

Welcome to St. Luke

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15th, 2026

The Cost of the Journey - Mark 10:32-45

As Jesus moves toward Jerusalem, He teaches His disciples that greatness in His kingdom looks like service, sacrifice, and surrender. Mark shows us that following Jesus means letting Him reshape our ambitions and expectations. This Sunday challenges us to embrace the costly, beautiful way of Christ.

INVOCATION

♪♪ You Are God Alone

OPENING PRAYER

♪♪ "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" #685

THE CALL TO CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Beloved in Christ, as we walk the road to the cross, Mark's Gospel confronts us with Jesus' urgent call: "Follow me." Yet we confess that our steps falter, our courage fades, and our trust wavers. Let us come before God in humility and hope.

All: Merciful God,, on this road where Jesus goes ahead of us, we confess that we have not followed faithfully. We have resisted the cost of discipleship, clung to our own understanding, and turned away from the suffering of our neighbours. Like the disciples in Mark's Gospel, we have misunderstood your mission and doubted your power to save. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us. Set our feet again on the path of Christ, that we may walk with him in trust, courage, and love. Amen.

Pastor: People of God, hear the good news. Throughout Mark's Gospel, Jesus meets faltering disciples with steadfast mercy. He goes ahead of us—not to condemn, but to redeem. By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by his authority alone, and by his authority alone, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins. In Christ, the road before

you is made new. Walk in freedom. Walk in grace.
Walk in the light of the One who leads you to life.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READERS this morning are *Larry and Patti Balback*

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 42:14–21 (*The Lord turns darkness into light.*)

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. ¹⁶And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. ¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, “You are our gods.” ¹⁸Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! ¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? ²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. ²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness’ sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

EPISTLE READING Ephesians 5:8-14 (*Walking in the light.*)

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

RESPONSE – “Thanks be to God”

RETURN TO THE LORD - Page 173 in the Hymnal (*Please rise if you are able*)

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 10:32–45 (*Jesus Predicts His Death a Third Time.*)

³² They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Again he took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to him. ³³ “We are going up to Jerusalem,” he said, “and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, ³⁴ who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise.” ³⁵ Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.” ³⁶ “What do you want me to do for you?” he asked.

³⁷ They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.” ³⁸ “You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?” ³⁹ “We can,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.” ⁴¹ When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. ⁴² Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

RESPONSE – “Praise to you Oh Christ”

NICENE CREED (*Back page in the Hymnal*)

♪ ♪ “Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone “

THE MESSAGE: The Year of the Lord’s Favour (Isaiah 61:1–11)

Pastor James Paulgaard

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

♪ ♪ At The Cross (Love Ran Red)

RECORD OF FELLOWSHIP *(Please complete the Record of fellowship during the Offering. Located at the ends of the pews)*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

All: Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever, Amen.

† We Celebrate the Lord’s Supper †

Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

The Agnus Dei - “Lamb of God” *(page 163 in the hymnal)*

DISTRIBUTION 🎵 🎵 “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” #449
“Above All”

THE BLESSING

🎵 🎵 Forever



SCRIPTURE READINGS for March 22nd:
Ezekiel 37:1-14, Romaans 8:1-11, Mark 15:21-39

Announcements

WELCOME VISITORS - We are delighted that you have joined us this morning. We pray for the Holy Spirit to richly bless your worship with us, and we invite you to join us again. If you are looking for a church home or have any questions, please speak with the Pastor or an Usher. Being a friendly congregation is a priority here at St. Luke. You can help us by leaving your name and address on the Friendship Register when it is passed down your pew. After the blessing at the end of the Service, greet your fellow worshippers and introduce yourself!

ST. LUKE SERVICES ONLINE - You can watch us online, every Sunday morning, 11:30 a.m. Go to sllc.ca for the link.

DONATE ONLINE - sllcoffering@gmail.com or ask Deb Kroeger for a monthly automatic donation form.

