

Vasa Lutheran Church

The Parable of the Bridesmaids

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Special Music by Paisley Bishop

Sunday, March 31, 2019

PRELUDE MUSIC

Heart of Worship (Matt Redman)

Open Up the Heavens (McDonald)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCING THE DAY

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us,
anoint us, and make us new.

Amen.

In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin,
and receive God's promise of mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God at the margins,

**We have wandered far from your home;
again and again, we lose our way.**

We turn inward, afraid of the world around us.

**We forget that you have saved your people before
and promise to do so again.**

**Do not remember the deeds of our past,
but turn our faces toward the future,
where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear,
and your love overflows. Amen.**

Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care.

Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy.

Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day,

forgiving your sins for the sake of ✚ Christ,

leading you from death into life. **Amen.**

GATHERING MUSIC

All Who Are Thirsty

(sung by Paisley Bishop)

Brenton Brown

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: God of holy anticipation, **you have promised that you would return at a time unknown to us. Make us ready, so that when you return we might be welcomed into your kingdom with open arms. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 43:3-4

L: O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;

C: let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

L: Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;

C: and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 25:1-13

At the conclusion of the lesson the reader will say, "The gospel of the Lord."
Please respond with, "**Thanks to you, Oh Lord.**"

CHILDREN’S SERMON

HYMN

Desert Song

(sung by Paisley Bishop)

Ligertwood

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)

(sung by Paisley Bishop)

Crocker

CONFESSION OF FAITH Apostles’ Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 CONGREGATION

After each petition the pastor will say, "Lord, in your mercy,"
Please respond with, "**hear our prayer.**"

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

L: Let's share the peace with one another.

COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING INCLUDING A GENEROSITY MOMENT

OFFERTORY PRAYER Generous God, **you feed us with the harvest of the land,
and you provide for our every need. Receive our gifts of money,
imagination, and labor, and transform them into a feast that welcomes all,
in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
you have brought us this far along the way.
In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,
but guided us into the path of love and light.

In every age you sent prophets
to make known your loving will for all humanity.
The cry of the poor has become your own cry;
our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.

In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant
to preach good news to the afflicted,

to break bread with the outcast and despised,
and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return
to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.
Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen

Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup
with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.
Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen

Amen.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age,
that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection,
we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.
Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

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 *We will receive communion by intinction. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available for those who have dietary restrictions. Children will receive a blessing.*

Special Music during communion distribution: In Christ Alone (Getty) and Lead Me to the Cross (Brooke Fraser)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Tender and merciful one, **at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SENDING HYMN **Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) by Tomlin**
(sung by Paisley Bishop)

BLESSING

God, who fills the creation with abundance,
Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness,
Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us,
✠ bless you and bring you to life everlasting.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Remember the poor.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: Great is Thy Faithfulness (Chisholm)

ELW 733

The congregation is invited to join Paisley in singing this hymn.

Awesome God (Smith) refrain only

PRAYER CONCERNS: David Broin, Evans Josephson, Scott and Kerry Sorenson (sons of Sterling & Sharyn) and the Bonnie McRae Family.



SERVING US TODAY: Ushers: Marvin Fredrickson, Kevin Hanson, Mike Carlson, Jason Stahnke **Greeter(s):** LaVonne Carlson **Reader:** Bean Norman
Communion: Ben Norman and BJ Norman

PARISH PULSE: March 24, 2019 Attendance 66 Total Giving \$3,434
March 27 21 Lenten Service

UPCOMING EVENTS AT VASA:

Mar. 30: Happy Birthday to Andrew Weigman

April 1: Museum 6:30 PM

April 4: Cannon River Ministry Conference 9 to 1 PM

April 4: Blood Mobile 1 to 7 PM

April 6: Bonnie McRae Funeral

April 8: Parish Life 6:30 PM | Finance 7:30 PM

April 9: Property Meeting 5:30 PM

April 10: Free Community Dinner 5:30 to 6:30 PM Pork Roast will be served.

April 14: Palm Sunday 9 AM in the Sanctuary

April 18: Maundy Thursday Service 7 PM in the church sanctuary. Foot washing, 5th Grade First Communion and the stripping of the altar occur as a part of this worship service.

