

# Pray For Unity



fifth Saturday in Lent  
Saturday, march 17, 2018 5:30pm  
First Lutheran Church, ELCA

Prelude            **"Think about His Love/Jesus Loves Me" (arr. Tom Fettke)**  
                         **Setting of "Angel's Story" (Arthur H. Mann)**

Greeting

P: How do you feel?

C: Blessed by the Lord!

Welcome/Announcements

Call To Worship

P: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name.

C: Make known his deeds among the peoples.

P: We seek the Lord and his strength.

C: We seek his presence continually.

P: We remember his teachings, his mercy, and his promises.

C: We desire to grow closer to him.

P: Let us worship with glad hearts!

C: Let us sing our praises and glorify his holy name!

Hymn

**"O Savior, Precious Savior"**

**#820**

Confession/Forgiveness

P: As sinful people we first confess our sins before we can come into God's presence and worship him aright.

C: Lord God, I have been unfaithful and disobedient in my thoughts, words, and deeds. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your abundant mercy blot out my sin. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me of my sin. Create in me a clean heart and put a new spirit within me.

P: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. As the heavens are high above the earth so great is his love for us. As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our sins from us! Accept the Lord's forgiveness and be renewed in his grace! Amen.

Prayer of the Day

C: Eternal Father, in Jesus we see your love and your generous care for all humankind. We are grateful that through our faith in Jesus we are united as the body of Christ. We give thanks for our baptism that has brought us into the family of God. Father, through your Word and Holy Communion, draw us closer together that we may be one, united in spirit and love. Together we worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.

Psalm 145:8-21 (read responsively by whole verse.)

Gospel

John 17:20-26

Sermon

**"Our Oneness In Christ"**

Hymn

**"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"** on screen

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God, who has created all things and continues to create new life within us.

I believe in Jesus, Son of God, Son of Man, and the Savior of the world. By his life, death, and resurrection I can know the true depth of human possibility, and experience the true joy of an abundant life.

I believe the Holy Spirit is present, calling us to faith, giving us gifts and empowering us for service. I believe the community of believers, called the Church, can experience the fullness of life through the Word, the sacraments, and all that we do as disciples of Jesus.

Prayers of The People

P: God in your mercy.

C: Hold us in your love.

Offering

**"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"** (arr. Richard Huggins)

Offering Prayer

C: Heavenly Father, we know that you own and love your whole creation. You bless us day after day and give us more than we need. We are grateful for your goodness and so we dedicate ourselves and all we have to you. Inspire us to be generous givers. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Institution

**Lord's Prayer**

Sharing the Meal

**"Jesus Loves Me!"**

**#595**

**"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"**

**#565**

## Communion Prayer

C: We come again to you, O God, giving thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us now. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Blessing

P: The Lord bless you with his presence and power!

The Spirit inspire and guide you in the ways of Jesus!

The Father bless you with his amazing love!

C: Amen, Amen, Amen (sing)

## Sending

L: We have worshipped and praised our God!

C: Now we go out to serve his people!

## Hymn

**"All Are Welcome"**

**#641**

## Postlude

**"They'll Know We are Christians" (arr. Edward Broughton)**

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## Those who Shared Their Time & Talents on Saturday

Reader:

Communion: Bruce & Liz Carlstrom, Jenny Schlagenhaft

Usher: Kenny & Judy McEwen

Greeter: Dick & Marvel Klein

Coffee:

Altar: Arlis Meincke, Karen Heise

Sound/Screen: Julie Deschneau

Video: Mark Bailey