

**St. Luke Lutheran Church and
Lutheran Campus Ministry**
Holy Communion

The Fifth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 17, 2024
10:00 AM

YOU are welcome here! As a Reconciling in Christ Congregation, the people of St. Luke Lutheran Church are called by God to be a community...because we believe we are one in God's eyes, we welcome the mix of ages, races, gender identities, physical and mental capabilities, and sexual orientations with which God's children are blessed. Everyone is invited to share in God's grace. We rejoice in the knowledge that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus--not our wealth, nor our poverty, nor our nationality, nor our political convictions, nor whom we love, nor anything else in all creation.

Everything you need for worship today is contained in this bulletin.

*All are invited to stand as able. Items in **bold** are spoken or sung by the assembly.

So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13

God promises Jeremiah that a "new covenant" will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and draws God's love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God's love with all the world.

GATHERING

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

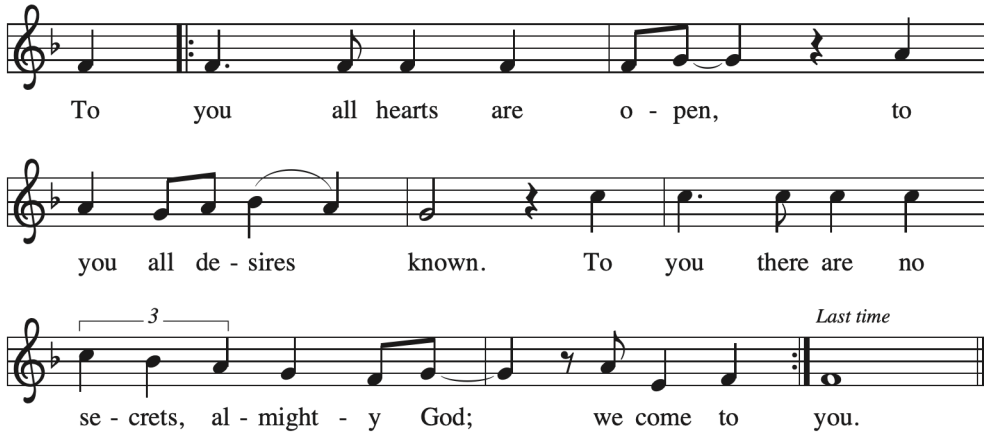
PRELUDE

Love Unknown

setting by James Biery

WORD OF WELCOME

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** *The following is sung three times:*



To you all hearts are o - pen, to
you all de - sires known. To you there are no
se - crets, al - might - y God; we come to you. *Last time*

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ... 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: ... through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*PEACE

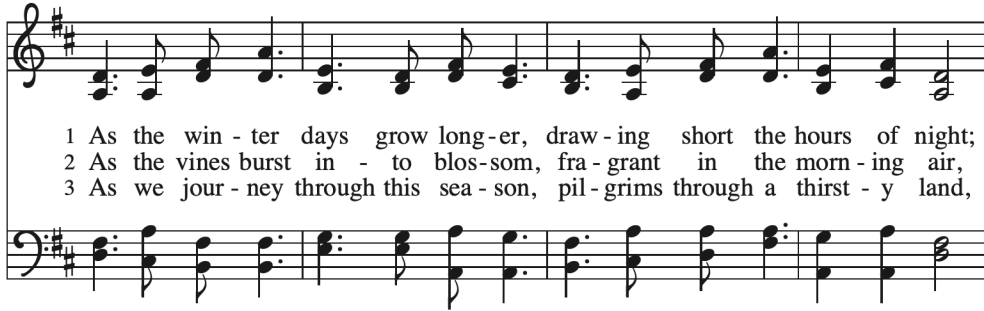
The presiding minister will offer a word of peace and the assembly responds:

And also with you.

