

SAN MARCOS LUTHERAN CHURCH

3419 Grand Avenue . San Marcos, CA 92078 . (760) 727-1509

www.sanmarcoslutheran.org

Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

Welcome to worship!

Throughout the service, you will be invited to sit, stand, or kneel as you are able and as you feel comfortable. Offering plates will not be passed during the service; if you are moved to give a monetary gift this morning, you may place it in the silver offering plate at the back of the center aisle, or you can hand it to an usher. Details about giving electronically are included toward the end of this bulletin.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, for it is Christ who does the inviting. An usher will let you know when it is your row's turn to come forward. Bread, gluten-free wafers, red wine, and white juice are all available. Please tell the pastor you need a gluten-free wafer when it is your turn.

We invite you to enter into this time of worship with a period of quiet reflection.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY TIME OF PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS- *The congregation is invited to stand, sit, or kneel, as able.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.

We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.

Amen.

Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs,
and restores the promise of life through ✠ Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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 life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Restore in Us, O God



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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WORD - *The congregation may be seated.*

FIRST READING

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.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 51:1-12



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.
- ²**Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.**
- ³For I know | my offenses,
and my sin is ev- | er before me.
- ⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment.**
- ⁵Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my | mother's womb.
- ⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**
- ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.
- ⁸**Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**
- ⁹Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰**Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me.**
- ¹¹Cast me not away | from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.
- ¹²**Restore to me the joy of | your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 5:5-10

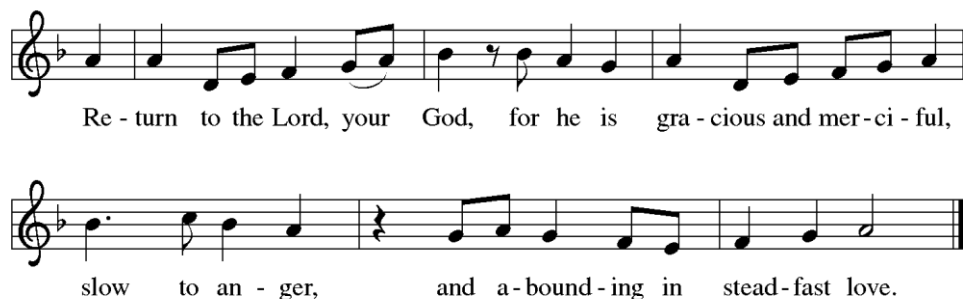
So also, Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you”; as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered, and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - *The congregation is invited to stand, as able.*



The holy gospel according to John, the twelfth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

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.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assembly is invited into prayer:

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and the world in need. *(A brief silence)*

*After each petition, "Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**"*

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The congregation greets one another with the words "peace be with you" or "God's peace" and a sign of peace—a wave, a handshake, a peace sign, etc.

MEAL

SPECIAL MUSIC

“What Wondrous Love” Arr. Trevor Manor

Choir

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.
Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness.
Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace.
We pray this in your name.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING- *The congregation is invited to stand, as able.*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

