

Sunday, March 23, 2025
St. Timothy Lutheran Church
Third Sunday in Lent



Vision Statement:

Living in God's amazing grace,
St. Timothy Lutheran Church
nurtures relationships, celebrates
diversity and opens doors so that we
may be a glimpse of God's kingdom.

Caring, Sharing, Daring
St. Timothy Mission Statement:
We intentionally reach out,
seeking and serving, sharing the joy of Jesus Christ

14500 SE Powell Boulevard, Portland, Oregon 97236-2520 503.761.8202
sainttimothypdx@gmail.com www.sainttimothypdx.org

Welcome to St. Timothy! We are honored to have you in worship with us this morning. Please respect the social distancing wishes of those around you. Holy Communion is at the altar or individual tiny cups of grape juice and wafer are at the church entrance. A short explanation of how the sets are used is on pages 8 & 9 under the Distribution.

GATHERING

Call to Worship

You Make Beautiful Things

Michael & Lisa Gungor

All this pain; I wonder if I'll ever find my way. I wonder if my life could really change at all. All this earth; Could all that is lost ever be found? Could a garden come up from this ground at all?

You make beautiful things. You make beautiful things out of the dust.

You make beautiful things. You make beautiful things out of us.

All around, Hope is springing up from this old ground. Out of chaos life is being found in You.

You make beautiful things. You make beautiful things out of the dust.

You make beautiful things. You make beautiful things out of us.

Announcements

Opening Prayer

Thanksgiving Confession and Forgiveness

(Please rise as you are able)

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

Gathering Song *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling (red book) ELW 608*

Pastoral Greeting: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day (together)

C: Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. *(Please be seated)*

Children's Message

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly

pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 63: 1-8

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your steadfast love is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands
in your name.

My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper, and under the shadow
of your wings I will rejoice.

My whole being clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.

Second Reading: Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it **is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play."** We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did,

and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it. The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please rise as you are able)

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. Jesus asked **them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”**

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’” The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

SERMON

(Please rise as you are able)

Hymn of the Day

As Rain from the Clouds

ELW 508

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead.
On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Please be seated)

Prayers of Intercession

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

(A brief silence)

A: We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters and human conflict. Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for this assembly, called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless food pantries, community gardens and kitchens, clean water projects, and all ministries that address human hunger and thirst. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended. May their witness inspire our own. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: 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. We pray especially for Kristina, Mary, June, Kate, Ruth, Anthony L., Heiki, Kevin Johnson, and Linda Wabs. We pray for Leslie for her recovery in the care center from her surgery, and Ernie as he adjusts to assisted living. We pray for comfort for the family and friends of Ruth Farm in her death. May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

(Here other intercessions may be offered, quietly or to the congregation)

A: We pray for all those experiencing houselessness and poverty that they might find the support and help they need to be safe and free from hunger. God in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer

A: We pray for all who have been laid off from the Federal government. Help them find the support the need financially and psychologically. We pray for immigrants and their families who are experiencing fear for their future. We pray for those in war torn countries, especially the West Bank, Gaza, Sudan, Ukraine, and Syria. God in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended. May their witness inspire our own. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer

A: 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.

C: Amen.

(Please rise as you are able for sharing of the Peace & The Great Thanksgiving)

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: **Let us greet one another with a sign of God's peace.**

Offertory Hymn *Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow ELW 885*

Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heav'nly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Offering Prayer: (together)

C: 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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...join the unending hymn:

Hymn: ***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,*** *ELW page 144b*
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

(Please be seated)

Words of Institution

DISTRIBUTION

We welcome you to the Lord's Table to share the Sacrament of Holy Communion with us. If taking communion from the pews, pick up one of the communion plastic cups at the church entrance. When invited by Pastor, take the top off the wafer side and eat. When

invited, remove the covering over the drink and drink. Place the empty cup in the container at the end of your pew. If taking communion at the rail, ushers will guide you down the side aisle. Please pick up a small chalice as you approach the rail. When space allows, kneel as you are able at the rail. Take and eat the bread, and drink the wine or grape juice. Afterwards, set the chalice on the table in the middle aisle and continue down the aisle to your pew.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Distribution Hymns:	<i>Lamb of God</i>	<i>ELW page 146b</i>
	<i>Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me</i>	<i>ELW 623</i>
	<i>Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters</i>	<i>ELW 445</i>
	<i>By Your Hand You Feed Your People</i>	<i>ELW 469</i>

(Please rise as you are able)

Prayer of Thanksgiving: (together)

C: 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.

