

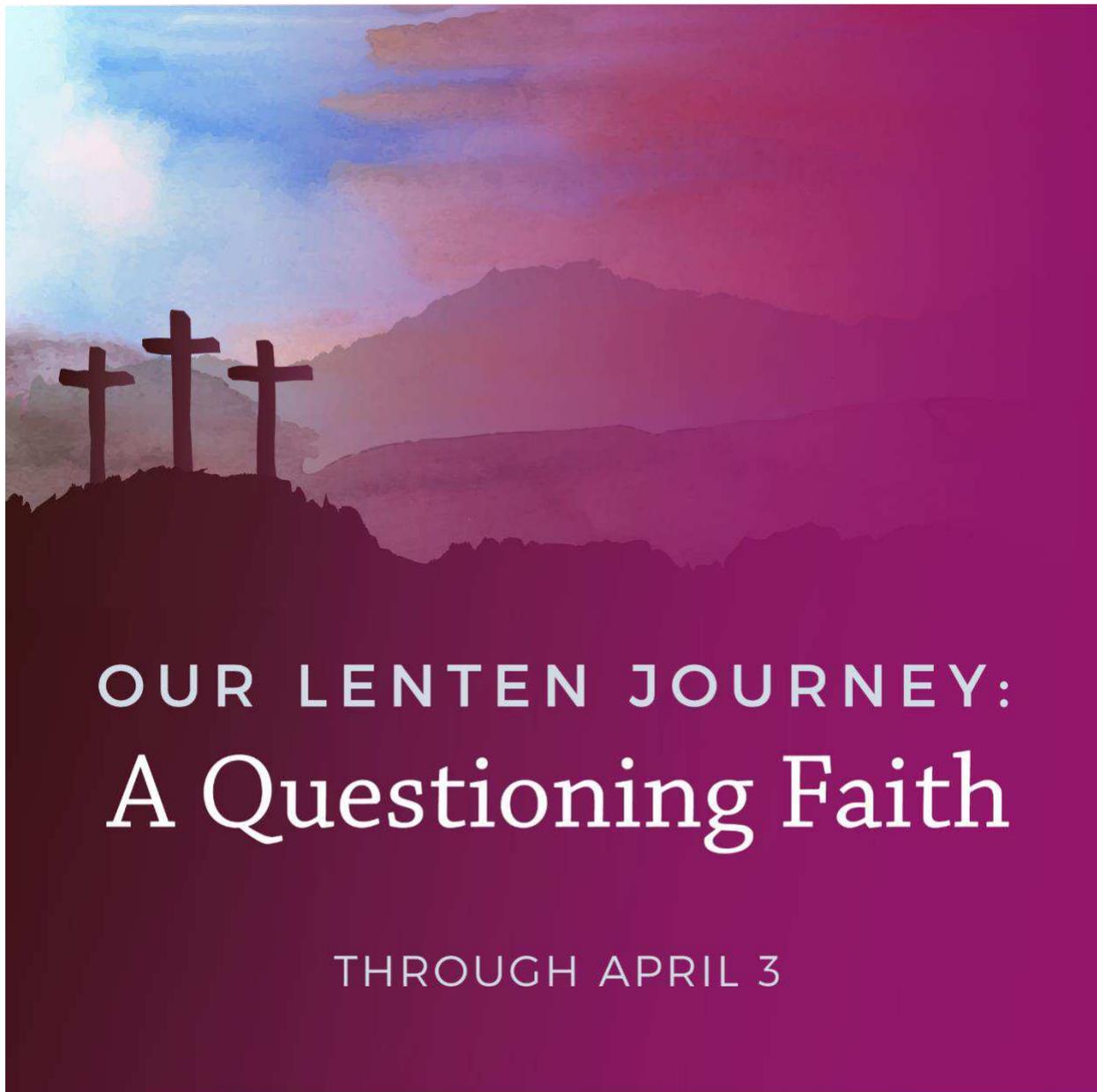


Emmanuel
LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

7pm Evening Worship — Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Vienna, VA

Worship Online at www.facebook.com/elcvienna





Welcome & Announcements

A Call to Worship for Black History Month

(Ase (or àṣẹ or ashe; pronounced ah-shay) is a West African philosophical concept through which the Yoruba of Nigeria conceive the power to make things happen and produce change.)

Pastor: In a beginning before humans were formed and nature knew God's great presence, the Spirit moved over the universe.

All: Ashe! The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for God has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. (Psalm 24:1-2)

Pastor: In quiet peace God created people—colorful, balanced, and creatively diverse—and the beauty of God's love filled the earth.

All: Ashe! "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, with all your mind; and you shall love your neighbor as yourself. (Matthew 22: 37-39)

Pastor: In honor and celebration of Black History Month we remember names because of the ancestors who made a way out of no way with God before them, beside them, and lovingly guiding them.

All: Ashe! We remember Richard Allen, Absalom Jones, Gabriele Prosser, Nate Turner, Denmark Vesey, Jehu Jones, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Jerena Lee, WEB DuBois, Thurgood Marshall, Martin Luther King, Jr., Ida B. Wells, Fannie Lou Hamer, and Ella Baker.

Pastor: These and more represent the great cloud of witnesses. Their spirits linger with us creating new generations of champions, preachers, prophets, teachers, activists, organizers, mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters of the African Diaspora.

All: Ashe! After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed with palm branches in their hands. (Revelation 7:9)

Worship Leader: Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord!

All: Ashe and Amen!

("Call to Worship for Black History Month" was written by Rev. Dr. Velda Love, Minister for Racial Justice UCC for the Sundays of February, 2020. Copyright 2020, Justice and Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education. All publishing rights reserved.)

Prelude

"There Is A Balm In Gilead" from *Three Spirituals For Organ* Arr. Utterback



Invocation

Pastor: We are gathered in this holy season of Lent to worship in the name of the Father, † the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Opening Prayer and Thanksgiving for Light

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,

All: the light no darkness can overcome.

Pastor: Stay with us, Lord for it is evening,

All: and the day is almost over.

Pastor: Let your light scatter the darkness

All: and illumine your church.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being, and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day. In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night you led your people into freedom. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Special Music

As Rain From The Clouds
One License.Net #A-729234

Dufner/R. Morehead/AFTON WATER

Reading

Luke 13: 1-9, 31-35

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?" ³No, I tell you;



but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them — do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Pastor: Word of God, Word of life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Message

"Jesus' Questioning Faith" based on Luke 13: 1-9, 31-35 by Pastor Tony Prinsen

Hymn of the Day

Thy Holy Wings

One License.Net #A-729234

ELW # 613



Thy Holy Wings

1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.

and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,

and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite
Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune; arr. hymnal version
Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent, www.selahpub.com.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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Prayers

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us give thanks to the Lord.

All: Alleluia.

Pastor: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.



All: Amen.

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.**

Blessing

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

ALL: Amen.

Postlude

How Great Thou Art

Traditional

CCLI# 1653917

Thank you so much for joining us for evening worship.

Please join us again this Sunday as we continue to worship online at

www.facebook.com/elcvienna.

Offerings can be made at <https://elcvienna.org/give/> or mailed in to Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, VA 22181.

God bless you!