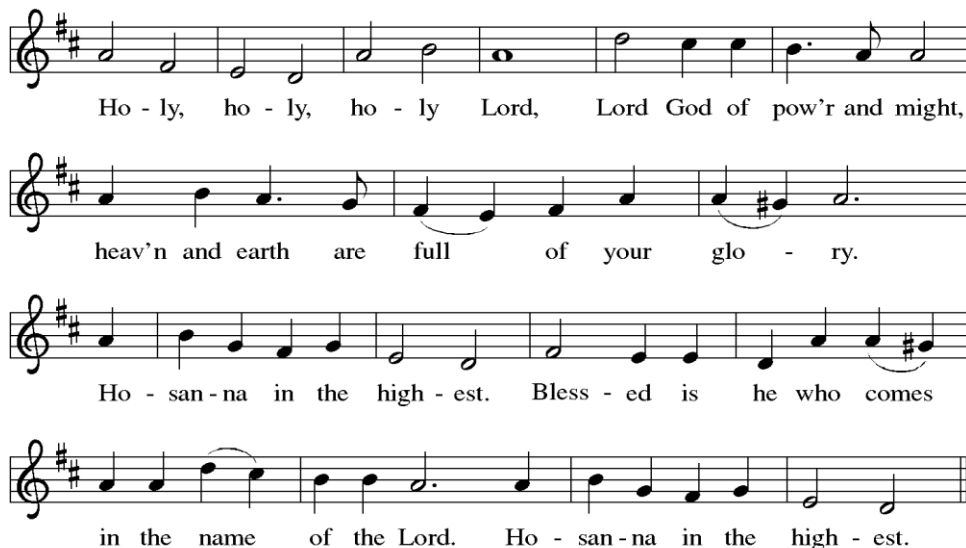
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We thank you, desert Mother, for in the valley of dry bones you create hearts of flesh quickened by the Spirit's breath.
We thank you, wise Sister, that you walk in cloud and fire with your lost and faithless people.
We thank you, Son of Heaven, that you empty yourself of might and glory
and set your face toward the fickle crowd, the cruel empire, and faithful despisers.
We welcome you as God's own fool, whose cross brings to nothing the violence of the world
and reveals another wisdom outside the city walls. Therefore, with all who follow your way,
and all who caught a glimpse of your glory in the humanity you shared,
we worship God's own holiness revealed in sweat and tears:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon these gifts, that these fragile, earthly things
may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ;
who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.
Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said:
“This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.”

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying:

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.”

As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, in our eating and drinking we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ;
we proclaim him as creation's host, transforming poverty into plenty
in the reckless generosity of love.

Inspire us with the hope that one day death and greed will be no more
and people without number will come from east and west, north and south
to share the kingdom meal.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom and in whom
in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory be yours, Mother of blessings, forever and ever.

Amen. *Steven Shakespeare, Prayers for an Inclusive Church, Church Publishing (New York, NY: 2009).*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

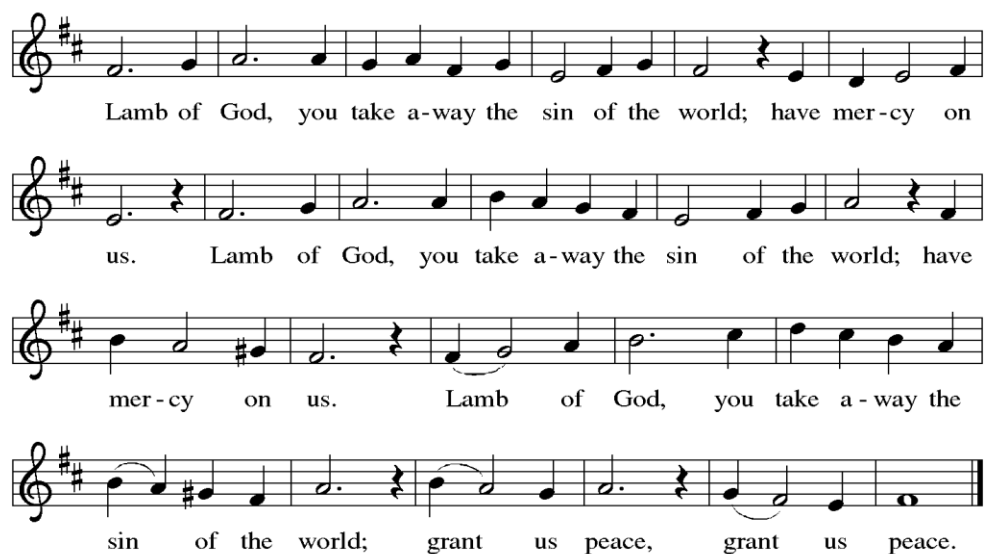
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bread for the journey.

A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMN

O Lord, Hear My Prayer *The Lord Is My Song*



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.
OR *The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

Text: Psalm 102:1-2; Taizé Community, adapt.

Music: HEAR MY PRAYER, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.