A **2026 ALTAR FLOWERS CHART** is posted on the Bulletin Board. Please sign up for your favorite date(s) to provide flowers for the Altar.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR - Hear these inspirational messages at AM 550 at 11:30 a.m. If you are unable to listen to the radio at that time you can hear The Lutheran Hour anytime on-line at www.lutheranhour.ca

FOOD CUPBOARD: thank you to all who help keep this going. St Luke has provided bags of groceries without question to all who ask. We now have post it notes for anyone to take home and replenish specific needs. Look for a new display in the hallway to see what is needed and take a post it note. If cleaning out your cupboard at home please check for Best before dates. **GIFT CARDS** are also appreciated.

SERMON SUMMARY FOR MARCH 22ND - The King Who Gives His Life. Mark 15:32-45. At the cross, Jesus completes the road He has been walking with unwavering love and purpose. Mark reveals the crucifixion not as defeat but as the moment when Jesus' identity and mission shine most clearly. This Sunday draws us to stand before the cross in awe, gratitude, and renewed hope.

REFUNDABLES - as of March 1st 13,000+ beverage containers have been delivered to a Return-it depot credited to members and friends of St Luke. Current income from container recycling will go to Canadian Lutheran World Relief and their Creation Care Quest-Learning to Love our World that is fighting the effects of climate change. Thank you for helping to keep all these containers out of the landfill all in support of a variety of projects since this project was started in the hundreds of dollars.

OPPORTUNITY BOARD - lots of new posts are ready for your helping hand. As always we are grateful for the ongoing support of volunteers.

THE CONGREGATION OF ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH in Chilliwack is delighted to invite your members to attend the Installation of Rev. Keith Haberstock as our new Pastor on Sunday, April 12 at 4 pm. There will be a dinner to follow, and because of the size limitations of our hall, we do need people to RSVP and let us know they plan to stay for dinner. Pastors are especially invited to participate in the service.

NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS: CHRISTIANITY 101 - If you would like to learn, or have a refresher, on the basics of the Christian faith, Pastor James will be leading a Christianity 101 class. If you want to become a member of St. Luke Lutheran Church, this class is part of the process. The class will be run on Monday evenings, 7-8:30 pm for 7 weeks starting on March 23rd at Walnut Grove Lutheran Church. Topics include: The Creed, The 10 Commandments, The Lord's Prayer, Holy Baptism, Confession, Holy Communion. The textbooks for this class will be provided and they will be Luther's Small Catechism and a Bible (your own or we can supply one). Please contact Pastor James if you are interested in having a class @ St. Luke.

SEDER SUPPER - St. Luke will be hosting a Seder Supper April 2nd, Maundy Thursday, at 6:30 p.m. Please sign up in the Atrium if you plan to attend.

SPRING CHURCH CLEANING - for Easter on Saturday, March 28th @ 10:00 a.m. Please bring your cleaning cloths and dusting cloths.

THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE

THURSDAY 10:30 a.m. English Literacy Class
SUNDAY. 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
SUNDAY 11:30 a.m. Worship Service

ST LUKE COMMUNION - We extend an invitation to our members and guests who:

- confess their sins before God
- earnestly desire, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend their sinful lives.
- are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and are confirmed in this faith.
- believe receiving Christ as true Body and Blood, that the Elements are not merely a symbolic matter.
- believe in salvation by Christ's death and resurrection alone

Unsure - Please speak with the Pastor or an usher. (For those with special needs, grape juice is provided in the center ring on individual tray). See Page 329 in Hymnal for those who wish to question themselves before Communion.

UP-COMING EVENTS AT ST. LUKE!!

MAUNDY THURSDAY SEDER SUPPER - April 2nd,
6:30 p.m.
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - April 3rd @ 11:30 a.m.
EASTER SERVICE - April 5th @ 11:30 a.m.

St. Luke Lutheran Church

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