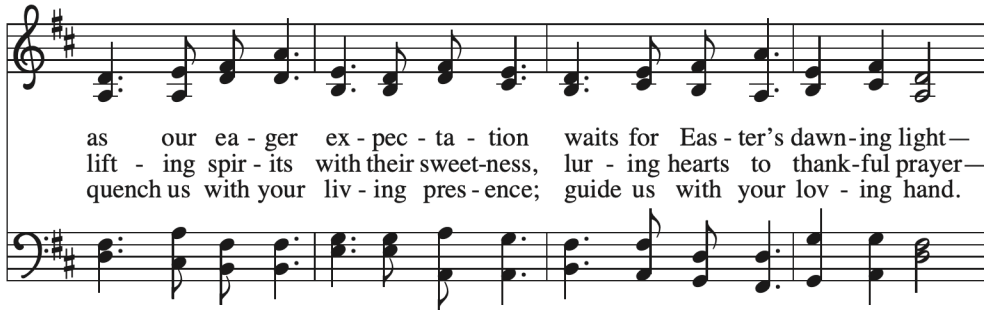
The assembly may greet one another with signs of peace.

*GATHERING HYMN 924 As the Winter Days Grow Longer

SUO GAN



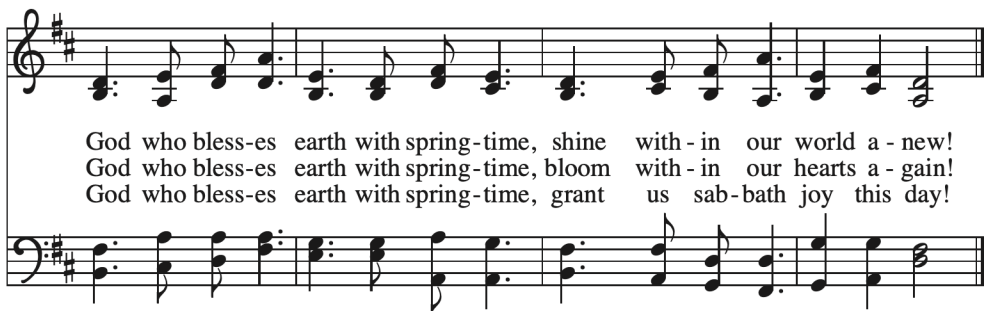
1 As the win - ter days grow long - er, draw - ing short the hours of night;
2 As the vines burst in - to blos - som, fra - grant in the morn - ing air,
3 As we jour - ney through this sea - son, pil - grims through a thirst - y land,



as our ea - ger ex - pec - ta - tion waits for Eas - ter's dawn - ing light—
lift - ing spir - its with their sweet - ness, lur - ing hearts to thank - ful prayer—
quench us with your liv - ing pres - ence; guide us with your lov - ing hand.



yearn - ing peo - ple, here we gath - er, turn - ing watch - ful eyes to you:
Lent - en peo - ple, here we gath - er, seek - ing lives re - fresh - ed from sin.
Wan - d'ring peo - ple, here we gath - er, called to rest a - long our way.



God who bless - es earth with spring - time, shine with - in our world a - new!
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, bloom with - in our hearts a - gain!
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, grant us sab - bath joy this day!

*GREETING

The presiding minister will greet the assembly and the assembly responds:

And also with you.

*KYRIE

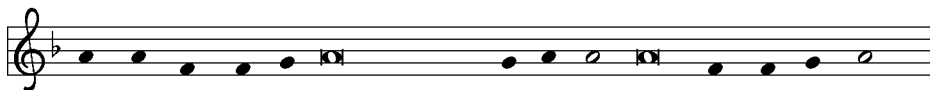
Setting Five



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



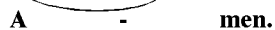
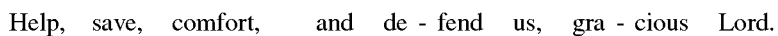
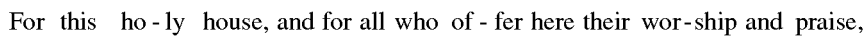
For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



The assisting minister offers the prayer of the day and the assembly responds:

5

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

PSALM 51:1-12

The psalm is sung responsively.

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.**

³For I know | my offenses,
and my sin is ev- | er before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my | mother’s womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.

⁸**Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away | from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of | your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.**

**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 for- | ever. Amen.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 5:5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;
as he says also in another place,
“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly sings the acclamation and repeats it after the choir proclaims the verse of the day.



Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains a | single grain;
but if it dies, it | bears much fruit.

***GOSPEL**

John 12:20-33

The holy gospel according to John, the twelfth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S TIME

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY 343** My Song is Love Unknown

LOVE UNKNOWN

Please use the hymnal for this hymn.

***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 INTERCESSION**

The response to the petitions, which all end "Hear us, O God" is
Your mercy is great.

After the pastor's concluding prayer, the assembly responds:
Amen.



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An offering is taken to support the mission of the church and the care of those in need. An usher will bring a basket or plate to you, or you may drop your offering in the plates on the table near the back row upon entering or leaving. Offerings can also be made using the QR code or visiting stlukeithaca.org and clicking on "donate."

SETTING THE TABLE AND OFFERTORY

Christus Factus Est

Anton Bruckner

*Christus factus est pro nobis obediens usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis.
Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum et dedit illi nomen, quod est super omne nomen.*

Christ became obedient for us unto death, even to the death, death on the cross.
Therefore God exalted Him and gave Him a name which is above all names.

*ASSEMBLY OFFERTORY SONG 185 Create in Me

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.

Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me

with your free Spir - it. Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God,

and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

OFFERING PRAYER

*The assisting minister offers the offertory prayer, and the assembly responds: **Amen.***

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

*DIALOGUE

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.

*PREFACE

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Setting Five

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

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.

*LAMB OF GOD

Setting Five

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy

on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

At St. Luke, all are welcome to the table Christ without exception. Please make your way forward to the kneelers around the altar by exiting the center aisle and coming up the steps. To the right of the steps is a lift if you need assistance. As you gather around the altar you may stand or kneel, bread is received in your hands, let the presider know if you would like a gluten free wafer. Cups are available as you approach the altar. To return to your seats, please exit after receiving the wine or juice via the side steps and aisles, leaving the cup in the basket provided. If you wish to receive communion at your seat, please tell the ushers.

COMMUNION HYMN 340 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

AN WASSERFLUSSEN BABYLON

Please use the hymnal in the pews for this hymn.

*TABLE BLESSING

*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE O Lord, Now Let Your Servant KUORTANE



1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,
2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
till earth-ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,
till rap-tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin-ing shore,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
where Christ, the bless - ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister will lead the Prayer after Communion and the assembly responds: Amen.

SENDING

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

***BLESSING** *The assembly responds:* **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN 379** Now the Green Blade Rises

NOEL NOUVELET



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share Your Bread.

Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

Noel Nouvelet

setting by Richard Hudson

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP TODAY

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| St. Luke Ministers: | All the people of this Community |
| Assisting Minister: | Jeff Snedeker |
| Reader: | Neil Mattson |
| Ushers: | Janelle Alvstad-Mattson and Susan Hoskins |
| Music Director | Erik Kibelsbeck |
| Presider and Preacher: | Rev. Jason Churchill |

The flowers are given to the Glory of God.

St. Luke Lutheran Church and Lutheran Campus Ministry is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Upstate New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and a member of Cornell United Religious Works (CURW).

Please visit www.stlukeithaca.org to sign up for email communication.

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CALENDAR

| | | |
|-------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Monday, Mar. 18 | 9am-1pm | Open Doors |
| Tuesday, Mar. 19 | 12:15pm | Bible Study |
| | 1-3pm | Open Doors |
| Thursday, Mar 21 | 6:45pm | Compline (no livestream), Longview |
| Sunday, Mar. 23 | 10am | Palm Sunday |
| | 3pm | Chrism Mass |
| Thursday, Mar. 28 | 7pm | Maundy Thursday |
| Friday, Mar. 29 | 7pm | Good Friday |
| Saturday, Mar. 30 | 8pm | Easter Vigil at St. John's Episcopal |
| Sunday, Mar 31 | 8:30am | Easter Breakfast |
| | 10am | Easter Sunday |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR: Marjorie, Kathy, Keith, Ken, Sue, Phil, and Bill.

