

March 21, 2021
Fifth Sunday in Lent



AGAIN & AGAIN – We Are Reformed. We desire for God to write on our hearts so that God's law can re-shape & reform us from the inside out. Let go of the old so that something new can emerge. Again & Again – we turn to God with our whole hearts.

RINGING OF BELL

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Every week is a new week, another chance to say:

All: "Here I am. Use me."

L: Every day is a new day, another chance to say:

All: "Thank you for yesterday. Thank you for tomorrow."

L: Every hour is a new hour, another chance to say,

All: "Again and again, make me new."

L: We do not come to this place to stay the same.

All: We come to this place to be changed.

L: So let us worship holy God, who created yesterday,
will create tomorrow, and even now is creating something new.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: In the gospel of John, a group of Greek people approach the disciples and say, "We would like to see Jesus."

It's a brief, beautiful moment that the text doesn't spend a lot of time on, And yet, it always catches my eye. It catches my eye, because the phrase, "I want to see Jesus," feels like it should be my constant prayer. Help me see Jesus. I'd like to see Jesus. Bring me closer to Jesus.

In the prayer of confession, we take a moment to recognize how much space exists between us and those words, trusting that even when we forget to seek out God, God is seeking us out. So, join me in the prayer of confession today as we take one step closer to the Divine...

**All: Gracious God, we want to see you.
We want to be known as the
people who looked for Jesus;
But not only that, we want to be people
who have your covenant written on our hearts.
Why do we feel so far away from that at times?
What went wrong?
Where did we lose our way?
Could you, would you, once again, write on our fragile hearts?
With gratitude. Amen.**

L: Friends, despite our wonderings, despite our distractions,
despite wrong turns time and time again,
we are known and loved by God.
Like a lighthouse keeper by the sea,
God will never stop waving us home.
So, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**All: Our fragile bones are held by the Great Creator.
Our fragile hearts are loved by the Great Creator.
Our tender spirits are forgiven by the Great Creator.**

L: Today is a new day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Holy God,

**All: Scripture tells us that your word is written on our hearts, but we
struggle to hear it. Take us back to the beginning. Clear our cobwebs
of doubt. Show us how to look inside ourselves for your truth, And
then write on our hearts once more. We listen, we hope, and we are
here. Speak. Amen.**

READING: JEREMIAH 31:34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It 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. ³³But 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. ³⁴No 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.

THE HOLY GOSPEL According to John 12:20-33

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very 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. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“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. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P. The Gospel of the Lord. C. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE: Intern Pastor Lucas Shurson

MUSIC: *Spirit Song* *Carmen & Brad Nesseth*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *All*

- We believe that flowers need the rain.**
- We believe that humans need community.**
- We believe that bodies need rest.**
- We believe that hearts need connection.**
- We believe that mornings need sunrise.**
- We believe that seasons need change.**
- We believe that grief needs space.**
- We believe that change needs time.**
- We believe that love needs security.**
- We believe that pain needs art.**
- We believe that joy needs company.**

**We believe that our spirits need God.
Again and again, our spirits need God.
Fortunately for us, we trust that God is here.
God is at work in our lives.
God is a lighthouse keeper that never gives up.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE – OFFERING OF GIFTS

PRAYERS & LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL

L: As you leave this space,
May your mouth speak of God's goodness
May your arms hold those in need
May your feet walk toward justice
May your heart trust its worth
May your soul dance in God's grace
And may this be your rhythm-

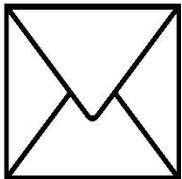
**All: Again and again and again,
until God's promised day.**

RINGING OF BELL

L: In the name of the God, the Beloved, and the Holy Spirit,
Go with courage, go with heart, go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



Stewardship Committee encourages the congregation over the next few weeks to send out 5-10 written (cards or notes) – messages of hope &/or Easter – to others who may need to hear encouragement or may be struggling to find meaning during these times.

PARTICIPANTS

PASTORS: Julie Rogness, Intern Pastor Lucas Shurson

ORGANIST: Tammy Hanson SINGERS: Carmen & Brad Nesseth

TECH CREW: Jim Braaten, Steve Johnson, Bill Lewis, Dan Rogness, Holly Aldorfer, Heidi Haugen

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TEXTS: USED WITH PERMISSION: *Again and Again* – A SANCTIFIED ART by Sarah Are © 2020 | sanctifiedart.org.

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CONNECTIONS

WEBSITE: fickenyon.org FACEBOOK: **First Evangelical Lutheran Kenyon MN**

OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/c/FirstEvangelicalLutheranChurchKenyon>

Pastor E-Mail: firstpastorkenyon@gmail.com Pastor Phone: 952-994-1201

Church E-Mail: firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com Church Office Phone: 789-5261

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sid Strandemo, Faye Marcuson, Ron Grose, Barb Schaller, Lila Cole, Eloyce Berg, Rhana Olson, Cora Lee Monroe, Danny Van Epps, Sherman Benson, LaVonne Underdahl, Les Johnson (father of Steve Johnson), Lorrie Walker, Carol Lozon.

CALENDAR

Sun/Mar 21	9 am	TODAY – WORSHIP In-Person & Live-Streamed
Sun/Mar 21	10 am	5th Gr Class/First Communion
Sun/Mar 21	7 pm	AA
Tue/Mar 23	7 pm	KAI Mtg
Wed/Mar 24	----	Lenten Wk#5: emailed devotion & on-line reflection
Thu/Mar 25	7 pm	AA
HOLY WEEK ♦ ♦ ♦		
Sat/Mar 27	afternoon	~Palms will be available outside the church doors beginning Saturday~
Sun/Mar 28	9 am	PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP - In-Person & Live-Streamed
Thu/Apr 1	6:30 pm	MAUNDY THURS Worship – with Fifth Grade First Communion
Fri/Apr 2	9 am	GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP - Prayers Around the Cross -- First Sanctuary
Fri/Apr 2	6 pm	GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP - Stations of the Cross – First Parking Lot
Sun/Apr 4	9 am	EASTER WORSHIP – In-Person & Live-Streamed
Sun/Apr 4	9:45-10:15	Drive-By Communion & FLCW Breakfast Bag
Sun/Apr 4	10:15	EASTER WORSHIP – In-Person only

Available Now - APR-MAY-JUN *Christ In Our Home*

See Countertop Basket at rear of church OR Tote Container Outside handicapped entrance

Easter Plants



If you would like a plant in church for Easter in Honor/Memory of a loved one, please purchase your own and deliver it to the church. To be listed in the Easter bulletin, please provide the information requested below... leave in the offering plate or bring/send to the church office before deadline... **BULLETIN DEADLINE IS—Friday, March 26!**

In Honor/Memory of _____

Given By _____

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
309 Forest St., Kenyon, MN 55946

Sunday, March 21
Worship Bulletin

