



**CROWN OF LIFE** | LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

**March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent*

11721 Morrison Rd. | New Orleans, LA | 70128

Pastor Daniel Kramer | (504)595-0373 | [crownoflifepastor@gmail.com](mailto:crownoflifepastor@gmail.com)

<http://www.crownoflifefenola.com/> | (504)354-1999

*A Service of Worship and Praise*

**-We Gather as God's People to Worship Him-**

**Opening Hymn: B243** *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

*PLEASE STAND*

**Minister says:** We begin our worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**-We Lift Up Our Hands and Voices to God-**

**We sing: B572** *In Moments Like These*

In moments like these I sing out a song,  
I sing out a love song to Jesus.  
In moments like these I lift up my hands,  
I lift up my hands to the Lord.

Singing, "I love you Lord," singing, "I love you Lord;"  
Singing, "I love you Lord. I love you."

**-We Prepare Our Hearts-**

**M:** We stand here today before our Lord and Maker. He has created us to love Him and serve one another. But we have separated ourselves from Him with our sins. Let us be honest and confess to Him our sins.

**C:** Merciful Father, I confess that I am a sinner. I make no excuses. I have sinned against you by things I have done and the things I have not done. But I know that Jesus died for me. I stand before you in need of, and trusting in, your forgiveness.

**We sing: B451** *I Need Thee Every Hour*

I need Thee ev'ry hour, Most gracious Lord;  
No tender voice like Thine Can peace afford.

I need Thee, O I need Thee; Ev'ry hour I need Thee;  
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.

I need Thee ev'ry hour, Teach me Thy will;  
And Thy rich promises In me fulfill.

I need Thee, O I need Thee; Ev'ry hour I need Thee;  
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.

**M:** It is my duty and privilege as a called servant of God to announce to you that you are forgiven. You have been washed in the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ and stand before Him forgiven of all your sins, His child, and an heir of eternal life. Let's thank Him for His amazing grace.

**We sing: B249** *He Looked Beyond My Fault*

Amazing grace shall always be my song of praise,  
For it was grace that bought my liberty.

I do not know just why Christ came to love me so,  
He looked beyond my fault and saw my need.

I shall forever lift mine eyes to Calvary,  
To view the cross where Jesus died for me;

How marvelous the grace that caught my falling soul,  
He looked beyond my fault and saw my need.

*BE SEATED*

## **-We Listen to God's Word-**

### **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** *Isaiah 43:1-7*

**43** But now, this is what the LORD says—

he who created you, Jacob,

he who formed you, Israel:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

<sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters,

I will be with you;

and when you pass through the rivers,

they will not sweep over you.

When you walk through the fire,

you will not be burned;

the flames will not set you ablaze.

<sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;

I give Egypt for your ransom,

Cush and Seba in your stead.

<sup>4</sup>Since you are precious and honored in my sight,

and because I love you,

I will give people in exchange for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

<sup>5</sup>Do not be afraid, for I am with you;

I will bring your children from the east

and gather you from the west.

<sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'

and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.'

Bring my sons from afar

and my daughters from the ends of the earth—

<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory,

whom I formed and made."

**We Sing: B333** *Order My Steps (v1)*

Order my steps in Your Word dear Lord,  
Lead me, guide me, every day,  
Send Your anointing, Father, I pray.  
Order my steps in Your word.  
Please, order my steps in Your word.

I want to walk worthy, My calling to fulfill.  
Please order my steps, Lord, And I'll do Your blessed will,  
The world is ever changing, but You are still the same.  
If You order my steps, I'll praise Your name.

**EPISTLE LESSON:** *Hebrews 5:7-9*

<sup>7</sup> During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup> Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered <sup>9</sup> and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

**We Sing: B333** *Order My Steps (v3)*

Bridle my tongue, let my words edify;  
Let the words of my mouth be acceptable in Thy sight.  
Take charge of my thoughts, both day and night.  
Order my steps in Your word.  
Please, order my steps in Your word.

I want to walk worthy, My calling to fulfill.  
Please order my steps, Lord, And I'll do Your blessed will,  
The world is ever changing, but You are still the same.  
If You order my steps, I'll praise Your name.

*PLEASE STAND*

**GOSPEL LESSON:** *John 12:20-33*

<sup>20</sup> Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. <sup>21</sup> They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup> Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup> Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

<sup>27</sup> "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour.

<sup>28</sup> Father, glorify your name!"

Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup> The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

<sup>30</sup> Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup> Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup> He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

*BE SEATED*

## **Children's Message**

**Hymn of the Day: B252** *Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross*

**Sermon: *Living the Lent Life, Part 5: No Guts, No Glory***  
*John 12:20-33*

*PLEASE STAND*

**Confession of Faith:** *Apostles Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into Hell. The third day, He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there, He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

AMEN.

*BE SEATED*

**Offering: B406** *Only Believe*

*PLEASE STAND*

**Prayers:** *The Lord's Prayer*

## THE SACRAMENT

**M:** Our Lord has given us a holy Supper in which we receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper, we celebrate the gift of His redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim His death until He returns.

**C:** Now have come the salvation and the power and kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ. To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

**We sing: B126 *Awesome God***

Our God is an awesome God.  
He reigns from heaven above  
with wisdom, power, and love.  
Our God is an awesome God.

