

Vasa Lutheran Church

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist-Nick Kees

Sunday, March 12, 2023

ANNOUNCING THE DAY Psalm 45:6-7

L: Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.

C: Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;

L: you love righteousness and hate wickedness.

C: Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace. Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess to you our faults and failings.

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation;

we cause hurt though you call us to heal;

we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,

† forgives you in Christ's name,

and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN GREAT GOD, YOUR LOVE HAS CALLED US

ELW 358

We will sing verses 1-3.

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

Kyrie



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

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927
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PRAYER OF THE DAY God of celebration, **you have invited all people to rejoice in the goodness of your love. Help us to be hospitable to all people at your banquet, so that all might receive your blessing. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 2 "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. 3 He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. 4 Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' 5 But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, 6 while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. 7 The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. 8 Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. 9 Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' 10 Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. 11 "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, 12 and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a

wedding robe?' And he was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 For many are called, but few are chosen."

L: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to you, Oh Lord.**

HYMN RESPONSE

RESTORE IN US, O GOD

ELW 328

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

AS THE SUN WITH LONGER JOURNEY

ELW 329

CONFESSION OF 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 INTERCESSION

Each petition will end with the words, "Lord, in your mercy," Please respond with "hear our prayer."

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.**

GENEROSITY MOMENT

SENDING HYMN

JESUS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS

ELW 335

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

L: God, the giver of love,
✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth
bless you in this Lenten journey.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



Eileen Anderson, Irene

Carpenter, Deloris Clemens, Paul

Mikaelsen, Sara Jacobson Parker, Scott

Sorenson, Max Tilderquist, Connie Gillis,

Einar Norman, and Ellie Gardiner.

PARISH PULSE:

March 5 & 8

Participating in Worship: 61

+11 live-streams

Total Offerings: \$3,210.00

MUSIC FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2023

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

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Music © Oxford University Press.

Kyrie

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927

Restore in Us, O God

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

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As The Sun with Longer Journey

Text © 1981, Order of Saint Benedict, admin. by Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN 56321.

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Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: William H. Doane, 1832–1915

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Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Kevin Eckblad

Reader: Katie Featherstone

Hospitality: Kent Volz

Worship Assistants Next Week (03/19)

Usher: Volunteer Needed

Reader: Mo Hauck

Hospitality: Faye Drewianka

Comm. Asst: Greg Drewianka

SANCTUARY TASK FORCE: The task force for updating and renovating the church sanctuary has formed. Eight people have volunteered: John Hauck, Bruce Tilderquist, Faye Drewianka, Greg Drewianka, Randy Lindholm, Sasha Diercks, Jim Hedeem and Steve Hyllengren.

Eight is a big number for a task force, but the questions are big and will require effort and dedication on the part of the members.

The task force will divide into two smaller groups. One group will focus on windows and the front steps. The other will focus on asbestos abatement, flooring, and paint. Each will gather information and further estimates. They will report to the church council and ultimately to the congregation. Their work will take some time, so be patient.

Food Shelf



FOOD SHELF: At the end of March the stipend for food support due to the pandemic will end.

In light of this local food shelves anticipate a dramatic increase in visits. We can help by donating food and/or gifts of money. Please consider making a gift either directly to the Cannon Falls or Red Wing Food Shelves, or to the church. Make your check payable to Vasa and please write *Food Shelf* in the memo line. All gifts of money given during the month of March will be matched.

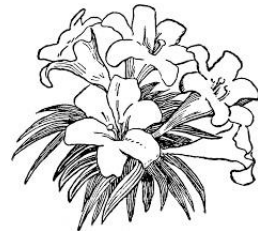


Good Earth Village: Good Earth Village, the Bible camp supported by the SE MN synod of the ELCA is now accepting registrations for summer camp. Go to their webpage for more information about programs.



The Vasa Museum Soup Luncheon fundraiser on March 4th generated \$1,508 in donations after serving 116 soups!

Easter Easter



Flowers

If you are interested in contributing to the Easter Flower Garden this year, flower order forms are available at the back of the church. You can also call the office, or email Emily at office@vasalutheran.org; 651-258-4327. Orders are due by Noon on March 23.