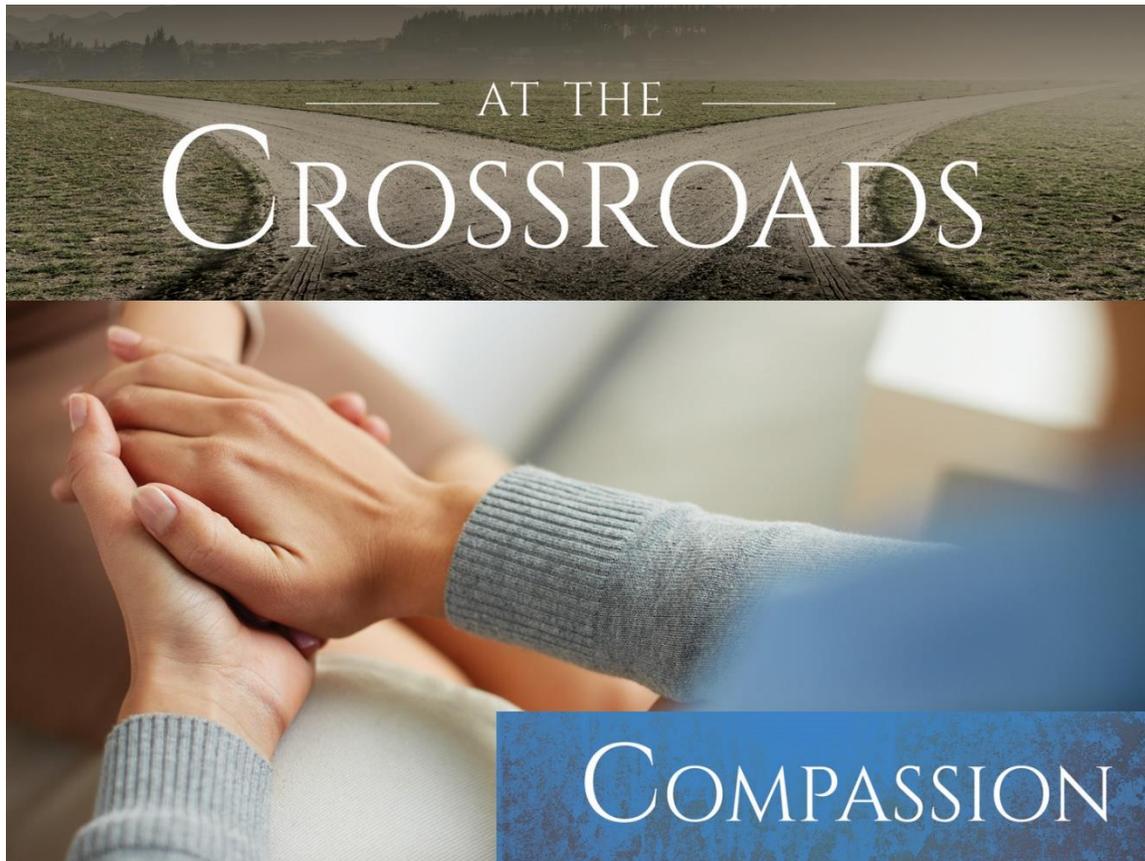


*St. Luke Lutheran Church*  
*Lent - Week Three - Compassion*  
*March 18, 2020*

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## PASTORAL GREETING

### Opening Response

P In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

C **The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.**

P As for me, I am poor and needy,

C **But the Lord takes thought of me.**

P You are my help and my deliverer;

C **Do not delay, O my God!**

P For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.

C **Therefore we give glory to God who raised him up and gave us the promise of salvation. Amen.**

### Confession and Absolution

P Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.”

C **Gracious God, we confess our blindness to those around us who are in need. We fail to see you in those who reach out to us for help, those who sit alone, those who bear unquenchable pain, the vulnerable and the poor. Our feeble efforts to help often fall short and we find the mountains of our own needs blocking our sight of others. Forgive us, Lord. We bless you for the constant compassion you show us in Jesus Christ and seek your gracious help to carry that same compassion in our spirits and to make it alive in our lives. Let us overflow with the doing that proclaims your very presence with us.**

P I have the honor and privilege, by the grace of God, of announcing to you the entire forgiveness of your sins. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and free—free to share the steadfast love of God with all. Amen.

### Gospel Reading ... Luke 22:47-51

<sup>47</sup> While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, <sup>48</sup> but Jesus said to him, “Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?” <sup>49</sup> And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?”

<sup>50</sup> And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. <sup>51</sup> But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.  
People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Worship Song

Come, now is the time to worship  
Come, now is the time to give your heart  
Come, just as you are to worship  
Come, just as you are before your God, Come.

One day ev'ry tongue will confess you are God  
One day ev'ry knee shall bow  
Still the greatest treasure remains  
For those who gladly choose you now.

Come, now is the time to worship  
Come, now is the time to give your heart  
Come, just as you are to worship  
Come, just as you are before your God, Come.

One day ev'ry tongue will confess you are God  
One day ev'ry knee shall bow  
Still the greatest treasure remains  
For those who gladly choose you now.

Come, now is the time to worship  
Come, now is the time to give your heart  
Come, just as you are to worship  
Come, just as you are before your God, Come.  
Come, now is the time to worship  
Come, now is the time to give your heart

## Prayers

**P** Let us bring our prayers and petitions to God who hears and answers the pleas of our hearts. We pray for this world and for our own nation. Lord, by the sacrifice of Christ for all, send your presence and power into our nation and this broken world. Be with those who are suffering in places of violence and persecution. Strengthen those who are being oppressed or who suffer great need because of the evil that surrounds them. Be with our leaders and make us agents of healing in this hurting world. In your mercy,

**C Hear us, Lord.**

**P** We pray for your church in this place and throughout the world. Send faithful pastors, teachers and leaders, so that they might clearly proclaim your Word and shepherd your people. In your mercy,

**C Hear us, Lord.**

**P** Be with us, we pray, by the power of your Spirit. Give us hearts that overflow with the grace and love you have shown to us in Jesus Christ. Make us aware of the hungry, the thirsty, the lonely, the grieving and the suffering. Give us opportunity to show our love to you as we help, heal and comfort those around us. Give us compassionate hearts so that we might give evidence of your love and shine with the power of your presence. In your mercy,

**C Hear us, Lord.**

P And so we pray for the sick, the suffering, the grieving and the lonely, especially those we name in our hearts. We commit them to your loving care. Heal, help and comfort them according to your will. In your mercy,

**C Hear us, Lord.**

P These and all other petitions and requests we bring before you in the name of Jesus. Amen.

### **Lord's Prayer**

**People: 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.**

### **Benediction**