

Sending in the Champion

February 26, 2023



First Sunday of Lent

WELCOME, GUESTS!!! We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out a guest register at the church's entrance. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Congregational responses are indicated by indent and boldened letters.

THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS – The Son of God goes forth to war and defeats the devil for us. The Prayer of the Day sets the tone for the Sunday: the ancient foe warred on mankind in the garden, but God promised to send a champion to battle on our behalf. The Second Adam came to do what the first could not, and in the desert the battle was joined. *But for us fights the valiant one whom God himself elected...he holds the field forever.*

MORNING PRAYER - Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, Ash Wednesday, marked the first day of Lent. Where we began our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, the Christian churches have omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including the word *alleluia*, which means, "praise the Lord." Now for a time we say farewell to *alleluia*. We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The *alleluias* will return on Easter dawn as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION— CW, p.15



OPENING HYMN:

#455

RISE! TO ARMS! WITH PRAYER EMPLOY YOU ****Please Stand for last verse****

1 Rise! To arms! With prayer em - ploy you,
2 Je - sus, all your chil - dren cher - ish,

O Chris - tians, lest the foe de - stroy you, For Sa - tan
And keep them that they nev - er per - ish Whom you have

has de - signed your fall. Wield God's Word, a weap - on
pur - chased with your blood. Let new life to us be

glo - rious; A - gainst each foe you'll be vic -
giv - en That we may look to you in

to - rious; Our God will set you o'er them all.
heav - en When - ev - er fear - ful is our mood.

Fear not the prince of hell— Here is Im - man - u - el!
Your Spir - it on us pour That we may love you more,

Sing ho - san - na! The strong ones yield To Christ, our shield,
Hearts o'er - flow - ing; And then shall we, From sin set free,

And we as con - qu'rors hold the field.
Sing praise through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Wilhelm E. Arends, 1677–1721, abr.; tr. John M. Sloan, 1835–after 1890, alt.
Tune: WACHET AUF (898 898 664 448) Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, alt.



In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

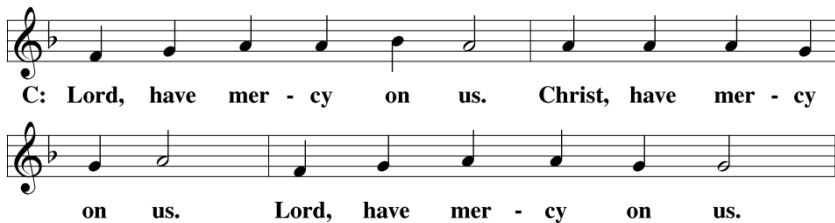
CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie



God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY BE TO GOD

Gloria in Excelsis



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the
sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the
sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of
God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on - ly are holy;
you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,
are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

FIRST LESSON:

Genesis 2:7-9, 15-17; 3:1-7

God had placed Adam into a perfect world and called on him to worship the Lord his God and serve him only. But Adam did not. He worshipped himself and ate the forbidden fruit, and so plunged the world into an age of darkness and death. Before that day, man's destiny had been life eternal

with God in glory, but death came rushing in the vacuum left behind when holiness and peace vanished.

The Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made every kind of tree grow—trees that are pleasant to look at and good for food, including the Tree of Life in the middle of the garden and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

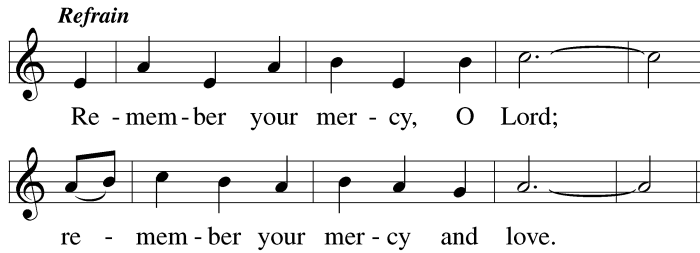
The Lord God took the man and settled him in the Garden of Eden to work it and to take care of it. The Lord God gave a command to the man. He said, “You may freely eat from every tree in the garden, but you shall not eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, for on the day that you eat from it, you will certainly die.”

Now the serpent was more clever than any wild animal which the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Has God really said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees of the garden, but not from the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden. God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it. You shall not touch it, or else you will die.’”

The serpent said to the woman, “You certainly will not die. In fact, God knows that the day you eat from it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was appealing to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate. She gave some also to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. The eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked. They sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for their waists.

*Refrain*

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;*
O Lord, hear my voice.
Let your ears be attentive*
to my cry for mercy.
If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins,*
O Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness;
therefore you are feared.

Refrain

I wait for the LORD and in his Word I put my hope.*
My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning.
O Israel, put your hope in the LORD,*
for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 5: 12 – 19

Paul provides a New Testament commentary on the First Lesson and shows the universal effects of the First Adam's failure and the Second Adam's victory.

So then, just as sin entered the world through one man and death through sin, so also death spread to all people because all sinned. For even before the law was given, sin was in the world. Now, sin is not charged to one's account if there is no law, and yet death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those whose sin was not like the transgression of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

But the gracious gift is not like Adam's trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of this one man, it is even more certain that God's grace, and the gift given by the grace of the one man Jesus Christ, overflowed to the many!

And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin, for the judgment that followed the one trespass resulted in a verdict of condemnation, but the gracious gift that followed many trespasses resulted in a verdict of justification. Indeed, if by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through the one man, it is even more certain that those who receive the overflowing grace of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ!