As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

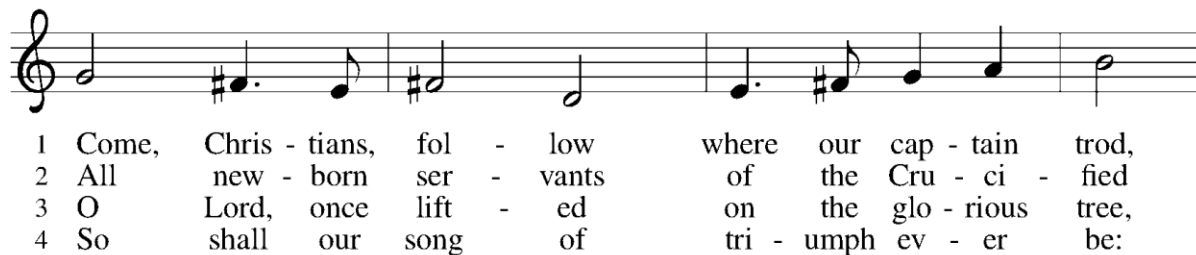
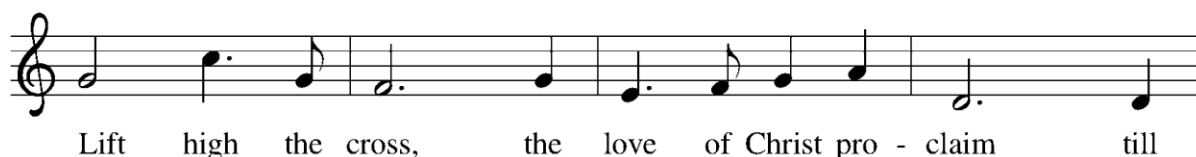
BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed.

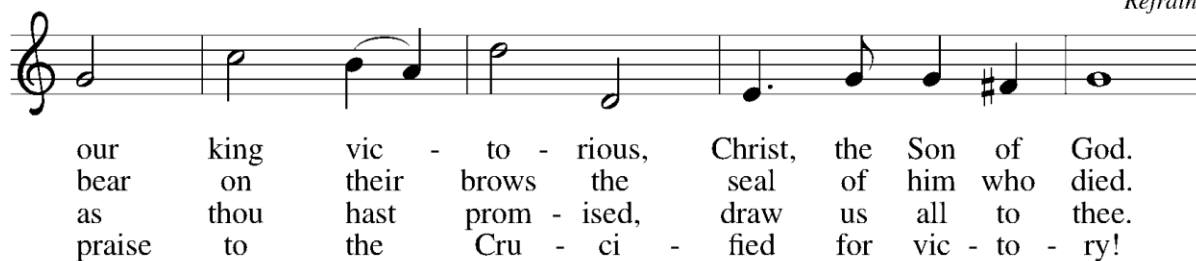
God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage,
and ✝ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG- *The congregation is invited to stand, as able.*

Lift High the Cross



Refrain



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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Go in peace. Share your bread.
Thanks be to God.

We invite you to remain seated quietly for the postlude. If you exit during the postlude, please refrain from conversation until you are outside of the sanctuary. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in Luther Hall immediately following the service.

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher/Presider: Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Assisting Minister: Anne Voth

Musicians: Justin Hershey and Max Chodos

Lector: Karen Johns

Ushers: Marilyn Monell and Liz Starr

All are welcome! As a community of the people of God, the members of San Marcos Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female.” (Galatians 3:28)

Are you new to San Marcos Lutheran Church? Pastor Casey would love the opportunity to get to know you, and has put together a short, confidential, online form. Your smartphone's QR reader can take you to it using this code.

If technology isn't your cup of tea (or if it just isn't working for you today) there are cream-colored cards in the pew in front of you, which you can fill out and put in the silver offering plates, hand to an usher, or hand to Pastor Casey after the service. We're glad you're here!



Let Us Keep These People in Our Prayers: Eleanor Adcock, Christine Buma, Susan Guenzel, Donna Huber, Mike Hudlow, Pete Johnson, Jim Kent, Linda Kent, Susan Kent, Gary Kloehn, Deborah McGregor, Alvar Roy, Larry Serafin, Roy Smith, Vern Soderstrom, Dawn Steele, Louise Testerman, Megan Toler, Nick Torres. Let us pray for our homebound members: Dottie Black, Beverly Gift, Janice Phillips, and Carol Schwartz. We also continue to pray for: Pacifica Synod Bishop David Nagler and ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

Our sympathy to the Shoup family, on the passing of Victoria's mother. May God comfort all who mourn with the hope of the resurrection.