April 19: Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7:00 PM in the church sanctuary. This solemn service includes reading the Passion Story from the gospel of John, as well as stripping the altar and draping the church furnishings in black.

April 21: VASA YOUTH TO SERVE EASTER BREAKFAST

Join in the Easter Celebration at Vasa and have a great breakfast with family and friends at the Lutheran Center Easter morning. The Youth of Vasa will be serving a wonderful menu of: Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Fresh Fruit, Assortment of Muffins, Rolls, Milk, Orange Juice and Coffee. Serving begins at 7:30 AM continues to 8:30 AM. Worship service will begin at 9:00 AM. The donations collected at the breakfast will be used for to support youth activities and missions for the year. Youth volunteers are needed for Saturday and Sunday. Volunteer schedule will be forthcoming.

VASA MUSEUM - SAVE THE DATES

Root Beer Floats Thursday, July 4

Swedish Pancake Breakfast Saturday, Oct. 26

VASA & WELCH 8-Mile RUMMANGE & BAKE SALE

Thursday, April 25 Noon to 7 PM and Friday, April 26 8 AM to 4 PM

It's time for our annual Rummage and Bake Sale fundraiser with Lunch being served on both days!

4 Ways you can help make this the most successful sale ever!

1. Donate your clean, gently used items!
2. Attend the rummage and bake sale.
3. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors.
4. Volunteer (Contact Faye at 651-212-3209)

Donation Drop-off dates: Monday, April 22, noon to 7 PM; Tuesday, April 23, noon to 7 PM; and Wednesday, April 24, noon to 7 PM.



(If you require a different drop-off time please contact Faye at 651-212-3209)

Rummage Sale dates/times: Thursday, April 25, 2019 noon to 7 PM, and Friday April 26, 2019 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Help us to make this our most successful Rummage Sale ever! So let's get those garages, attics and closets cleaned out and find lots of hidden treasures for us to sell. Ask friends, family and neighbors if they have any donations or if they would like to attend.

Rummage Sale Items Needed:

We need gently used clothes (sorted by gender and size for quick placement) books, toys, small furniture items, tools, baby clothing and items, knickknacks linens, jewelry, small appliances, seasonal holiday items, and home decorations.

Please no exercise equipment, mattresses, TV's or large electronic items as they do not sell.

Bake Sale Items:

All types of baked items are welcomed.

Pies | Cakes / Coffee Cakes | Rolls | Bars | Cookies | Bread | Buns|

Please package your item(s) on paper plates with clear wrapping.

All the proceeds will be used to purchase a new fridge for the kitchen.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

This group meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Room. For additional information contact Jeannette Anderson.

MUSIC: Wednesday evenings at 7:15 PM, under the guidance of Austin Ferguson. At the end of eight weeks of practice the two groups will perform at the Palm Sunday service on April 14th and the Easter Sunday service on April 21st.



CAUTION! An orange cone has been placed on the East side of the Church's parking lot to identify a two-inch heave in the sidewalk. Please use caution when walking in this area.

ELECTRONIC GIVING:

Information on electronic giving to Vasa Lutheran Church is on the table near the door of the gym or at the back of the church. If you are interested in using this method of giving instead of using weekly offering envelopes, please fill out the *Authorization Form* attached to the information and bring it to the Church Office. Thank you in advance for participating in the electronic giving option.

Good Earth Village Summer 2019 registration is now open! Vasa Lutheran Church offers camp scholarships, so all children have an opportunity to experience the fun of exploring God in creation. Contact Pastor Maureen if you have questions about the camp or if you would like to apply for a scholarship.

www.goodearthvillage.org



CONNECT WITH VASA

P: Vasa Office 651-258-4327
E: vasalutheran@sleepyeyetel.net
W: www.vasalutheran.org
FB: www.facebook.com/Vasa-Lutheran-Church

Pastor Maureen Hagen

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Vasa Mission Statement

We the Vasa congregation,
called by God, commit to:
Worshipping together,
Growing in Faith
Serving others, and
Welcoming and Loving all!