

# Lent 1 "Altered on the Edge of Belonging" Sunday, February 18, 2024

(\* indicates the assembly stands)

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Prelude "Interlude" D. Lord

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

\*Confession and Forgiveness (see page 4)

\*Hymn 725 "When the Poor Ones"

\*Greeting

\*Kyrie (see page 5)

\*Prayer of the Day

Anthem "Into the Woods My Master Went" L. Sateren

#### Word

Thematic Litany (see page 6)

First Reading Genesis 9:8-17

Psalm 25: 1-10 (see page 7) (sung responsively)

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:18-22

\*Gospel Acclamation "Let your steadfast love" p. 103

\*Gospel Reading Mark 1:9-15

Sermon

\*Hymn of the Day 343 "My Song is Love Unknown"

\*Apostles' Creed p. 217

\*Prayers of Intercession A: Your mercy is great.

\*Peace

## **Thanksgiving**

\*Hymn of Thanksgiving 510 "Word of God, Come Down on High"

- \*Thanksgiving for the Word
- \*Lord's Prayer (Our Father, who art in heaven...)

p. 221

## **Sending**

**General Announcements** 

\*Blessing

\*Hymn 325 "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

\*Dismissal A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Prelude & Fugue in C Minor BWV 549"

J. S. Bach

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Lent is often a time of self-reflection, spiritual discipline, commitment, and community. Congregations gather to sing the minor harmonies of the way of Jesus on the road toward the cross. This Lent we'll see the ways the Spirit alters our perspective, transforms our communities, and consistently blazes a trail ahead of us. We'll catch up with the work of the Holy Spirit, finding ourselves:

Altered in witness

Altered through God's Creativity

Altered on the Edge of Belonging

Altered Alongside our enemies

Altered by disruption

Altered through Stories We Don't Trust

Because the Spirit is alive in, with, and under our ordinary lives, always calling us forward into transformation, nudging us into wholeness, and beckoning us forth into an alternative way.

For today: What does the "edge of belonging" mean to you?

### **Confession and Forgiveness:**

P: Holy God,

We confess that we have rejected the refuge you offer.

A: We try to hide behind self-sufficiency and pride, but you see us, and love us still.

P: We confess that we have chosen strife over peace; we want to be right more than we want to be in right relationship.

A: Forgive us for the ways we have rebelled against you and harmed our neighbors in action, thought, or indifference.

P: We confess that we have settled for convenient comforts, for palm-sized imitations of mercy and justice.

A: Your mighty hands break the bow and topple the throne, yet also gather and shelter us like a mother hen.

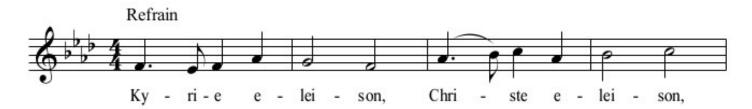
P: We confess that you know what we need and gladly provide it.

A: Grant us the courage, patience, and trust to receive and share your love.

Amen.

P: Hear this...

## \*Kyrie





O God, help us to take action with those who live in fear. Strengthen our hearts to listen to the painful cries we hear.

O God, meet us in our longing for the friends and things we know. Root us in love that sustains us; show us where we must let go.

O God, weave our lives together; may we chase away despair! Give us the tools to fight privilege, speaking truth with utmost care.

## **Leading Worship Today**

Minister: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: Rev. Dr. Allen Jorgenson

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Swiderski, Dylan Siebert, John Waterfield

**Broadcast:** Jason Smolak

**Building Monitor:** Steve Dickin (519-580-8407)

### **Thematic Litany**

P: Children of God, you are enough.

You are lovable as you are,

and God will love you as you change and grow.

A: Where there is fear, give us courage.

Where there is doubt, give us faith.

P: Children of God, your neighbors are enough.

They are lovable as they are,

and God will love them as they change and grow.

A: Where there is fear, give us courage.

Where there is doubt, give us faith.

P: Children of God, your enemies are enough.

They are lovable as they are,

and God will love them as they change and grow.

A: Where there is fear, give us courage.

Where there is doubt, give us faith.

Children of God, the Creator has been, and will be.

There is no test to pass,

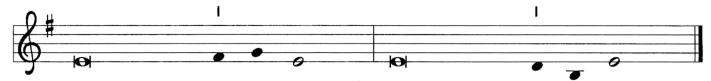
no score to keep,

no border to cross;

you have already arrived, and you can rest here.

A: Amen.

#### Tone 8



1To | you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.

2My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

3Let none who look to you be | put to shame; rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

4Show me your | ways, O LORD, and teach | me your paths.

5Lead me in your | truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

6Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love, for they are from | everlasting.

7Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.

8You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners | in your way.

9You lead the low- | ly in justice and teach the low- | ly your way.

10All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.

## **Worship Notes**

**In our prayers** Clare, Yvonne, Jeanette, Meaghan, Henry, Marie, Grace, Maureen and John.



Diaconal Sunday, Feb. 25: With our sister congregations throughout the ELCIC, we'll celebrate the work of Deacons in our churches. We're pleased to have as guest preacher Deacon Sherry Coman, who is Associate Professional Faculty at Waterloo Lutheran University College and founding Director of its Centre for Spirituality and Media.

### **General Announcements**

Coffee Hour: Please note there is no Coffee Hour this Sunday. See you on the 25th!

**Special Congregational Meeting:** Following the service in the Sanctuary on Sunday, March 3rd, there will be a meeting regarding a partial pew removal. For more information, read the February Signal.

## Important Information for today's worship

- Offering: Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented at the High Altar during the service.
- The Peace: We support people's choices for passing of the peace.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the post-lude.
- Lower Level Sanctuary Washrooms can be accessed via any of the staircases. There is one wheelchair accessible washroom, and the rest are all-gender washrooms. A further all-gender washroom is also available via the west stair tower door (front left of the Sanctuary) on the same level. Turn right at the hallway.





**Church Fire Plan** For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.

**St. Peter's Breakfast Group** is inviting St. Matthews to their monthly Breakfast group held at Kypreos restaurant on Lancaster St. The guest speakers provide interesting topics on various items. It's a great opportunity to connect with our brothers and sisters within our Grand River Ministry. If you are interested please use the link provided below to sign up. Kim Schaner - President - St. Matthews Board of Directors.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-peters-breakfast-club-tickets-802073713067? aff=oddtdtcreator

Tuesday, February 20, 2024: Everyone is invited to participate in this group on Tuesday, February 20 at 9:00 a.m. at Kypreos Restaurant, 305 Lancaster St. W. Kitchener. Attendees will order from the menu and pay for their own meals. Our speaker will be Dr. Paul Georgopoulos of the Country Hills Chiropractic Centre in Kitchener. He will be accompanied by a massage therapist. Their presentation will focus on stress relief.



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## **Contact Information**

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