



**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
**April 6, 2025**  
**9:30 am**



**DIAMOND  
LAKE  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

# Welcome to Diamond Lake Lutheran Church!

**We are so glad you are here!** If you'd like more information about this community of faith, please fill out a Welcome card (found in the pew pockets near the hymnals) and place it in the offering plate or hand it to Pastor Andrea or an usher following worship. Take the Grow card with you if you wish! We invite you to enjoy coffee and Bogart's Doughnuts in the Commons before and after worship. Please leave your nametag on during the fellowship time.

## **Children in Worship**

Children are encouraged to be present for worship—build-your-own activity bags are located in the narthex, along with children's bulletins. Children are invited to use the Pray-Ground at the front of the sanctuary. A nursery is located on the lower level if you need it. Please ask an usher for directions. If you are a nursing parent, you are welcome to nurse anywhere. If you would like privacy, there is a nursing room in the nursery downstairs.

## **Special Assistance**

Hearing devices and large print bulletins are available. Please see the ushers for assistance.

## **Altar Flowers**

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the glory of God by Darren, Christine, Iris, and Eli McKigney in memory of Darren's sister Denise McKigney.

## **Participating in Today's Service**

Pastor: Rev. Andrea Roske-Metcalf  
Assisting Minister: Libby Krocak  
Pianist/Organist: Dr. Kevin Hobbs  
Choir Director: Dr. Bruce Gleason  
Acolyte: Lyle Dean  
Greeters: Julie Schmidt, Mary Delebo  
Reader: Dave Campbell  
Communion Servers: Dan Krocak, Nora Krocak, Darren McKigney

Ushers:  
A/V Tech: John Nelson, Frank Anderson  
Nursery: Mary Teurman  
Pray-Ground Cleanup:  
Coffee Hosts: David and Karen Minge  
Pursers: Darren McKigney, Kate Sexe



## **FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

The journey of Lent begins with a clear destination. Jesus sets his face toward Jerusalem and, in doing so, sets his course toward his own suffering and death. He pauses only to remind his followers to set their faces in the right direction—to repent, serve others, and follow him, even to death. As we journey toward Holy Week, we are reminded again and again to turn around and face Jerusalem.

*We invite you to stand in body or in spirit each time the † symbol appears.*

### **PRELUDE**

*12 Canciones y Danzas No. 8, Mompou*

### **WELCOME**

### **TRINITY CHIMES**

### **CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Return to the Lord, Erickson*

### **† CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Our faith tells us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves,  
but we know this is easier said than done.

When we are honest before God and one other,  
we open the door to growth and change.

Join me, then, in the prayer of confession.

Join me now, so that tomorrow,

we will be better at loving our neighbors as ourselves.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Let us pray:

**Holy God, you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves,  
but we get tripped up on logistics.**

**We want to know: who is our neighbor?**

**Do we have to love the stranger?**

**Must we have compassion for our enemy?**

**Forgive our human tendency to create exceptions in the face of love.**

**Rewire our hearts so that we might see  
the face of a neighbor in every stranger we pass.**

**With hope we pray, amen.**

Family of faith,

When we set limits on love,

God loves extravagantly.

When we forget that we are neighbors,

God claims us as God's own.

When we judge, hold back, or harm,

God surrounds us with grace.

There is nothing we can do or leave undone  
that could separate us from the love of God.

This is the good news of the gospel.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### ‡ **GATHERING HYMN**

