

# 4th Sunday in Lent

# **Kent Memorial Lutheran Church**

184 Sunset Hill Drive Sunrise Beach, Missouri 65079

# The Rev. Edward L. Foster, Pastor March 30, 2025

Hearing God's Call & Responding in Love, We Share Jesus With All!

### FROM PASTOR ED

Our Gospel lesson this week is like an old friend we haven't seen for the last 3 years. The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent features the story we commonly know as "The Prodigal Son." It is a story of exuberant and extravagant forgiveness and love. It is also the story of painful repentance and judgmental jealousy and self-righteousness. Jesus challenges his listeners to rejoice at the salvation of the sinners, the outcasts and the unworthy. Jesus challenges us to love those who don't deserve it, to welcome those who have

insulted us, to forgive the unforgiveable. Jesus challenges to celebrate when the lost have been found.

Have blessed week, Shalom,

Pastor Ed

#### **QUARTERS FOR QUALITY EDUCATION**

Our friends at Hurricane Deck have received an incredible honor. As most of us know, the Leader In Me program at Hurricane Deck is a fantastic program that makes a huge difference in the lives of the children and the families in our neighborhood. Others are recognizing how outstanding they are as well. The two Kindergarten teachers have been asked to come to the Leader in Me training event and teach others how they make leadership a part of their everyday instruction with their young students. It is a great honor and a great opportunity, but as you might have guessed the cost of attending the event isn't paid for. If you would like to support our friends, please consider donating in the Quarters jar outside of Pastor Ed's office. Quarters, dollars and other denominations of cash will help make a attending this conference possible.

#### OUR 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP IS AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM:

To join a worship service, please contact the church at 573-374-5267 for assistance.

# Welcome to Worship

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

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**Prelude** He Leadeth Me

Sally Burke, Cello Tracey Atzeni

#### **Confession and Forgiveness**

- P: God is the Father of all.
- C: and we are God's children.
- P: In love, God the Father has given us a world to live in, a family to love, a place in which to work, and a place to call home.
- C: But we have been wasteful with God's gifts and squandered them away polluting the earth, taking our families for granted, and not doing all we can at home and at work.
- P: Regretful of what we have become, we abandon our selfish ways and return to our Father for forgiveness, even though we know we don't deserve to be called God's children anymore or even one of his hired hands.
- C: But our Father takes us back with open arms, puts us in the seats of honor, and gives us even more than we had before.
- P: God celebrates our place in the Lord's presence and surrounds us with the joyful voices of all God's forgiven children.
- C: In God's presence, we find forgiveness and love and joy without end. Amen!

**Sharing of the Peace** (We share a sign of peace with one another.)

- P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: And also with you.

ELW # 807

**Liturgy** Setting 4

ELW p. 147

P: 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.

**Kyrie** 

Canticle of Praise: Glory to God in the highest

ELW p. 148

#### **Prayer of the Day**

All: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon Pastor Ed

First Reading Joshua 5:9-12 Old Testament

L: The Word of the Lord C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32 (Congregation sings responsively)



<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,

and whose sin is | put away!

<sup>2</sup>Happy are they to whom the LORD im- | putes no guilt, and in whose spirit there | is no guile!

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,

because of my groaning | all day long.

<sup>4</sup>For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;

my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- ceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt  $^{\parallel}$  of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble;

when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;

you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

8"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;

I will guide you | with my eye.

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;

who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

<sup>10</sup>Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;

but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;

shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Second Reading
L: The Word of the Lord

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

New Testament

#### C: Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Announcement** 

Pastor Ed Foster

P: The gospel according to Luke, the fifteenth chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

**Gospel Reading** 

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

New Testament

P: The Gospel of the LordC: Praise to you, O Christ.

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Sermon Pastor Ed Foster

**Hymn of the Day** Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound ELW # 779

#### Profession of Faith-Apostle's 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 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 again 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.

#### The Prayers

P: God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

**Reception of Offerings** Please fill out the red friendship pad and pass it to your neighbor.

**Offertory** Beneath The Cross Of Jesus Tracey Atzeni

# **Offering Prayer**

P: Gracious Provider,

C: you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Holy Communion ELW p. 152

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

Holy, Holy ELW p. 153

#### **Words of Institution**

#### The Lord's Prayer

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.

