

Vasa Lutheran Church

The Great Commandment

Pastor Maureen Hagen Accompanist – Nick Kees

Sunday, March 10, 2024

ANNOUNCING THE DAY: Psalm 89:1-4

L: I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;

C: with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

L: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

C: your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

L: You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,

C: I have sworn to my servant David:

L: 'I will establish your descendants forever,

C: and build your throne for all generations.'"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

Amen.

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors
are hungry and cold.**

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

**For all these things and for sins only you know,
forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world,

God draws near to us,

breaks every snare of sin,

washes away our wrongs,

and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

Amen.

GREETING: 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

Lord, Have Mercy



1, 3	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.
2	Chris - te	e - lei - son.	Chris - te	e - lei - son.
1, 3	Lord, . . .	have mer - cy.	Lord,	have mer - cy.
2	Christ, . . .	have mer - cy.	Christ,	have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e	e - le	-	i - son.
Chris - te	e - le	-	i - son.
Lord, . . .	have mer	-	cy.
Christ, . . .	have mer	-	cy.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Lord of love, **you have taught us that love is your greatest commandment. Teach us to love as unconditionally as you love us. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 12:28-44 One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" 29 Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30 you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." 32 Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; 33 and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'-- this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." 34 When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

35 While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he said, "How can the scribes say that the Messiah is the son of David? 36 David himself, by the Holy Spirit, declared,

'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.'" 37 David himself calls him Lord; so how can he be his son?" And the large crowd was listening to him with delight.

38 As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, 39 and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! 40 They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

41 He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. 42 A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. 43 Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. 44 For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN

ELW 686

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART

ELW 800

CONFESSION OF FAITH using the words of the **Apostles' 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 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 Each petition will end with the words, "Lord, in your mercy," Please respond with "**hear our prayer.**"

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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share the peace with one another.

GENEROSITY MOMENT

HYMN

REJOICE, FOR CHRIST IS KING!

ELW 430

ANNOUNCEMENTS


BLESSING and DISMISSAL

L: Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.



Paul Mikaelsen, Jay Mikaelsen, Scott Sorenson, Max Tilderquist, Anne Rathman, Wendy Anderson, Geri Lindholm, and Dale Anderson.

LOCAL FOOD SHELVES TO
RECEIVE LENTEN OFFERINGS



Lenten Offerings:

March is a “food shelf” month. Vasa will gather Lenten offerings and send them to the Red Wing and Cannon Falls food shelves at the end of March. Here is how you can participate:

Write a check to Vasa and put the words “food shelf” in the memo line

Place money in one of the Lenten offering envelopes in your box and get it to the church/church office. All

loose monetary offerings will go to the food shelves.

Wednesday Lenten Worship

continues at the church sanctuary at 7:00. This week our Lenten monologue will feature Martha and will be read by [B-J Norman](#). We are singing the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy and serving communion.

MUSIC FOR MAR. 10, 2024

BLESSING AND HONOR

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889, alt.

Music: Matthias Keller, 1813-1875

WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

Music: L. Mason and G. Webb, Cantic Lauda, 1850

SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART

Text: George Croly, 1780-1860

Music: Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841-1897

**REJOICE FOR CHRIST IS
KING**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

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Parish Pulse:
Feb. 21 & MAR. 3
Participating in Worship: 75
16 live-streams
Total Offerings:
\$1,895.00



American Red Cross

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The next Vasa
Blood Drive will
be held on April
8th from 1-6pm,
and April 9th
from 9am-3pm.

**Mid-Week Lenten
Worship** with Holden
Evening Prayer and Holy
Communion will begin
at 7:00PM
in the church sanctuary,
immediately following
Family Night activities.

Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Marv Fredrickson
Reader: Barry Skog
Hospitality: Audrey Rosener

Worship Assistants Next Week (March 17)

Usher: Kevin Eckblad
Reader: B-J Norman
Hospitality: volunteer needed
Comm. Asst.: Mike Bauch

Vasa Family Night

Wednesday, March 13th
5:30-7:00pm
Vasa Lutheran Center

Light Meal - Spaghetti Hotdish
Easter Theme Activities
Short Devotional

The illustration shows a family of five (a man, a woman, a young girl, a young boy, and an elderly woman) gathered around a round wooden table. The man is standing and serving food. The woman is seated and holding a plate. The young girl is seated and holding a plate. The young boy is seated and holding a plate. The elderly woman is seated and holding a plate. A small dog is sitting on the floor next to the young boy. The background is a simple landscape with trees and a sky.