

# Pulpit Announcements for the Fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday March 10, 2024

Welcome to all who are here today on this  
Fourth Sunday of Lent.

Whoever you are or wherever you find yourself on the journey.  
Know that here at St. Matthias, ALL ARE WELCOME!

- “Empty Bowls Franklin Fundraiser” is **tomorrow/today**, from 1 - 4 pm at the DoubleTree Hotel in Somerset.
- The Self Care Fair is **tomorrow/today**, from 9 am – 3 pm in our Parish Cafeteria. Please do drop in any time.
- Thank you to the men who already responded to Fr. Abraham to attend the Leadership event. More men are welcome, See pg ... in our bulletin for more info.
- The Parish Penance Service will be on Monday March 18 at 6:30 pm. More priests will be available for individual confessions.
- If you have not attended the Stations of the Cross, why not come this Friday at 7 pm? Different Ministries are leading this devotion with a different reflection each Friday.
- Adoration on Mondays will continue as usual from 6-8 pm.

In the midst of our Lenten focus on penance, prayer and fasting, today we are reminded that joy is not to be lost. The Church invites us to anticipate the joy of the resurrection by reminding us the good news that God so loved the world, God so loves each one of us, that He sent His Son to save us, not to condemn us... Yes, let us rejoice .... Let us welcome that Son, our Loving God-made-man, in this Eucharist

# Music for Our Assembly

March 10, 2024

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

*Rejoice Jerusalem and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning;  
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast...Isaiah 66*

### Gathering Hymn – In These Days of Lenten Journey

**In these days of Lenten journey  
we have seen and we have heard  
the call to sow justice  
in the lives of those we serve.**

1. We reach out to those who are homeless,  
to those who live without warmth.  
In the coolness of evening we'll shelter their dreams;  
we will clothe them in mercy and peace.

2. We open our eyes to the hungry,  
and see the faces of Christ.  
As we nourish all people who hunger for food,  
may their faith in our God be renewed.

# Prayer of the Faithful

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 10, 2024

**Our response is: “*Lord, in your compassion, we pray.*”**

1. For the church, her leaders, and members, especially this intentional faith community of Saint Matthias . . . teach us to live in the light so that our good works will proclaim your kingdom on earth, we pray.
2. For global, national, and local leaders . . . make them beacons of hope to dispel the darkness of injustice, poverty, and violence that so many people encounter, we pray...
3. For our catechumens who are preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation at Easter . . . pour out your abundant blessings on them, as they anticipate their new roles within the Church community, we pray. . .
4. For the Self Care Fair tomorrow/today in our parish as we promote holistic health for our body, mind and soul; for God’s healing touch and comfort on all those on our parish and school sick lists, we pray . . .
5. For those who have died, especially ***Doris Regan and Jacqueline Hunt*** . . . while on earth, they walked in your light; welcome them now into the light of eternal life in heaven, we pray . . .
6. For the silent intentions we hold in our hearts, as we continue our Lenten journeys, . . . we pray

**The presider announces the Mass intention and concludes.**

## Preparation Hymn – Hold Onto Love

1. There is a place for the sadness. Hold on to Love.  
There is a season of gladness. Hold on to Love.  
When pain and confusion seem endless, hold on to Love.  
We cultivate healing through kindness. Hold on to Love.

**Hold on to Love, where hope is found.**

**Hold on to Love, where joy abounds.**

**Hold on to Love, where grace and mercy's  
overflowing.**

**Hold on to Love.**

2. When terror and fear overwhelm us, hold on to Love.  
Courage and faith will sustain us. Hold on to Love.  
When violence seeks to destroy us, hold on to Love.  
Acts of compassion restore us. Hold on to Love.

3. When hatred is used to divide us, hold on to Love.  
Wisdom and truth reunite us. Hold on to Love.  
When prejudice poses as freedom, hold on to Love.  
Dignity means “all are welcome!” Hold on to Love.

## Communion Hymn – I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1. I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.  
In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
2. I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear sun of righteousness shine on my path,  
And show me the way to the Father.  
In him there is...
3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
We shall know the joy of Jesus.  
In him there is...

*Text: Ephesians 5:8-10, Revelation 21:23, John 12:46, 1 John 1:5, Hebrews 12:1;  
Kathleen Thomerson, b.1934, © 1970, 1975, Celebration*

## Closing Hymn – Amazing Grace

1. Amazing grace!  
How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!
3. The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.
4. Through many dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.
5. When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.

*Text: CM; verses 1–4, John Newton, 1725–1807; verse 5, anon., fr. A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790.  
Music: Columbian Harmony, 1829.*

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**Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6**

**Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**

By the streams of Babylon  
we sat and wept  
when we remembered Zion.  
On the aspens of that land  
we hung up our harps.

For there our captors asked of us  
the lyrics of our songs,  
And our despoilers urged us to be joyous:  
“Sing for us the songs of Zion!”

How could we sing a song of the LORD  
in a foreign land?  
If I forget you, Jerusalem,  
may my right hand be forgotten!

May my tongue cleave to my palate  
if I remember you not,  
If I place not Jerusalem  
ahead of my joy.

**Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**