#### **Distribution**

Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us to eat and drink. Communion is open to all who believe that Jesus Christ is our Savior. Wine and grape juice are available. Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing.

Lamb of God		ELW p. 154
<b>Communion Hymns</b>	Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling Beneath the Cross of Jesus	ELW # 608 ELW # 338
	I Love to Tell the Story	ELW # 661

#### **Post-Communion Prayer**

**Benediction** 

**Announcements** 

**Sending Hymn** Precious Lord, Take My Hand ELW # 773

#### The Dismissal

P: Hearing God's call and responding in love,

C: we share Jesus with all!

Postlude Wonderful, Merciful Savior Tracey Atzeni

Fellowship Time EVERYONE IS WELCOME

### **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Pastor	Ed Foster
Organist/Pianist	
Choir Director	<del>-</del>
Choir Accompanist	
Handbells Director	
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Altar Guild	Judy Ward
Greeters/Ushers	Mike & Judy Ward

Liturgist	Tracy Garrett
Lector	<del>_</del>
Sound & Zoom Technician	Sam Foster
Coffee Fellowship	Lynn & Joyce Burke

# COMING THIS WEEK March 30-April 6

Today	8:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
<b>.</b>	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	9:15 a.m.	
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion (live-streamed)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship (coffee & donuts)
		Handbells Rehearsal
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Property Meeting
•	6:00 p.m.	Chorale Rehearsal
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Altar Guild
	10:00 a.m.	WELCA-Crafts
	11:00 a.m.	WELCA Meeting
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Lent Worship & Potluck
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Lake Jazz Band Rehearsal
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	9:15 a.m.	Children's Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion (live-streamed)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship (coffee & donuts)
		Handbells Rehearsal

# 🕆 Prayer Concerns 🕆

## **OUR MEMBERS**

Frank Howley	Donald Brumm	Jim Gilbert
Karen Thompson	Marsha Gust	Gene Page
Joe Poretta	Geri Riley	

## **OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS**

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Elvis F.	Tara Boos	Brandon Rodewald
Erika B.	Jennifer Blomberg	Doug Jones
Pat Vielhauer	Eleanor Garrison (age 7)	Patrick Parkhurst
Ron Wagner	Cooper Cupp (age 6)	Stacy Carey
Kelly Covey & family	John Welsh	Ryan Dilhman
Pam Vaught	Tom Williams	Trudy Hamilton
Stanley Pearson	Inge Robbins	Wayne Jackson
Bonnie Shipman	Maria Garrick & family	Mike Holmes
Daria Scheuerman	Art McCray	Steve Hughes
Dave Newton	Mary Ann Carter	Marcille Bohling

Christian condolences and hope are extended to the Niemann family on the death of Charles's brother, William on March 18.

#### **CONTINUED PRAYERS**

Julie (Ziehl) Anderson Stacey Fleck Jodi (Ziehl) Redmond

Evan Beaupre Al Gann Roberts
Michelle Becker Ken Gerardy Marcia Robbins
Jessica Birdsong Carla Glusing Michele Schafer
Cindy Campbell Ruth Goddard & family Dave Shaver

Shirley Clark Jeanne Hines Dianne Steingrubey
Evelyn Clements Teresa Joslin Karen Tischnor
Chuck Cuthbertson Linda Kimberling Theresa White
Ron Ferguson Ed Krueger Bernie Wiegel
Stan Field Blanche Lacroix Jerry Williams

#### REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Christopher Babcock Tanner Glodt Jordan Lindeman Eric Blomberg Kristine Hubbard Glenn Maddock Ben Brammeier Jason Ites Tristan Morgan Salathiel (Sal) Caudill Jason Judge Adam Peterson

Dylan Craig Adam Kralina Aaron Davis Matt Lee

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 30**

WELCOME TO KENT MEMORIAL Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. Communion is open to all who believe that Jesus Christ is our Savior. We invite you to stay for coffee and fellowship (and donuts!) after the service. If you are visiting for the first time or searching for a church home, please include your address and phone number on the Red Friendship Pad and let us know. First time here? Please introduce yourself to Pastor Ed at the end of the service.

CARE CORE for March is Kathy Fair, 319-350-2901; and for April is Mary Evans, 816-506-7995

THANK YOU FROM COMMUNITY FOR CHRIST It is with heartfelt thanks for all the soups & other canned products given for "Souper Bowl Sunday"!! You have filled CFC's shelves with lots of good things to eat, for many families in need, and it is appreciated by all!!