*Bless Now, O God, the Journey* .....326 ELW, vs. 1–2

### ‡ **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be  
with you all.

**And also with you.**

## ‡ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

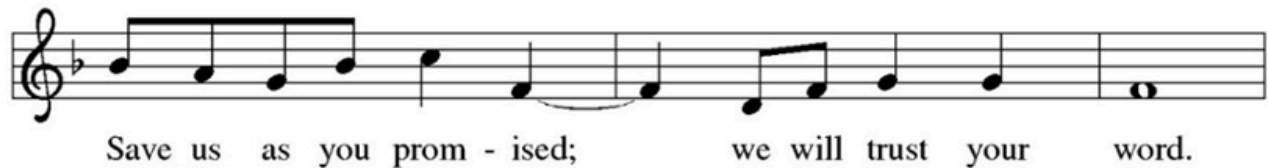
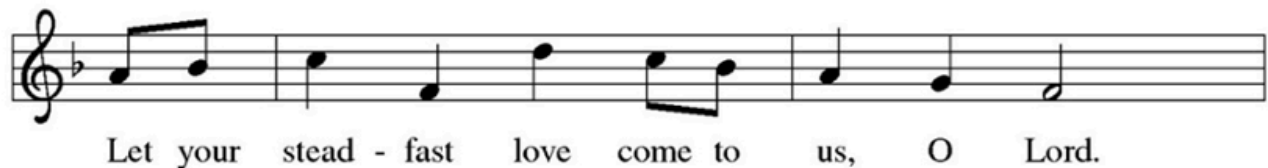
**God of Mercy,**

**Oh, how we love to be right! Love us anyway, when our love of being right blinds us to doing right by our neighbor, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## SERMON ON THE STEPS

## ‡ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## ‡ GOSPEL: LUKE 19: 1-10

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 19th Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him,



“Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

Rev. Andrea Roske-Metcalfe

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Righteous Mercy*

*Sung to the tune of Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

1. Since our childhood you have taught us  
What is wrong and what is right  
Nurturing our sense of justice  
Fueling us to work and fight  
Keep that fire for justice burning  
In the shadow of our fear  
Even there your Spirit's stirring  
Lighting us a path so clear
2. Though there's wideness in your mercy  
Let us not abuse that grace  
Called into this Christian journey  
Let our lives reflect our faith  
When we falter and fall short of  
Our commitment to your will  
Hold us, wrapping us in your love  
As we work toward wholeness still
3. Far too often we hold onto  
Anger dressed as righteousness  
We forget we serve a God who  
Calls us to relationship  
So when those who caused us harm  
Repent and choose a better way  
Spirit move our vengeful hearts  
To choose love instead of wrath

## ‡ **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayers.*

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**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*You may share the peace with those around you.*

## **DIAMOND LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH MATTERS TO ME**

Joe Plummer

### **OFFERING**

*The Lord is My Shepherd (Psalm 23), Howard Goodall  
Choir*

### **General Fund**

We give thanks for all the ways members and friends of Diamond Lake Lutheran Church contribute to the mission and vision of this congregation - gifts of time, gifts of participation and expertise, as well as finances. Financial gifts to the general fund help to make possible both in-house and outreach ministries, as well as sharing of our resources with the wider community.

### **March Mission of the Month: Transmission Ministry Collective**

As the federal government continues to curtail the rights of transgender people, organizations like Transmission Ministry Collective (TMC) are more vital than ever. By fostering an inclusive Christian community, offering pastoral care, and equipping churches to be places of welcome, TMC ensures that transgender people can live out their faith with dignity and without fear. At the core of TMC's mission is the belief that people of all gender identities and expressions are fully loved by God and should be supported at every level by their Christian siblings. Recognizing that trans and gender-expansive individuals are co-creators and stewards of their own bodies, TMC advocates for their right to self-identify, access transition-related care, and pursue the paths that bring them into alignment with themselves.

## Give to the Mission of the Month

A donation to Transmission Ministry Collective helps ensure that transgender Christians have access to a faith community that affirms, uplifts, and walks alongside them. To make a gift to Transmission Ministry Collective, you may write a check payable to Diamond Lake Lutheran Church with “Mission of the Month” in the memo line and drop in an offering plate. Alternately, you may visit “Give Back” page at [www.dllc.org](http://www.dllc.org) or scan the QR Code and choose “Mission of the Month” from the drop-down menu.

To contribute to either the general fund and/or the Mission of the Month, please visit <https://dllc.breezechms.com/give/online> or scan the QR code.



## ‡ OFFERTORY

Musical notation for the Offertory, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff.

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.

