I tell you." ²⁵So she set out and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

When he saw her in the distance, the man of God said to his servant Gehazi, "Look! There's the Shunammite! ²⁶Run to meet her and ask her, 'Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is your child all right?'"

"Everything is all right," she said.

²⁷When she reached the man of God at the mountain, she took hold of his feet. Gehazi came over to push her away, but the man of God said, "Leave her alone! She is in bitter distress, but the LORD has hidden it from me and has not told me why."

²⁸"Did I ask you for a son, my lord?" she said. "Didn't I tell you, 'Don't raise my hopes'?"

²⁹Elisha said to Gehazi, "Tuck your cloak into your belt, take my staff in your hand and run. Don't greet anyone you meet, and if anyone greets you, do not answer. Lay my staff on the boy's face."

³⁰But the child's mother said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So he got up and followed her.

³¹Gehazi went on ahead and laid the staff on the boy's face, but there was no sound or response. So Gehazi went back to meet Elisha and told him, "The boy has not awakened."

³²When Elisha reached the house, there was the boy lying dead on his couch.

³³He went in, shut the door on the two of them and prayed to the LORD. ³⁴Then he got on the bed and lay on the boy, mouth to mouth, eyes to eyes, hands to hands. As he stretched himself out on him, the boy's body grew warm. ³⁵Elisha turned away and walked back and forth in the room and then got on the bed and stretched out on him once more. The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes.

³⁶Elisha summoned Gehazi and said, "Call the Shunammite." And he did. When she came, he said, "Take your son." ³⁷She came in, fell at his feet and bowed to the ground. Then she took her son and went out.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 130

- L** Out of the depths
- C** I cry to you, O LORD;
- L** Lord, hear my voice.
- C** Listen closely as I call on you for help.
- L** LORD, if you kept track of sins,
- C** O Lord, then who could stand?
- L** But with you there is forgiveness,
- C** in order that you may be feared.
- L** I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
- C** and in his word I put my hope.
- L** More than watchers wait for morning
- C** my soul waits for the Lord.
- L** Israel, put your hope in the LORD,
- C** for with the LORD is faithful love;
- L** with him is complete redemption.
- C** He will redeem Israel from the guilt of all their sins.

Second Reading

Romans 8:11–19

¹¹And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

¹²Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

¹⁸I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

This hymn was written by Rev. Martin Shalling in the mid-17th century. It is referred to as the "Hymn for the Dying" and is one of the favorite hymns of many Christians throughout the centuries. This hymn is often sung at the bedside of the dying to bring them comfort, and at funerals and committals to give hope to the grieving. This morning we sing this hymn as a proclamation of Jesus' certain promise of life in John's Gospel: "Whoever lives by believing in me will never die" (John 11:26).

1 Lord, thee I love with all my heart; I pray thee,
ne'er from me de - part, with ten - der mer - cy cheer me.
Earth has no plea - sure I would share; yea, heav'n it -
self were void and bare if thou, Lord, wert not near me.
And should my heart for sor - row break, my trust in thee can
noth - ing shake. Thou art the por - tion I have sought; thy pre - cious
blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
Lord, my God and Lord, for - sake me not! I trust thy Word.

¹⁷On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹"Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷"Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

³⁸Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹"Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

⁴⁰Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

⁴¹So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

⁴³When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

⁴⁵Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

Christian Worship #817, vv. 2-3



2 Yea, Lord, 'twas thy rich boun - ty gave my bod - y,
3 Lord, let at last thine an - gels come, to A - br'ham's



soul, and all I have in this poor life of la - bor.
bos - om bear me home that I may die un - fear - ing;



Lord, grant that I in ev - 'ry place may glo - ri -
and in its nar - row cham - ber keep my bod - y



fy thy lav - ish grace and help and serve my neigh - bor.
safe in peace - ful sleep un - til thy re - ap - pear - ing.



Let no false doc - trine me be - guile; let Sa - tan not my
And then from death a - wak - en me that these mine eyes with



soul de - file. Give strength and pa - tience un - to me to bear my
joy may see, O Son of God, thy glo - rious face, my Sav - ior



cross and fol - low thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, in death thy com - fort still af - ford.
tend, my prayer at - tend, and I will praise thee with - out end.

Sermon

John 11:17-27, 38-45

The Life I Need

Personal Sermon Notes

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for taking personal sermon notes. It occupies the central portion of the page, below the title and above the footer.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

When the leader says, "Lord, in your mercy," the congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."

THANKSGIVING

Offering | *The members of Huntersville Lutheran have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you would like to give digitally, simply scan the QR code or click on the "Give" tab in HLC's app. Guests, you are welcome to participate in supporting our ministry, but certainly do not feel obligated.*



Connect Card | *In your service folder, you will find connect cards. If you haven't done so already, please take a moment and fill it out completely to give us a record of your attendance. You may also request prayers be said on your behalf. Please place the connect card in the offering plates as they are passed around.*

Stand

L Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

L The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C Amen.

Song of Departure

Christ Be My Leader

Christian Worship #518



1 Christ be my lead - er by night as by day;
2 Christ be my teach - er in age as in youth,
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife;



safe through the dark - ness, for he is the way. —
drift - ing or doubt - ing, for he is the truth. —
death can - not hold me, for he is the life. Nor



Glad - ly I fol - low, my fu - ture his care, —
Grant me to trust him; though shift - ing as sand, —
dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor sin and its stain can



dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

Acknowledgments

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