

Third Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2020



GOLD HILL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE MONTANA SYNOD OF

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA)

Welcome to Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church, and a special welcome to our guests and those returning after a time away. We're gathered as a Christian community to worship the Lord!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!

Please let us know if there are other ways we can be of service.

Guests are invited to fill out the small green contact card in the rack in front of you and hand it to the Pastor or other worship leaders or place it in the offering plate. We promise not to 'stalk' anyone – we're just trying to let you know we care.

Our Congregation's Mission Statement:

EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE

The Guiding Principles of God's People at Gold Hill Lutheran

Principle 1: Jesus Christ is our Lord & Savior

Principle 2: The Holy Spirit & worship strengthen us

Principle 3: We are a welcoming & inviting community in Christ

Principle 4: We share the Word with confidence and courage

Principle 5: Our faith leads us to serve joyfully

Principle 6: We are generous with our gifts

www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT

Check out our GROWING website at www.GoldHillLutheran.org

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Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leaders:	**Kay & Paul Vang
Assisting Minister:	Peggy Graving
Music Minister:	Susan Repola
Communion Ministers:	Dorothy Tallon, Heatherlynn Meeks
Ushers:	Cheryl Neuhart, Revonda Stordahl
Roving Greeter:	Patti Chain
Additional Servant Ministers:	Tavia Broudy & Ruschelle Tyvand

**“Kay Vang, a Stephen Minister, has been authorized by the Bishop of the Montana Synod to provide pastoral services in this congregation this Sunday.”

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*Indicates that congregation stands.
Bolded texts are said in unison.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***Invocation**

We gather in the name of the Father,
and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins,
God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we are in bondage to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for you,
and for his sake God forgives you all your sins.
To those who believe in Jesus Christ
he gives the power to become the children of God
and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

Amen

***Gathering Hymn** *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty #533*

***Greeting** page 147

***Kyrie** page 147

***Glory to God** page 148

***Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**Merciful God, the fountain of living water,
you quench our thirst and wash away our sin.**

Give us this water always.

Bring us to drink from the well

that flows with the beauty of your truth

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

Amen

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Lessons may be found at the back of the bulletin.

Old Testament Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm Psalm 95

***Gospel Acclamation** page 151

***Gospel** John 4:5-42

As the gospel is announced:

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 4th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

As the gospel is concluded:
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Paul Vang

***Hymn of the Day**

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty #777

***Apostles' Creed**

back inside cover of hymnal

***Prayers of the People**

Each portion of the prayer concludes:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

***Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Take My Life, That I May Be #685
(verses 1,4,5)

Offering Prayer

***Great Thanksgiving**

page 152

Holy, Holy, Holy

page 153

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

page 154

Lamb of God

page 154

Distribution

All are welcome at this Table – members, guests, children, friends.

Communion will be served continuously today.

*Come forward by the center aisle, find an open spot,
and return to your seat by the outside aisle.*

If you are unable to come forward, we will bring Communion to you.

Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available.

Please let the communion servers know if you need these.

Communion Hymn

Just a Closer Walk with Thee #697

***Blessing and Prayer**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Benediction**

Announcements

***Sending Hymn**

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness #843

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

Thanks be to God.

Old Testament: Exodus 17:1-7

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Psalm 95

Come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.

**In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.

**Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

For the LORD is our God, and we are the people
of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

"Harden not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.

**There your ancestors tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.**

Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,

'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'

Indeed I swore in my anger,

'They shall never come to my rest.'

Gospel: John 4:5-42

⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"

¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."

²¹Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

²⁵The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”

²⁶Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”

²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”

³²But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” ³³So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” ³⁴Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days.

⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”