

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

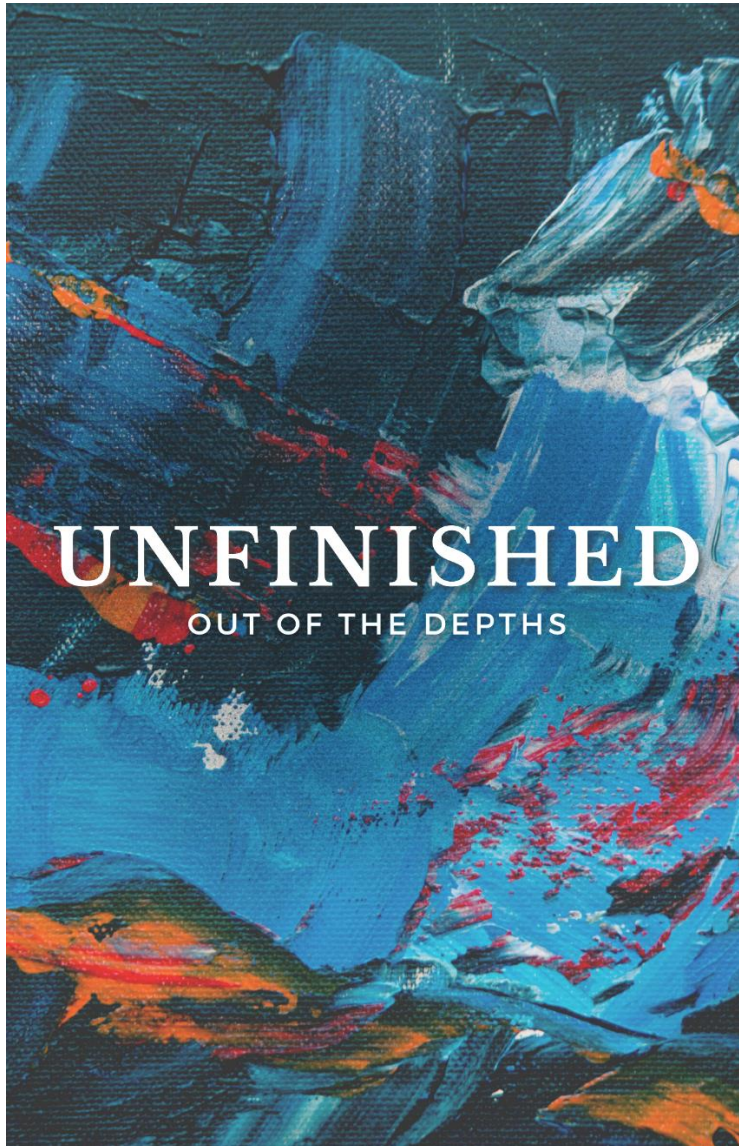
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Lenten Evening Service

VESPERS

6:30 PM



GATHERING

Lights will remain dim during worship, feel free to sit in the back few pews if more light would be helpful.

Please stand as the Sanctus bells are rung.

GREETING

P The peace of Christ be with you.

C And also with you.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P We gather because the Triune God has brought us here. We meet because Jesus invites us to be with him in prayer. As we worship, the Holy Spirit gives us life.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

P Merciful God,

C We wander. We run away.

**We think we can do things our own way
but we end up in messes of our own making
and problems we can't solve.**

**Find us when we are stuck, in a pit of despair
or on a boat to nowhere.**

Reveal our faults and forgive our sin.

**Send us back out with words and actions
to help the world that you love so much.**

P None of us can flee from the love of God, not in the heights of heaven or the pit of grief in loss. God will always find us with love that beckons us home.

So hear the words that each of us need: You are loved beyond all knowing.

You are forgiven in the name of Jesus. ✝

You are free. You are unfinished. You are beloved.

C Amen.

(sit)

GATHERING HYMN

"Out of the Depths I Cry to You"



Out of the depths I cry to you; O
All things you send are full of grace; you
In you a lone, O God, we hope, and
My soul is wait - ing for you, Lord, as

5



Lord God, hear me call - ing. In - cline your ear to my dis - tress in
crown our lives with fa - vor. All our good works are done in vain with-
not in our own mer - it. We rest our fears in your good Word and
one who longs for morn - ing; no watch - er waits with great - er hope than