FOOD ITEMS for the Red Wagon for the Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard for March:
Rice (white or brown) and/or potatoes (fresh or instant)

LENTEN PROJECT, from the SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE: The Social Ministry Committee will be coordinating our usual Lenten project, assembling personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Rather than having many donors out shopping for supplies, we're trying something new: raising funds to purchase the supplies in bulk. We're asking the congregation to help us raise \$800 or more. Checks may be mailed to the church or placed in the offering plates marked Personal Care Kits in the memo section.

EASTER BREAKFAST COOKS AND KITCHEN HELP SIGNUP

It takes many people to make the Easter Breakfast possible! There was a signup link in the newsletter or you can use the paper ones in the narthex. Cooks are needed to prepare breakfast strata casseroles, baked French toast, baked goods such as buns, breads, coffee cakes, and breakfast meats. There are sample recipes available. Help is also needed to setup, serve, and clean up.

LEAD....LISTEN....LUNCH!

Your LEAD Team sponsored a well-attended lunch after church on Sunday, March 3 where we enjoyed fellowship and conversation on St. Luke's core values. Thanks to the many hands who prepared our delicious food and to those who helped before and after with set up and cleaning.

As you know, LEAD has been listening (through focus group conversations, surveys and assessments) to identify the core values that define who we are now and what role we play in our community. On Sunday, we engaged in another opportunity to narrow down our core values. More than thirty of you participated in three fun-filled rounds of discussion where we reflected on more than 40 values. At the end of the day, eight values emerged: Sacramental, Intergenerational, Inclusivity, Joyful, Prayerful, Creativity, Liturgical, and Caring. These are in addition to the consensus core value: Music!

As we continue our LEAD journey, we hope to be led by our core values to discover how best to use our gifts to be God's hands and feet in the communities we inhabit. We are

UPCOMING READINGS

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Monday

Psalm 119:9-16
Isaiah 43:8-13
2 Corinthians 3:4-11

Tuesday

Psalm 119:9-16
Isaiah 44:1-8
Acts 2:14-24

Wednesday

Psalm 119:9-16
Haggai 2:1-9, 20-23
John 12:34-50

Thursday

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Deuteronomy 16:1-8
Philippians 2:1-11

Friday

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Jeremiah 33:1-9
Philippians 2:12-18

Saturday

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Jeremiah 33:10-16
Mark 10:32-34, 46-52

THE READINGS IN THE BIBLE

John 12:20-33

Chapter 12, the conclusion of what is often called the gospel's book of signs, echoes the call of the disciples in chapter 1 by reference to Philip and Andrew. But now at the turn toward Christ's passion narrative, it is Greeks, that is Gentiles, who come to Jesus, while the Jewish authorities are plotting his death (12:10). The image of the grain of wheat shows that the late first-century evangelist imagines God's paradox of life-through-death already manifest in creation and now spread to Greek peoples.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The book of Jeremiah, taking shape after Jeremiah's death in 586 bce, chronicles his message that God was readying to punish the people for their disobedience. Because Jeremiah stressed divine judgment, he was persecuted and rejected. Yet Jeremiah also preached what we call the gospel: God will establish a new covenant to save the people. The passage includes the Old Testament metaphor of God being the people's husband and also introduces the idea of the interiorization of the covenant.

We have heard the promises of Jeremiah, and our Lenten response is to confess our sins. Singing **Psalms 51:1-12**, traditionally associated with King David's sorrow over his sin, we ask God to send us the Spirit of his Son to bring our death into his life.

Hebrews 5:5-10

The book of Hebrews is an intellectually and symbolically complex sermon written in elegant Greek, probably around the time of the destruction of the temple in 70 ce, that encourages believers to remain faithful to the gospel despite any hardships they encounter. In chapter 5, the ministry of Jesus, beginning at his baptism, is likened to that of the Jewish high priest. Melchizedek is mentioned in Genesis 14, Psalm 110, and eight times in Hebrews. A king of Salem and priest of God Most High (a pre-Israelite deity), Melchizedek is remembered as blessing Abram and presenting him with bread and wine. Beginning with the author of Hebrews, this mysterious figure became important in Christian imagination.

ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH and LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY ELCA

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