

# Vasa Lutheran Church

*End of the Age*

Pastor Maureen Hagen    Accompanist – Anne Anderson

**Sunday, March 17, 2024**

## **ANNOUNCING THE DAY: Psalm 102:12-17**

L: But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever;

**C: your name endures to all generations.**

L: You will rise up and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to favor it;

**C: the appointed time has come.**

L: For your servants hold its stones dear,

**C: and have pity on its dust.**

L: The nations will fear the name of the LORD,

**C: and all the kings of the earth your glory.**

L: For the LORD will build up Zion;

**C: he will appear in his glory.**

L: He will regard the prayer of the destitute,

**C: and will not despise their prayer.**

## **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:

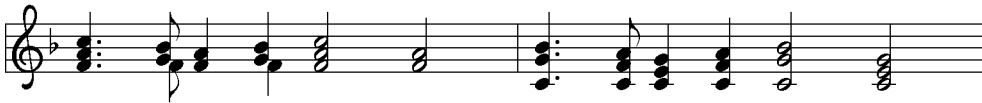
Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us,  
breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs,  
and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**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:** Son of Man, **you encouraged your followers to obey only your voice, and promised that they would see your glorious presence. Show us your glory and teach us to obey. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING Mark 13:1-8 24-37**

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" 2 Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." 3 When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 4 "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" 5 Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. 6 Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. 7 When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. 8 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, 25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. 26 Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. 35 Therefore, keep awake-- for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN**

**JERUSALEM, MY HAPPY HOME**

**ELW 628**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST**

**ELW 632**

**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.**"

### **GENEROSITY MOMENT**

**HOLY COMMUNION:** *We will receive communion by intinction. All are welcome at the Lord's table. You don't need to be a member of Vasa, nor do you need to be a Lutheran to receive the body and blood of Christ today. Gluten free portions and non-alcoholic wine are available for those who have dietary restrictions. Children are welcome to come forward and will receive a blessing.*

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **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 OF COMMUNION**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER** Generous God, **at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.**

**HYMN**

**LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL**

**ELW 512**

## **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.**