



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

7075 Pacific Avenue S.E.
Lacey, WA 98503

www.faithlutheranlacey.org
www.flschool.org

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

8:15am – Traditional
9:30am – Gather & Grow
10:30am - Contemporary

CONTACT

Church: 360-491-3552
School: 360-491-1733
Childcare: 360-491-1118
Pastor: Greg Strand
541-231-8166
pastorgreg@flschool.org

*“Raising Up
Families and Followers
of Jesus Christ”*

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

8:15 am

LET YOUR CONVERSATION BE
ALWAYS FULL OF GRACE,
SEASONED WITH SALT, SO
THAT YOU MAY KNOW HOW
TO ANSWER EVERYONE.

Colossians 4:6

Anthea Grace



SALT THAT SWEETENS AND PRESERVES

AS WE GATHER

We are blessed to be God's children—cleansed of sin, renewed by the Spirit, and salted in Christ Jesus. The promised treasures in God's Word remind us of the importance of salt, which both sweetens and preserves things for our enjoyment. When Paul reminds us to let our conversations be "seasoned with salt" (Colossians 4:6), and when Jesus tells us that we are "the salt of the earth" (Matthew 5:13), the image is rich, for it is not only visual, but it also engages the sense of taste. We are reminded today that we are blessed to sweeten this world with the presence of Christ in us, even as Jesus Himself preserves our lives through His Word and Spirit.

673 JERUSALEM, MY HAPPY HOME



1 Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home,
2 O hap - py har - bor of the saints,
3 Thy gar - dens and thy gal - lant walks
4 There trees for - ev - er - more bear fruit



When shall I come to thee? When shall my sor - rows
O sweet and pleas - ant soil! In thee no sor - row
Con - tin - ual - ly are green; There grow such sweet and
And ev - er - more do spring; There ev - er - more the



have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?
may be found, No grief, no care, no toil.
pleas - ant flow'rs As no - where else are seen.
an - gels dwell And ev - er - more do sing.

5 Apostles, martyrs, prophets, there
Around my Savior stand;
And soon my friends in Christ below
Will join the glorious band.

6 O Christ, do Thou my soul prepare
For that bright home of love
That I may see Thee and adore
With all Thy saints above.

Text: F. B. P., 16th cent., alt. Tune: American Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

Leader In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *2 Corinthians 5:21, alt.; Isaiah 53:5*

Leader For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin,
Congregation **so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.**
Leader But He was wounded for our transgressions;
Congregation **He was crushed for our iniquities;**
Leader upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
Congregation **and with His stripes we are healed.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Based on Philippians 2:1–11*

Leader Lord Jesus, search our hearts and minds that we may receive Your Word, share in Your Spirit, and be renewed in our relationships with You and with one another.

We observe a moment of silence for personal prayers of confession.

Leader With humble hearts, let us pray together:
Congregation **Lord Jesus, the Father's only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, hear us as we pray.**
Leader We confess that we have not lived our lives as we ought, forgetting that You have called us to be the salt of the earth.
Congregation **Our rebellion against You in thought, word, and action is why You died for us—**
Leader to forgive our sins, to redeem our lives, and to cancel the debt we owe to God.
Congregation **With hearts that are humble and lives ever grateful, help us to receive Your grace, bow before You in worship, and confess that You alone are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**
Leader Almighty God our heavenly Father shows His mercy to us in the sending of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who “salts” us with His life-giving and life-preserving Word and with the sweetness of His forgiveness. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation **Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Leader Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You call Your people to be the salt of the earth, to sweeten and preserve this world even as You have sweetened our lives with Your forgiveness and have preserved us by Your Spirit.

Congregation Renew our hearts and minds during this Lenten season as we receive the promised treasures of Your Word;

Leader for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *2 Kings 2:19–22*

Reader The Old Testament Reading is from Second Kings, the second chapter.

¹⁹Now the men of the city said to Elisha, “Behold, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees, but the water is bad, and the land is unfruitful.” ²⁰He said, “Bring me a new bowl, and put salt in it.” So they brought it to him. ²¹Then he went to the spring of water and threw salt in it and said, “Thus says the LORD, I have healed this water; from now on neither death nor miscarriage shall come from it.” ²²So the water has been healed to this day, according to the word that Elisha spoke.

Reader O Lord, have mercy on us.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 107:28–36*

Leader Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,

Congregation and He delivered them from their distress.