Thank you for supporting the ministry of San Marcos Lutheran Church! **Your generosity enables us to do God's work in our community.** Your contributions to our general fund support our budgeted expenses—we cannot do it without your support!

You can contribute in any of the following ways:

- Place a check or cash in the silver offering plates at the back of the sanctuary on Sundays;
- Mail a check to the church office (3419 Grand Ave. San Marcos, CA 92078);
- Set up a recurring donation through your bank;
- Make a one-time or recurring donation with your credit or debit card or bank account through Vanco, our online giving portal. Visit sanmarcoslutheran.org/donate to get started.

Your smartphone's QR reader can take you there by scanning this code. *San Marcos Lutheran Church is a 501(c)(3) organization, and your gift may be tax-deductible.*



All Saints Food Pantry

Thank you for regularly bringing food to the shopping cart. We are happy to receive any shelf-stable items that you would typically buy for your own family. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jill Adachi or Doris Payne. We have been blessed with so many people asking to help, from our congregation and All Saints Episcopal, that we are now on a rotating schedule. We could use help occasionally on the third and fourth Thursdays at 10:15am and Fridays at 8am to unload the car and stock shelves – about 45 minutes each day. Our volunteer times for Distribution Days are the 3rd and 4th Saturdays of each month from 10:30am-12:30pm.

SMLC Community Time Schedule- Sundays from 11:15 am- 12pm- in Luther Hall.

March 17th- Funeral Planning- Pr. Casey

March 24th- Sack Lunches for Interfaith

March 31st- Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Potluck breakfast

Outdoor Office Hours with Pastor Casey on March 21

Pastor Casey's outdoor office hours this month are at Ryan Bros Coffee (133 N Twin Oaks Valley Road) from 10am-12pm on Thursday, March 21. Drop in for as much or as little of the time as your schedule allows. All are welcome to gather for a cup of coffee and conversation at this dog-friendly local business. See you there!

SACK LUNCHES : The Social Action committee invites everyone to join us in assembling Sack Lunches on Sunday March 24, after the church service. We will donate these lunches to Interfaith. They continue to give out at least 300 lunches daily and they are greatly appreciated.

Any questions: contact Diana Arney or Karla Strazicich. Feel free to drop off supplies in advance, but please bring the bread and Cuties the day of the event. Supplies needed: Juice boxes, Small individually wrapped snack (e.g. raisins, jerky stick, cookie, etc), soft granola bars, bread, Cutie oranges.

Giving Envelopes are now available for 2024. Pick up yours today in the Narthex.

New Email Addresses

Please update your address books and do not worry about a phishing scam, there are new SMLC email addresses. If you receive emails from these addresses, it really is us. Our previous addresses are still active, but we are transitioning to using these, and you can help us make that change:

Pastor Casey - pastor@sanmarcoslutheran.org

Council President Dan Norris - council@sanmarcoslutheran.org

Preschool Director Ann Leong - preschool@sanmarcoslutheran.org

Office Manager Aimee Hudlow - office@sanmarcoslutheran.org

Easter Egg Candy and Trinket Donations needed- We are asking for donations of small candies, stickers, toys, etc. to put inside the Easter eggs. (we do not need plastic eggs). Donations can be left in the bin in the Narthex.

All are invited to join our last Holy Lament Services: Wed. March 20th- 2pm

Easter Flower dedication forms are available: Donations towards Easter plants can be made in memory or honor of someone special. Fill out a dedication slip, attach your check and put it in the offering plate or drop off in the office. Dedications received by March 20th will be listed in our Easter Service bulletin.

Easter Potluck- On Easter Sunday, we will have a casual Easter potluck breakfast, after the service. Suggested items are pastries, muffins, fruit. Items may be dropped off in the kitchen.