



## **Our Savior's Lutheran Church – Cleveland, MN**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

March 15, 2026

*We are called to let our light shine as instruments of the Holy Spirit so all may know God's love.*



### **Let the Little Children Come**

by Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell

Inspired by Matthew 19:13-15

11"x14" Acrylic, gold leaf, pen on paper

**The Good News is...** *protection and care for the vulnerable!*  
(To view a larger, hi-res image, click [here](#) or on the photo.)

## Call to Worship

God loves the field mouse.

**God loves the crows that take flight when church bells ring.**

God loves the baby, cooing in the back pew.

**God loves the child who rocks and claps.**

God loves the one with wrinkled hands and soft eyes.

**God loves the bumblebees and the tabby cats.**

God loves those who walk, crawl, and roll.

**God loves the giant oaks and the evergreens, standing strong over all of us.**

God loves the young, the impressionable, and the earnest.

**There is no bit of creation that God does not love.**

So let us worship this good-news God!

**Amen.**

## Confession & Forgiveness

Family of Faith,

every week we pray the Prayer of Confession,

because every week we need to be reminded of God's abundant grace.

Every week we need to be reminded of God's love.

Every week we need to be reminded that we too can grow and change.

So join me in this moment of honesty as we seek transformation.

Let us pray:

God said, "When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them."

**Holy God, we confess, we have mistreated the immigrants in our land.**

Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

**We confess, we have clung to guns and war more than we have pursued peace.**

God said, "When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow."

**We confess, we have hoarded our resources and failed to care for our neighbors.**

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them."

**We confess, we have gatekept the good news in unfair ways.**

Fortunately for all of us, God also said, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine."

**By God's grace, despite our sin and shortcomings, we are redeemed, claimed, forgiven, and loved.**

May this good news change our lives!

**Amen.**

1. In the cross of Christ I glory, tow’ring o’er the wrecks of time. All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.
2. When the woes of life o’er take me, hopes decieve, and fears annoy, never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
3. When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way, from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.
4. Bane ad blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified; peace is there that knows no measure, joys that though all time abide.

### Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

Holy One, sometimes the simplest of your commands are the hardest for us to hear.

**You say, “Love your enemy.” “Turn the other cheek.” “Care for the widow and the orphan.” And we want to know: How? When? Where? Today as we turn to your word, open up space in us to simply hear your truth for what it is. Open up space in our hearts to dream new dreams, to imagine new realities, to draw closer to you and closer to love. With hope for a better tomorrow, we listen, we pray. Amen.**

### First Reading – Deuteronomy 24:17-22 *Care for the vulnerable.*

Response: Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 23 *You anoint my head with oil.*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**The Lord makes me lie down<sup>l</sup> in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

**Gospel – Matthew 19:13-28** *Let the children come.*

Before: The holy Gospel according to . . . **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After: The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Children’s Message**

**Message**

Pastor Liz Rossing

**Hymn of the Day**

“You Are Mine”

Red #581

1. I will come to you in the silence, I will lift you from all your fear. You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be still and know I am here.

2. I am hope for all who are hopeless, I am eyes for all who long to see. In the shadows of the night, I will be your light. Come and rest in me.

### ***Refrain***

Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name. Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine.

3. I am strength for all the despairing, healing from the ones who dwell in shame. All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and all will know my name. ***Refrain***

4. I am the Word that leads all to freedom, I am the peace the world cannot give, I will call your name, embracing all your pain. Stand up, now walk and live! ***Refrain***

## **Affirmation of Faith**

**I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. It sounds like welcome and feels like home. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table, so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. I have seen it alive in the world.**

**And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage, even when mercy feels out of reach, I remember the one who welcomed the children and led with nonviolence. I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable and inspired those around him. I remember that the good news really is good news, for I have seen it alive in the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

God of love, **hear our prayers.**

## **Offering & Giving Prayer**

**O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **Words of Institution**

Red pg. 190

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.**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

## **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.**

## **Communion Hymn**

“Lamb of God”

Red pg.191

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## **Announcements**

### **Blessing**

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✠ bless us now and always. **Amen.**

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
2. ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
3. Through manly dangers, toils, and snares I have already come; ‘tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures; he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
5. When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise that when we’d first begun.

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the Good News. **Thanks be to God.**

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