SENDING

Blessing:

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

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn:	<i>Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer</i>	<i>ELW 618</i>
---------------	---	----------------

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land

ELW 333

Daily Readings for March 24-March 29

Monday, Jeremiah 11:1-17

Tuesday, Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday, Luke 13:18-21

Thursday, Joshua 5:9-12

Friday, Psalm 32

Saturday, 2 Corinthians 10:1-13

Next Sunday March 30th, Joshua 5:9-12, Psalm 32,
2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

We give God thanks or lift before God:

- + For our nation and the world that all might put love, generosity, and patience first
- + For homeless people as they struggle to stay warm and to find shelter
- + For St. Timothy and all churches, that the Holy Spirit would continue to inspire, encourage, and guide us in God's mission to love the world
- + Give strength to those with challenges at work, home, and in their personal lives
- + For the effort of Cultivate Initiatives for people in need in S.E. Multnomah County
- + For Kristina Heitmann in her ongoing health concerns
- + For comfort for Janet Shannon's family in her death**
- + For Leslie as she recovers in care center.
- + For Tanner according to her needs.
- + Ernie Rippe for continuous recovery
- + Linda Wabs for cancer treatment.
- + Anthony L. and family for strength and healing as he goes through cancer treatments.

This Week at St. Timothy's

Today, Third Sunday in Lent, March 23, 2025

9:20 am—Choir practice

10 am—Worship Service (Zoom available)

Coffee Hour after service and Easter Jubilee prep

Monday 10 am—1 pm Office & Pantry hours

Tuesday 11 am—1 pm Office & Pantry hours

Wednesday 10 am—**11:30 am Pastor Hamada's office hours**

10 am—1 pm Office & Pantry hours

11:30 am—1:30 pm Lenten Service and potluck at Rockwood Center

Thursday 10 am—1 pm Office & Pantry hours

7:00 pm—8:30 pm Choir practice

Friday 11:00am—4th Friday potluck/fill Easter eggs

Saturday 9:00 am—Property work party

Next Sunday Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 30, 2025

9:20 am—Choir Practice

10 am—Worship Service (Zoom available)

Coffee Hour after service

March Worship Services

If you're unable to make your scheduled Sunday, please contact another person to take your place.

	March 2	March 9	March 16	March 23	March 30
Preacher	Pastor Yukio Hamada	Pastor Yukio Hamada	Pastor Yukio Hamada	Pastor Yukio Hamada	Pastor Yukio Hamada
Assistant	Shannon H.	Ray W.	Sherry W.	Shannon H.	Ray W.
Lector	Tim H.	Shannon H.	Twila R.	Lisa S.	Karen Ropar
Usher	Gladys & Greta	Skip & Marcia	Steve & LeAnn	Allen & Ernie	Gladys & Greta
Communion	Elaine & Karen O.	Candace & Gladys	Elaine & Karen O.	Candace & Gladys	Elaine & Karen O.
Tiny Tims Aide	Daniel R.	Amanda Martinez	Bridgett DeClercq	Monica Gordon	Michelle Grammer
Video & sound	Ray W.	Ray W.	Ray W.	Ray W.	Ray W.
Counters	Tim H. & Candace	Elaine & Ernie	Ray & Tim H.	Elaine & Ernie	Ray & Candace
Music	Gary S.	Gary S.	Gary S.	Gary S.	Gary S.
Care Coord.	Karen O.	Karen O.	Karen O.	Karen O.	Karen O.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God is doing great things here at St. Timothy. Our ministry is grounded in the 3P's:

PASTOR + PEOPLE = PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL

HOLY COMMUNION We have communion at the altar railing or at your seat in the pew. See page 8 and 9, under Distribution.

WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE any Sunday at 10 am, online at:

[Zoom.us meeting 846 9586 7893 code: 307128](#)

FOOD PANTRY VISITS: We served 60 people this third week of March. We have had a marked increase in food pantry visitors for March. Shopping brigade—we are in need of soup, fruit, cereal (except oatmeal), snacks (granola, fruit snacks, chips, etc), rice, dry beans/lentils, peanut butter, rice, toilet paper, etc. This need will continue through April 12th when the next pickup at PFP will occur.

LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES will be at the Rockwood Center, 17805 SE Stark, from 11:30-1:30 with potluck Mar 12, 19, 26th, April 2nd, 9th.

OUR LENTEN DISCIPLINE this year is “Giving What We Have.” Each person is invited to take a garbage bag home to fill with a piece of clothing in good condition that you no longer wear, want, or need for the 40 days of **Lent. If the clothes are for adults only please label bag as “adult only.” If the bag is mixed adult and children please label as “mixed clothing”.** These bags will be donated to Cultivate Initiatives or SnowCap.

MARCH FIFTH SUNDAY GIVING: God’s Global Barnyard 5th Sunday continues. Fill up the pink piggy boxes with coins to support world hunger. Bring the full piggies in to empty into a bigger piggy jar, then take the pink piggy boxes back home to fill again. Questions: see Karen O.

Easter Jubilee and Easter Preparation: Please join Daniel during coffee hour today to assemble invitation kits and/or stuff eggs for Easter Jubilee. A sign up sheet for distribution volunteers and day of volunteers will be made available.

THE EASTER FLOWER CROSS will be assembled on the April 19th at 10 am.

POTLUCK/BINGO on the March 28th will be assemble/egg stuffing.