#### **5 LENT**

PRELUDE WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG: ACS 918 "Now is the Time of Grace"

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the good companionship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through the life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, now and forever. **Amen!** 

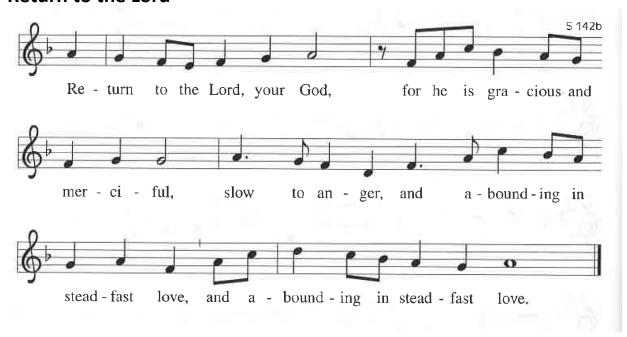
What a difference it makes when God's heart and human hearts are one!

## Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God; Word of Life. R/ Thanks be to God!

# "Return to the Lord"



Jesus could have asked, "why me?" Instead he asked, "Why not me?" John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him."

Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The Gospel of the Lord. R/Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

## **SERMON**

HYMN OF THE DAY: **ELW 379** "Now the Green Blade Rises"

WELCOME OF NEW MEMBER: Julie Johnson (p. 235)

**PRAYERS** 

WE PLEDGE GOD'S PEACE TO EACH OTHER

### CONSECRATION OF BREAD AND WINE

The Lord is with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to It is right to offer our thanks and praise.

the Lord, our God.

PREFACE and WORDS OF INSTITUTION THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Here is bread for the journey - a feast for hungry hearts. All are welcome!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: **ELW 465** "As the Grains of Wheat" **ACS 1043** "Spirit, Open my Heart"

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE:

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **BLESSING**

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 545 "Lord, Dismiss us with your Blessing"

DISMISSAL: Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.