

Connecting Christ. Creating Community.



# 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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**W**elcome! 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 | *A Champion* |**

The Son of God goes forth to war and defeats the devil for us. The ancient foe warred on mankind in the garden, but God promised to send a champion to battle on our behalf. The Second Adam came to do what the first could not, and in the desert the battle was joined. *“But for us fights the valiant one whom God himself elected...he holds the field forever.”*



## GATHERING RITE FOR LENT

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*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.

Mighty God and Father, our Lord Jesus walked into the wilderness to face the devil's temptations, but he did not succumb to Satan's lies or falter in his resolve to save the world from the prison of hell. Bolster our faith by his mighty victory that we may battle against the forces of evil with courage and confidence; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.



## THE WORD

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### First Reading

*Genesis 3:1-15*

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

<sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup>but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' "

<sup>4</sup>"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. <sup>5</sup>"For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

<sup>6</sup>When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

<sup>8</sup>Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

<sup>10</sup>He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

<sup>11</sup>And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

<sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

<sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

<sup>14</sup>So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

"Cursed are you above all livestock  
and all wild animals!  
You will crawl on your belly  
and you will eat dust  
all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>And I will put enmity  
between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will crush your head,  
and you will strike his heel."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Psalm of the Day

*Psalm 46*

God is our refuge and strength,

an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way

and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

though its waters roar and foam

and the mountains quake with their surging.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall;

God will help her at break of day.

"Be still, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

## Second Reading

*Romans 5:12–19*

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

<sup>13</sup>To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! <sup>16</sup>Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. <sup>17</sup>For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

<sup>18</sup>Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. <sup>19</sup>For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

<sup>4</sup>Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup>"If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

" 'He will command his angels concerning you,  
and they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"

<sup>7</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup>"All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

<sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.



**L** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to you, O Christ!

# Hymn of the Day

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

*Christian Worship #864*



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a trust - y  
2 With might of ours can naught be done, soon were our  
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, all ea - ger  
4 The Word they still shall let re - main nor an - y



shield and weap - on; he helps us free from ev - 'ry  
loss ef - fect - ed; but for us fights the val - iant  
to de - vour us, we trem - ble not, we fear no  
thanks have for it; he's by our side up - on the



need that has us now o'er - tak - en.  
one whom God him - self e - lect - ed.  
ill; they shall not o - ver - pow'r us.  
plain with his good gifts and Spir - it.



The an - cient e - vil foe now means to work us woe;  
You ask who this may be? Christ Je - sus, it is he,  
The prince of dark - ness still may scowl fierce as he will,  
And should they take our life, goods, hon - or, child, and wife,



deep guile and aw - ful might are his dread arms in  
the Lord of hosts his name, from age to age the  
his rag - ing harms us none. He's judged; the deed is  
though all of these be gone, our vic - to - ry is



fight; on earth is not his e - qual.  
same, he holds the field for - ev - er.  
done; one lit - tle word can fell him.  
won; the king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

**Sermon**

*Matthew 4:1-11*

*The Champion I Need*

Personal Sermon Notes

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## **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.**

## **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.*

## Prayer

☐ 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.

■ 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.

**G** Amen.

## Song of Departure

*Take Heart, O Servants of the Lord*  
*Christian Worship #829*



1 Take heart, O ser - vants of the Lord, a - mid the cloud - y  
2 Serve not the dark de - sires with - in, nor wick - ed foes, nor  
3 We walk by faith and not by sight while liv - ing in this



jour - ney; though shad - ows seem to shade his Word, they  
tempt - ers; their sub - tle lies would lure us in, but  
dark - ness, but grief will change in - to de - light when



can - not hide his mer - cy. When prov - i - dence is  
Christ our King will con - quer. We firm - ly stand in  
Christ re - turns in bright - ness. Let us take heart un -



man - i - fest in tem - pests of af - flic - tion, be -  
Je - sus' might a - gainst en - tic - ing e - vil; he  
til we see the ris - en Lamb of suf - f'ring; then



hind the storm is Je - sus Christ, the sun of our sal - va - tion.  
dress - es us in ra - diant light - the ar - mor of his gos - pel.  
we be - fore his throne will be like him, for - ev - er shin - ing!