



Sunday, March 16, 2025

***The East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
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East Koshkonong Lutheran Church Facebook!***

Ministers of East Koshkonong ~ All the people of God
Presider ~ Pastor Eric Hanson
Organist ~ Judy Rusch
Assisting Minister ~ Carolyn Lien
Acolyte ~ Hank Wierzba
Lector ~ Jane Furseth
Greeter ~ Rosenthal Family
Ushers ~ Don & Eileen Hoehn
Offering Counters ~ Jean Lehr & Gloria Fruit
Saxophone Soloist ~ Thomas Conner

Sermon One with Children

Gathering Hymn Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer #618

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One, **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

A: God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into

your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Saxophone Special Music Vocalise

First Reading Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸ But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹ He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other, but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 27

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

²**When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸**My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face. ”Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

¹⁰**Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.**

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

¹²**Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**

¹³This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

¹⁴**Wait for the LORD and be strong. Take heart and wait for the LORD!**

Second Reading Philippians 3:17—4:1

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel

P: The holy gospel according to Luke 13:31-35

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³² He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Two

Creed

**C: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and
the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of
life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church,

the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need *especially* Jackie, Judy, Mary Lou, Brandan, Lisa, Landon, Terry, Ed, Kathy, Cherie, Gary, Barb, Lindsay, Betsy, Jim, Chris, Robert, Andy, Michelle, Karen, Monica, and Gwendolyn. May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Noisy Offering-For Sunday School Misson Project for ELCA World Hunger

Offering Prayer

P: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: 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.

Invitation to Communion

Jesus invites you to this table.

Come, eat and live.

Prayer after Communion

P: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song God Be with You Till We Meet Again #536

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

Calendar

Sunday, March 16, 2025

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

10:00 a.m. The Chosen Bible Study

6:00 p.m. Council meeting

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

5:30 p.m. Worship

6:00 p.m. Lenten supper

7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship

Thursday, March 20, 2025

Pin & Sew

Sunday, March 23, 2025

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Announcements

We are glad you joined us! We hope that you will experience the good news in mind, body, and spirit s we pray, listen, sing and share the peace of Christ and the meal of Holy Communion. You are invited to worship in as many ways as you are comfortable and able. In this bulletin, **bold print** indicates congregation's responses. The presence, energy, and noise of children are most welcome here! The sound of children in worship is the sound of a new disciple being formed. This congregation is glad to share in this work. We welcome and invite children to participate in worship.

The Chosen Bible Study will continue Tuesdays at 10 a.m., weather permitting.

Join us for our mid-week Lenten evening services each Wednesday during Lent at 7 p.m.. We'll be using an order of worship created by the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin-ELCA based on the Psalms. There will also be a soup supper beforehand served in the fellowship hall beginning around 6 p.m.

East Koshkonong will be participating with the Cambridge Food Pantry and other Cambridge churches in providing Easter Food Baskets for those experiencing food insecurity. This year, we are collecting 50 cans of pie ready cherry pie filling and 50 bags of jelly beans. The last day for collection will be April 6, 2025. Food baskets will be distributed at the Food Pantry on April 9 and April 16. If you or anyone you know has a need for an Easter basket, please contact the Cambridge Food Pantry at 608-423-8142. Thank you in advance for helping all to have an Easter dinner!



You may make a secure offering/donation to EKLC by following the directions below. All donations are secured through Vanco. Thank you for your generous offering in this way! Online giving directions: With all of these options, you may set up recurring donations or make a one-time donation.

Option 1: Go to www.eastkoshkonong.org and click on Donate. Create a profile through this secure website, if you haven't already, and complete the form on the website.

Option 2: Download the GivePlus app on your smartphone for either Android or iOS. If needed, create an account with your email address. Sign into your account and search for "East Koshkonong Lutheran Church." Select the plus "+" sign and complete the form.

If you don't have online access for this giving

option, you are welcome to fill out a form from the church office: 608-423-3017 or

eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com

OFFERINGS ARE ALSO ALWAYS APPRECIATED BY
MAILING TO: EAST KOSHKONONG LUTHERAN
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