## ‡ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. 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.

**Amen.**

## ‡ WORDS OF INSTITUTION



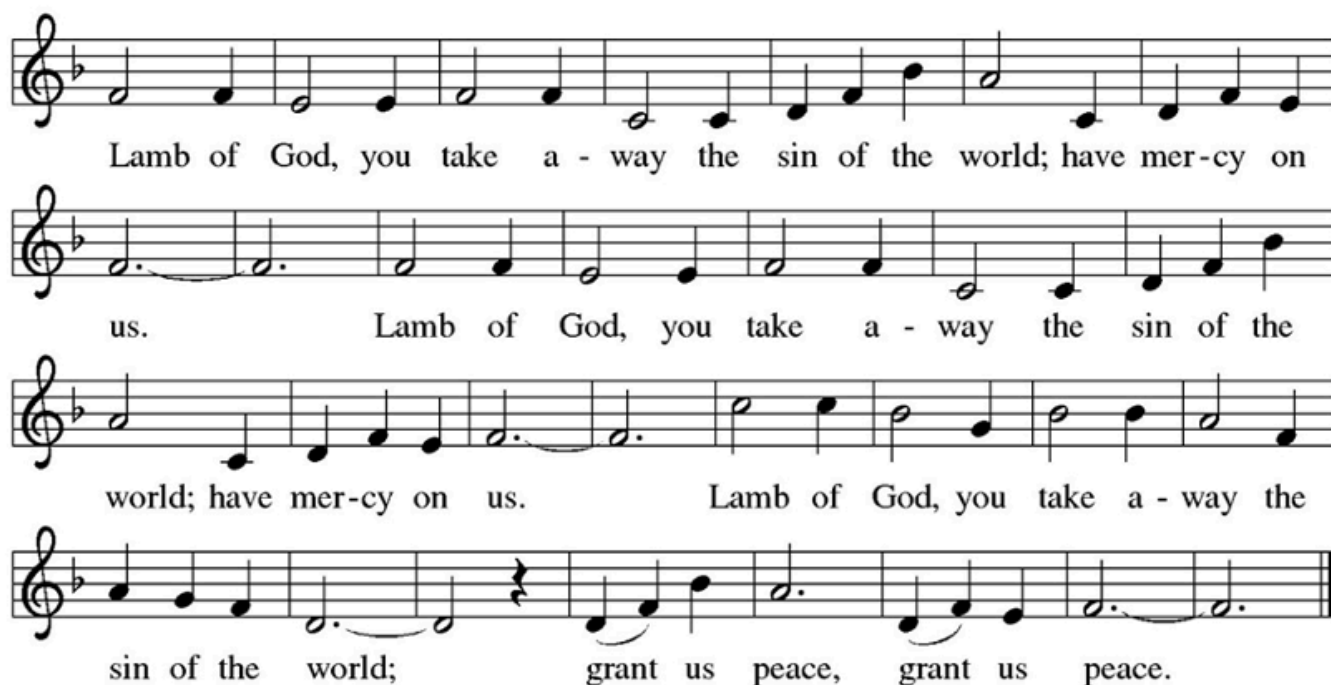
## ‡ LORD'S PRAYER

**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

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

## LAMB OF GOD



## DISTRIBUTION

*As Christ offered himself without restriction to those gathered at the last supper, so too he invites all gathered here to partake in this meal. If you wish to receive the sacrament, come forward with your hands outstretched to receive the bread, and dip it either in the red wine or the white grape juice (both offered in each chalice).*

*If you wish to receive a blessing, come forward with your hands over your heart.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available upon request, and a chalice of grape juice is provided for gluten-free intinction. If it is difficult for you to come forward, please inform an usher, and the pastor will bring the sacrament to you in your seat.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*.....588 ELW

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. 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.

**Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ‡ BLESSING

As you leave this place,  
may you find God in every messy middle.  
May you know that the world is bigger than two sides.  
May you trust that you are made in the image of God,  
and therefore, you contain multitudes.  
So may you move through this world with an open heart,  
with a curious mind, and with the confidence that you do not go alone.  
God is with you in the mountains,  
in the valleys,  
and everywhere in between.