Leader He made the storm be still,

Congregation and the waves of the sea were hushed.

Leader Then they were glad that the waters were quiet,

Congregation and He brought them to their desired haven.

Leader Let them thank the LORD for His steadfast love,

Congregation for His wondrous works to the children of men!

Leader Let them extol Him in the congregation of the people,

Congregation and praise Him in the assembly of the elders.

Leader He turns rivers into a desert, springs of water into thirsty ground,

Congregation a fruitful land into a salty waste, because of the evil of its inhabitants.

Leader He turns a desert into pools of water, a parched land into springs of water.

Congregation And there He lets the hungry dwell, and they establish a city to live in.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

EPISTLE

Colossians 4:2–6

Reader

The Epistle is from Colossians, the fourth chapter.

²Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. ³At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— ⁴that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

⁵Conduct yourselves wisely toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. ⁶Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Reader

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Joel 2:13b

Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:13–16

Leader

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

Congregation Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Leader

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – Connie Dougherty

708 LORD, THEE I LOVE WITH ALL MY HEART



1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and
3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om



me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer me. Earth
all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,
bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And



has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were
grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy
in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in



void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my
lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false
peace - ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from



heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.
doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.
death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious
Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my
O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.
Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.
tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

SERMON

NICENE CREED

Congregation I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING <https://faithlutheranlacey.breezechms.com/give/online>
or text to give, 360-732-8020.

PRAYER

Leader Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for blessing us with the opportunity to meditate again on the cross of Christ and receive Your promised treasures.

Congregation Grant that the message of the Lamb of God slain for our salvation bring us the riches of Your pardon and peace.

Leader Lead us to see that our sins caused Jesus' great agony in the garden, that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary,

Congregation that He was forsaken by His Father so that we might never be forsaken, and that He died so that we may live.

Leader Lord Jesus, grant that especially during this sacred season the treasured story of Your wondrous love for us would draw us closer to You.

Congregation Enable us to see that we are the salt of the earth, preserved by Your grace and sweetened by Your forgiveness.

Leader Holy Spirit, lift up troubled souls everywhere. Grant wholeness to those hurting in heart, body, and mind. Work Your healing power in the lives of those in need, [*especially* . . .], and in the lives of all we name before You in our hearts.

Congregation All glory, honor, and praise be to You, with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PREFACE

Leader The Lord be with you.

Congregation And also with you.

Leader Lift up your hearts.

Congregation We lift them to the Lord.

Leader Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. You have delivered us from the power of death and granted us the glorious destiny of eternal life in Your kingdom, which is forever. By the working of the Holy Spirit, grant that we with true thanksgiving receive the bread and wine, that is, the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as a guarantee of the salvation that He purchased for us through His innocent suffering and death. Pour out Your gracious Spirit upon us that we may live purposefully as Your faithful servants. Receive our prayers and thanksgivings, and grant us Your abiding peace. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Leader Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Leader As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Congregation **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

Congregation **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**

PAX DOMINI

Leader The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Congregation **Amen.**

+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

547 THE LAMB



1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?
2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.
3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill
4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.
5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now o - ver - flows.



Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
So still, His will On our be - half the Law to fill.
He lives, for - gives, He gives me His own righ - teous - ness.
His song pro - long Till ev - 'ry heart to Him be - long.

Refrain

Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me His
 own! The Lamb is reign-ing on His throne!

Text and tune: Gerald P. Coleman, 1953–2023

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915 TODAY YOUR MERCY CALLS US

1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
 2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
 3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
 4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,

How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
 Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
 His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
 What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?

How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
 The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
 No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
 When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,

Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
 A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
 Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
 We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt. Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–after 1857 Text and tune: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Leader O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

Congregation **and His mercy endureth forever.**

Leader We give thanks to You, almighty God, for sending Your Son, our Lord, to be both a sacrifice for our sin and a model of the godly life. By His body and blood, strengthen our faith to stand steadfast as inheritors of Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Leader The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

Congregation **Amen.**

728 HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose
4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,
5 "Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove



Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I will not, I will not, de - sert to his foes;
My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.
My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can He say than to you He has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,
The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
And then, when gray hairs will their tem - ples a - dorn,



Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er, for - sake!
Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
Like lambs they will still in My bos - om be borne.”

Text: A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt. Tune: Genuine Church Music, 1832, Winchester
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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