9



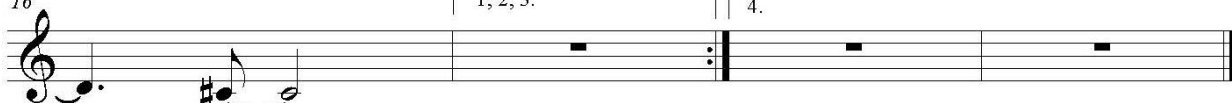
spite of my re - bell - ing. Do not re - gard my sin - ful deeds.
out our Lord and Sav - ior. We praise you for the gift of faith;
trust your Ho - ly Spir - it. Your pro - mise keeps us strong and sure;
I for your re - turn - ing. I hope as Is - rael in the Lord,

13



Send me the grace my spi - rit needs; with - out it I am noth -
you save us from the grip of death; our lives are in your keep -
we trust the cross, your sig - na - ture, in - scribed up - on our tem -
who sends re - demp - tion through the Word. Praise God for grace and mer -

16



- ing.
- ing.
- ples.
- cy!

Text: Martin Lutheran, tr. composite

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Music: © 2023 Timothy Graf

WORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** God of creation and compassion,
C you promise to be a God who hears us, no matter how far we stray. Help us to know deep in our bones that wherever we run you are already there.

READING

Jonah 2

Now Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, ²saying, "I called to the Lord out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.

³You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me.

⁴Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; how shall I look again upon your holy temple?'

⁵The waters closed in over me; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped around my head

⁶at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the Pit, O Lord my God.

⁷As my life was ebbing away, I remembered the Lord; and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.

⁸Those who worship vain idols forsake their true loyalty.

⁹But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Deliverance belongs to the Lord!"

¹⁰Then the Lord spoke to the fish, and it spewed Jonah out upon the dry land.

L We rest our fears in your good Word.

C And trust your Holy Spirit.

PSALM 130

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

²LORD, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my supplications!

³If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, LORD, who could stand?

⁴But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

⁵I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

⁶my soul waits for the LORD

more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.

⁷O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.

⁸It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.

SERMON

INVITATION TO THE CROSS

- ☐ Come, to the cross, to the heart of God. Bring your own heart as it is –
Hardened or not, Broken or not, Fearful or not, Faithful or not, All of us, unfinished.
God welcomes us and breathes into our hearts the Spirit of Christ’s redeeming love.

PRAYER AT THE CROSS

All are welcome to come forward and light a candle. You may kneel for prayer at the railing or pray at your seat. You may also sit near the foot of the cross. This will be a signal that you would welcome others to stand near you and perhaps lay a hand on your shoulder as a sign that you are not praying alone.

HYMNS DURING PRAYER

“Peace, Be Still”

SP 34

Peace, be still. Peace, be still. The

storm rag - es. Peace, be still.

Text and music: Stephen Iverson

“Holy Woman, Graceful Giver”

ACS 1001



1 Ho - ly wom - an, grace - ful giv - er, proph - et,
 2 Like the ves - sel, we are bro - ken; like the
 3 In these jars is hid - den trea - sure, cost - ly
 4 Ho - ly wom - an, cost - ly trea - sure, with the



ser - vant, and be - liev - er, wom - an with the oint - ment
 oint - ment, we are to - ken of God's lov - ing un - to
 fra - grance, Christ - ly plea - sure, like the Christ, first from the
 jar of al - a - bas - ter, shows the hid - den gift we



jar, rose up near the time ap - point - ed, broke the
 death; like the wom - an, we are serv - ing; like the
 dead, bro - ken for cre - a - tion's whole - ness, poured out
 are; there - fore let us as Christ's ser - vants hold our



seal, Christ's head a - noint - ed for the com - ing fa - tal
 scold - ers, ill - de - serv - ing such a rich, for - giv - ing
 for its com - ing full - ness, Proph - et, Ser - vant, Hope, and
 sis - ter in re - mem - brance, wom - an with the oint - ment



hour, for the com - ing fa - tal hour.
 faith, such a rich, for - giv - ing faith.
 Head, Proph - et, Ser - vant, Hope, and Head.
 jar, wom - an with the oint - ment jar.

PRAYER

- ☐ Let us pray. Compassionate God,
 ☑ **In Christ's gentle and suffering love you have shown us the way of abundant life. Keep us joined to Christ's life-giving passion, that our hearts may know the joy and freedom for which you have created us, now and forever. Amen.**

A prayer from "A Heart of Flesh" liturgy in Holden Prayer Around the Cross

SENDING

BLESSING

- P** The blessed, holy Trinity keep us in grace and grant us peace.
C Amen.

DISMISSAL

- P** You may leave quietly or stay a while to pray.
You may also meet with a pastor for individual prayer, confession, or healing.
When you go, go in peace. God is near.
C Thanks be to God.

Depart in Silence