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with wisdom, power, and love.  
Our God is an awesome God.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,



which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

### *BE SEATED*

FOR ALL OF US: Paul instructed in I Cor. 11:28: "Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup." Questions like these help us examine ourselves:

- Am I sorry for my sin?
- Do I trust that Jesus has lived and died to save me from my sin?
- Do I believe that Jesus's body and blood are truly present to assure me of forgiveness?
- Do I intend, with God's help, to live a more God pleasing life?

*WELS and ELS members may come and receive Christ's body and blood. Proceed up the center aisle as directed by the ushers.*

FOR OUR GUESTS AND VISITORS: You may find that we regard Holy Communion with much greater seriousness than most churches today. The Bible teaches that communion is, among other things, a public statement of intimate unity and spiritual agreement with a church's teachings. Therefore, if you are unaware or unclear about what we teach and believe, you will want to compare your own beliefs with ours before communing with us. We are eager to establish this fellowship with you and look forward to your inquiry on how to enter into fellowship! Pastor Kramer is happy and ready to speak with you!

**Distribution Hymn: R376** *Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness*

**Thanksgiving Hymn: B111** *My Tribute*

How can I say thanks for the things You have done for me  
Things so undeserved, Yet you give to prove Your love for me?

The voices of a million angels could not express my gratitude.  
All that I am and ever hope to be, I owe it all to Thee.

To God be the glory, To God be the glory, To God be the glory  
For the things He has done!

With His blood He has saved me,  
With His pow'r He has raised me  
To God be the glory For the things He has done!

Just let me live my life, Let it be pleasing, Lord, to Thee;  
And should I gain any praise, Let it go to Calvary.

With His blood He has saved me,  
With His pow'r He has raised me  
To God be the glory For the things He has done!

**C:** O God the Father, source of all goodness, in Your loving kindness you sent Your Son to share our humanity. We thank You that through Him You have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that You will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve You day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN.

**M:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. AMEN.

**Closing Hymn: B242** *Lift High the Cross*

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*Zoom in for Bible Class on Wednesdays at 7 pm:*  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89831357274>

<b><u>Serving at CoL:</u></b>	<b><u>Today</u></b>	<b><u>Next Sunday</u></b>
Music	Karis, Elijah	Katherine, Elijah
Ushers	Bob, Mike	Keith, Lee
Reader		<i>This Could Be You</i>
Altar	Karis	<i>This Could Be You</i>
Refreshments	Kramers	Celeste
Cleaning	Phelps	<i>This Could Be You</i>
Mowing	Bob	Bob

## CALENDAR

Wednesday	7:00 PM Bible Class <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89831357274">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89831357274</a>
Thursday	10:30 AM Bible Class at Summerhouse, Slidell
Saturday	10:00 AM Confirmation Class
Sunday	10 AM Bible Class, Sunday School; 11 AM Worship
Mar 28	Seder Meal
Mar 29	Good Friday
Mar 31	Easter
Apr 14	Church Council

## **Birthdays** **Anniversaries**

3 Olga Walker  
 4 David Sternhagen  
 7 Randy Hall  
 15 Beverly Boczon  
 15 John Tallant

## MISSION NEWS

### **CAMM helps address healthcare challenges in Africa**

The need for affordable and adequate healthcare is a hot topic for all countries. The Central Africa Medical Mission helps alleviate the need in Malawi, Zambia, and most recently, Kenya. Why is this need so great? Is the healthcare need the same in every country?

#### **Kenya**

There is minimal free healthcare in Kenya. If you are sick, the cost for a general consultation is about \$14. If surgery or more treatment is needed, and the patient cannot pay, then they may go without care or try and raise funds from their community and family. Recently, CAMM held a four-day medical clinic just outside of Nairobi, Kenya, to do basic health

screenings including blood pressure, blood sugars, cervical and breast cancer screenings. We saw many chronic conditions that patients had been suffering through due to the expensive healthcare in the country. With CAMM's help, the care we provided was free and the cost to CAMM and our Lutheran partners during our short-term medical was about \$17 per patient. We pray that those afflicted with illness and disease can find some healing with the therapy and medications received.

### **Malawi**

CAMM has been operating the Lutheran Mobile Clinic in Malawi since 1970. Staff travel to four rural villages for a day of clinic each week. The clinics focus on providing Christian counseling and education, HIV testing and treatment, malaria treatment, wellness checks, immunizations for children, prenatal care, and treatment of other minor injuries or illnesses. The cost to each patient is about 60 cents, and the cost to CAMM to provide care is about \$2.92 per patient. A huge challenge for Malawian patients is medications. One of the main reasons patients visit the CAMM clinics is that they have the medications readily available. Most medications, including antibiotics and blood pressure meds, cannot be found at government run pharmacies. What a blessing that God has provided CAMM with the care and medications the Malawian patients need at an affordable cost.

### **Zambia**

The CAMM Lutheran Mission Rural Health Centre, a permanent clinic in Zambia, has been in existence since 1961. It provides preventive health services and outpatient care as in Malawi. In addition to those services, the clinic staff deliver babies, treat patients for HIV and tuberculosis, and do home visits. CAMM is also able to provide the care for the many diabetic patients in the region who cannot receive treatment at the government clinics. The care CAMM offers to each patient arriving at Mwembeshi is free, costing CAMM about \$4.94 per patient.

With God's blessing and healing hand, the clinics in Zambia and Malawi saw over 70,000 patients in 2023 and saw over 1,400 patients in Kenya during the four-day medical camp in February 2024.

Written by Angela Sievert, [Central Africa Medical Mission](#) chair.



*"...give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."  
II Corinthians 9:7*