**Amen.**

### ‡ SENDING SONG

*Restore in Us, O God*.....328 ELW, vs. 1–4

### ‡ DISMISSAL

Go now in peace, into the [in]between.

**Thanks be to God!**

**CHORAL AMEN** (*Please remain in place until the choir is finished.*)

## POSTLUDE

*12 Danzas Españolas, No. 11, Granados*

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We acknowledge that we gather as Diamond Lake Lutheran Church on the traditional land of the Wahpekute band of the Santee division of the Dakota people past and present.

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*Our mission: Stirred by the Spirit of Christ to learn, follow, and serve.*  
5760 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55417 + 612-866-2579 + [www.dllc.org](http://www.dllc.org)

### **Diamond Lake Lutheran Program Staff**

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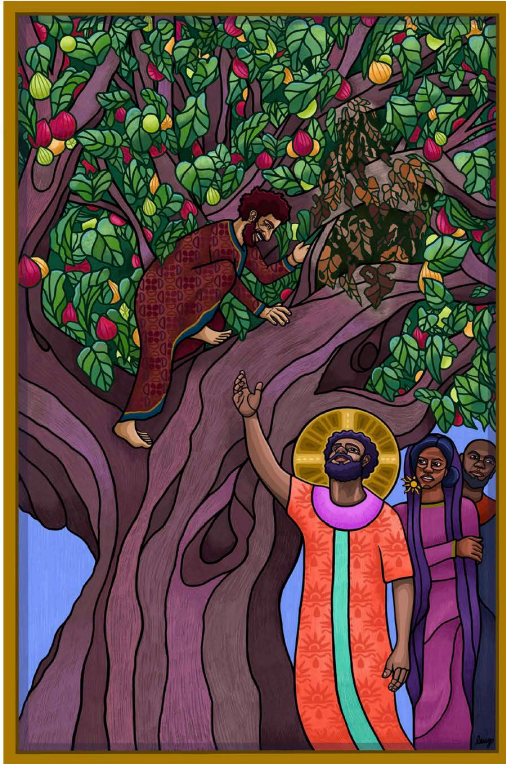
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## Artist's Statement:



### Zacchaeus

by Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Luke 19:1-10

Digital painting

I had a lot of fun discovering new layers to this familiar story. I learned that Zacchaeus climbed a sycamore fig tree, which was a food source for poor people because the fruit was bitter and generally undesirable.<sup>9</sup> I had always imagined a fruitless tree, but the presence of fruit opened up interesting avenues to explore. The root word for sycamore tree is σῦκον, meaning "fig," and as I did a study of other key words in the text, I noticed this same root word in συκοφαντεω, or "defrauded," which was used to describe what Zacchaeus did to his community. It was curious to me that the root word for "defrauded" was "fig," so I dug deeper to find that the Greek word was from the phrase "fig-informer" or a person who would notify authorities if one was exporting figs from Greece without paying a tax. It seemed that these "fig-informers" would use the threat of exposure to extort money from fig farmers. This is where the word "sycophant"

comes from, which evolved to more generally describe a "malignant accuser from love of gain," which perfectly describes Zacchaeus.<sup>10</sup>

Jesus calls Zacchaeus out of his identity as "sycophant" into his new identity as "repentant host" who invites Jesus into his home and redistributes his ill-gotten wealth. Zacchaeus's clothing holds a repeated pattern of four figs and halves of coins, referencing the fruits of his transformation.

The area where Zacchaeus sat in the tree is fruitless and dying. His actions were destructive and oppressive to his own community. The crowd is correct in grumbling about him; their anger is righteous, but Jesus offers mercy. In this visual metaphor, Jesus removes him from the tree so it has a chance to heal and nourish the whole community. Jesus' clothing is patterned with suns, representing righteousness, and water, representing mercy, because it is through his merciful actions that righteousness for the community is achieved.

—Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

<sup>9</sup> *Fauna and Flora of the Bible*, by United Bible Societies. (United Bible Societies, 1980). 179-181.

<sup>10</sup> For discussion of the word "sycophant" (Strong's G4811), please see: [blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g4811/kjv/tr/0-1/](https://blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g4811/kjv/tr/0-1/)