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!!!!

CFC SPRING/SUMMER CHANGE OUT On Monday April 7th your help is needed to assist in restocking Community for Christ with Spring and Summer clothes, starting at 10:00 am, lunch will be provided. Also, time to volunteer at Community for Christ is on Thur. Apr 10 and Saturday April 12th. This starts the availability of Spring and Summer clothes. An opportunity to work and shop for something to add to your wardrobe! Sign-up sheet is on the infamous bulletin board. This is truly neighbors helping neighbors. Won't you please consider volunteering? Thank You!

<u>WELCA SPRING LUNCHEON</u> May 2<sup>nd</sup> is the WELCA Annual Spring Luncheon! We'll begin at 11:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. The theme is "Once Upon an Apron" - wear your special apron or bring one to share! \$10 donation at the door goes to the Nursing Scholarship Program at Lake Regional. There will be an Apron Raffle Basket & Placements, etc. Tickets are \$1 each or 8 tickets for \$5. Invite your neighbors and members of other churches to join us. Please RSVP by April 25 to Joan Wilken or to the Church office.

QUARTERS FOR QUALITY EDUCATION Our friends at Hurricane Deck have received an incredible honor. As most of us know, the Leader In Me program at Hurricane Deck is a fantastic program that makes a huge difference in the lives of the children and the families in our neighborhood. Others are recognizing how outstanding they are as well. The two Kindergarten teachers have been asked to come to the Leader in Me training event and teach others how they make leadership a part of their everyday instruction with their young students. It is a great honor and a great opportunity, but as you might have guessed the cost of attending the event isn't paid for. If you would like to support our friends, please consider donating in the Quarters jar outside of Pastor Ed's office. Quarters, dollars and other denominations of cash will

help make a attending this conference possible.

MARKET DAYS AT HURRICANE DECK ELEMENTARY Friday, April 11 at 9:45-10:45 the HD Third graders will be having their Market Days following their economics unit. They have decided that the money they earn will go to N.E.G.U.(Pediatric Cancer). The boys and girls create projects and items that they sell. Examples are bookmarks, bubblegum machines, bracelets and many other things. As you come into the gym, you will trade your real money for play money that you use to purchase things. It is a wonderful project that the boys and girls get very excited about. The public is invited. Hope to see you there.

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP & POTLUCK On Wednesdays through April 9, we will meet at 6:00 p.m. for worship and begin our exploration of "Jesus: Savior, Servant, Friend." Our Lent offerings will be shared with Community for Christ and Social Ministry. Join us after the service for one of Kent's famous potlucks. Please bring a dish or dessert to share.

Wednesday, April 2 — Potluck host committees: Evangelism, Audit, Stewardship

Wednesday, April 9 — Potluck host committee: Long Range Planning, Social Ministry

**SEDER MEAL & POTLUCK BEFORE WORSHIP ON MAUNDY THURSDAY** On Thursday, APRIL 17 we will serve a Seder Meal, much as Jesus and his disciples would have shared for Passover, along with a potluck. At the end of the meal, we will adjourn into the Sanctuary for our Maundy Thursday service at 6pm. We invite all to join us and ask that you bring a dish or dessert to share with each other.

**EASTER LILIES** We will decorate our sanctuary again this Easter with beautiful lilies. The lilies are \$20 each. If you would like to dedicate a lily to a loved one, please fill out the pink form (insert in the bulletin). Checks should be made out to "Altar Guild" with "Lily" in the memo line.

<u>AUDIT COMMITTEE</u> Can you reconcile a checkbook? Can you read a bank statement? Can you donate 2 hours of your time? If so, the Audit Committee is looking for you to join our team. We review the checkbooks and registers from all of the committees at Kent Memorial Lutheran Church twice a year, July and January. When we are done we report the results to the Financial Committee. If you are interested, please call David Curchy or leave your name in the office.

**EASTER PAGEANT** Easter is April 20 this year and it will be the 56<sup>th</sup> performance of "He Is Risen!" Cast members of all ages are needed to make this beloved annual event a success. If you want to be in on the fun of sharing the Easter story, see Gail Kruse. NOTE: The sign-up list is up on the signup board.