

1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ Ubuntu –We belong in a bundle of life. I am human because I belong, I participate, I share. A person with ubuntu is open and available to others, affirming of others, does not feel threatened that others are able and good, for he or she belongs in a greater whole and is diminished, when others are humiliated or diminished, when others are tortured or oppressed, or treated as if they were less than who they are. A person with ubuntu is generous, hospitable, friendly, caring and compassionate. They share what they have. It is to say, "My humanity is caught up in yours." -Archbishop Desmond Tutu
- * "We are caught in an inescapable web of mutuality" - Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

PRAISE SONG: "I Believe in That Love" (music at end of bulletin)

CONFESSION AND BAPTISMAL RENEWAL:

Leader: In answer to the question "What does baptism mean for daily living?" The Small Catechism responds: "It means that our sinful self, with all its evil deeds and desires, should be drowned through daily repentance; and that day after day a new self shall arise to live with God in righteousness and purity forever." I ask you to confess your sin and turn away from the darkness of evil and its power in the world.

All: We find ourselves separated from our siblings. There are lines drawn between us that are racial, economic, and educational. These lines show themselves through cliques, consumption and a lack of caring for those outside our circles.

Leader: We live cut off from the grace given to us in the waters of baptism and the freeing power of God's forgiveness. We often feel that we cannot change our world or even ourselves.

We live in a world overwhelmed with war and violence. We are not All: vigilant to learn your lessons of peace, eager to set our weapons down, and walk in paths of justice.

Leader: So many things call us, grab for our attention, that we find ourselves stretched to a fragile thin line, grasping for things that do not satisfy.

All: We live in a world capable of abundance yet we do not freely share with those in need.

Leader: Our time is fragmented. Our families are fragmented. Our lives are fragmented. Our lives are broken.

All: Yet in the face of all this, we seek out your forgiveness that we may be reconciled and healed to do your will and live in your ways.

Leader: In Christ, the grace and mercy of God are revealed!

In Christ, our sins are forgiven!

Let us walk with courage as children of the light,

Freed to love our brothers and sisters as Christ does. All: Amen.

CONFESSION RESPONSE: "All My Relatives" (music at end of bulletin)

THE READINGS: Romans 8:34-35; 37-39

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

Psalm 139:13-14

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

Corinthians 12:12-13

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

MESSAGE: "Pastors are Not the Only Ones Called." Pastor David School

MESSAGE RESPONSE: "We are A Rainbow" (music at end of bulletin)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Leader: As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the church, the human family, and all of creation.

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. For the holy catholic church that, filled with your love, it may hunger for truth and thirst after righteousness: God of mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For all members of the church, that they may serve you in true and godly lives: God of mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For Nicholas' call to the ministry of word and sacrament in the church, that, sustained by your Holy Spirit, they may carry out this ministry with joy and a spirit of bold trust, serve your people, build up your church, and glorify your name: God of mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For all ministers of word and sacrament; for all ministers of word and service; for Bishop Wickstrom, Bishop Erickson, and for Nicholas as they prepare for the ministry; that, together with all those responsible for the care and nurture of your people, they may support one another in serving Christ: God of mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For the peace of the church, that our divisions may be overcome, so that, united in Christ, we may serve the world and bear witness to the good news: God of mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For the mission of the church, that in faithful witness it may proclaim the gospel and in humble love serve all in need: God of mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For the nations of the world and their leaders, that they may work for justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person: God of mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For the whole creation, that everything you have made may fulfill your purpose and that we may exercise care for your diverse gifts: God of mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, the lonely, the forgotten, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected: God of mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For those in our midst that are in special need of your comfort and your care, especially . . . God of mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For the glorious company of all the saints, those who have died in faith and those who live in certain hope, we praise you. That their witness may give us courage until the day of Jesus Christ: God of mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: All these things and whatever you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ, who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT:

Leader: Go, in the love of Jesus Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit and the peace of God. Share God's love with the world.

People: Amen.

THE SENDING SONG: "Ubuntu" (music at end of bulletin)

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



I Believe in That Love. Lyrics and music by Larry Olson. © 1993 Dakota Road Music. Reprinted with permission under One License #A-714192. All rights reserved.

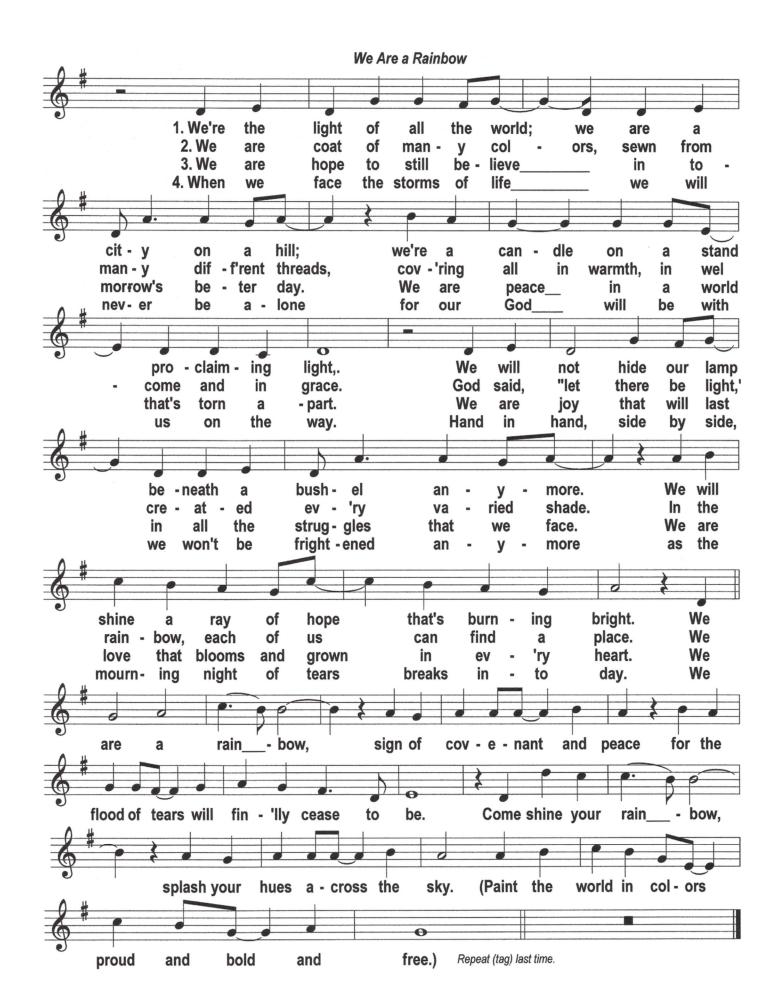
All My Relatives. Words and Music: Karol Baer and Larry Olson. © 1992 Dakota Road Music. Reprinted with permission under One License #A-714192. All rights reserved.

We are a Rainbow. Words and Music: David Kai. © 2017 David Kai. Used by licensed permission from Convergence Music Project. All Right Reserved.

Ubuntu. Words and Music by Ken Medema. © Briar Patch Music. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.







Ubuntu



Verses (echo song leader)

- 1. ... Sisters and brothers ... made for communion ... bound to each other ... one holy union ... Drawn by a vision ... drawn by desire ... drawn to the circle ... round God's holy fire,
- 2. ... Called now we follow ... Jesus our brother ... Who gathers his children ... just like a mother ... Tenderly holding ... this new creation ... Making and molding ... a new holy nation,
- ... This is our vision ... life's in the sharing ... Holding back nothing ... dreaming and daring,
 ... To live this communion ... that breaks us and binds us
 - ... Holds us and heals us ... frees us and finds us