So then, just as one trespass led to a verdict of condemnation for all people, so also one righteous verdict led to life-giving justification for all people. For just as through the disobedience of one man the many became sinners, so also through the obedience of one man the many will become righteous.

VERSE OF THE DAY

It is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only." (Matthew 4:10b)

*****Please Stand*****

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 4: 1 – 11

The Second Adam goes to war to regain all that the first Adam had lost. Empowered by his baptism and led by the Spirit, Jesus defeats the devil for us. Note that this section is not a "how-to" guide for Christians to fight temptation. The point, rather, is that Jesus fought as the champion of mankind by walking to the cross in obedience to his Father's plan.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil. After he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

The Tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become bread." But Jesus answered, "It is written: Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes out of the mouth of God."

Then the Devil took him into the holy city. He placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, and he said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: He will command his angels concerning you. And they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone." Jesus said to him, "Again, it is written: You shall not test the Lord your God."

Again the Devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. He said to him, "I will give you all of these things, if you will bow down and worship me."

Then Jesus said to him, “Go away, Satan! For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.” Then the Devil left him, and just then angels came and served him.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*****Please Be Seated*****

HYMN OF THE DAY:

#200

A MIGHTY Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A trust - y shield
2 With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our loss
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, All ea - ger to
4 The Word they still shall let re - main, Nor an - y thanks



and weap - on; He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
ef - fect - ed. But for us fights the val - iant one
de - vour us, We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
have for it; He's by our side up - on the plain

That has us now o'er-tak - en. The old
Whom God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask,
They shall not o - ver - pow'r us. This world's
With his good gifts and Spir - it. And do

e - vil foe Now means dead - ly woe;
"Who is this?" Je - sus Christ it is,
prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
what they will— Hate, steal, hurt, or kill—

Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
The al - might - y Lord. And there's no oth - er God;
He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done!
Though all may be gone, Our vic - to - ry is won;

On earth is not his e - qual.
He holds the field for - ev - er.
One lit - tle word can fell him.
The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite.
Tune: EIN FESTE BURG (87 87 55 56 7) Martin Luther, 1483–1546.

SERMON:

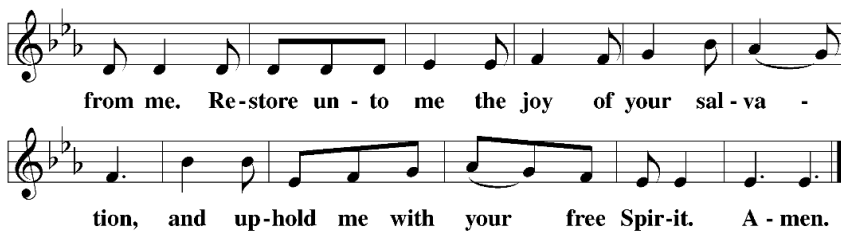
STAINED BY THE FIRST ADAM; WASHED BY THE SECOND ADAM

SERMON TEXT

ROMANS 5: 12 - 19

CREATE IN ME

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it



Please Be Seated

OFFERING – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

THE PRAYER FOR LENT

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

We confess that without your love we are lost.

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

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.

****Please Be Seated****

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#106

COME TO CALVARY'S HOLY MOUNTAIN



1 Come to Cal-v'ry's ho - ly moun-tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean-ness, Come de - filed, with -
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound-ed, par - a -
4 He that drinks shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean-ness,
lyzed, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er



Flows to you, to me, to all, In a full, per -
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
Break his cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
make them white; You shall walk with God in light.
will re - store; He that drinks shall thirst no more.
deem - er died, Sealed when he was glo - ri - fied.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: NAAR MIT OIE (87 87 77) Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87.

****Please Stand****

THE SACRAMENT



C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.



C: It is good and right so to do.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and host in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

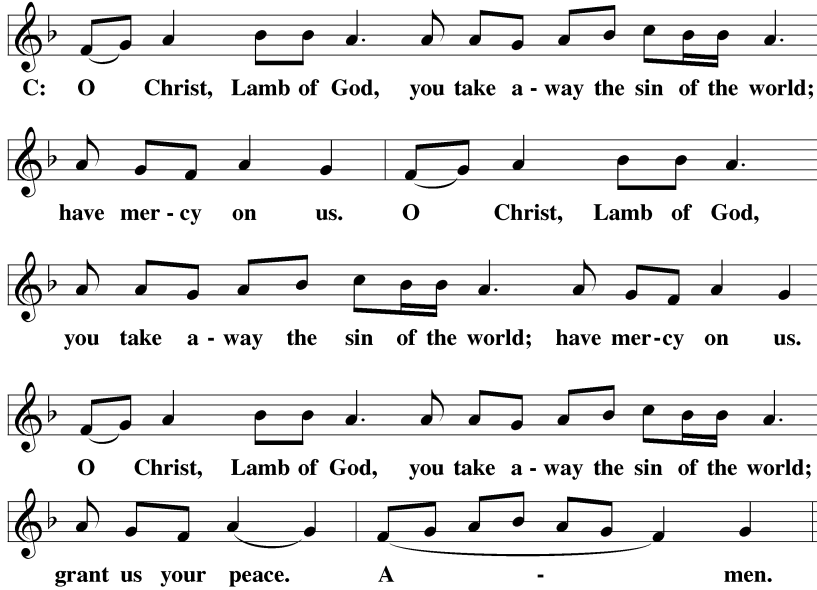
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



The peace of the Lord be with you always.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



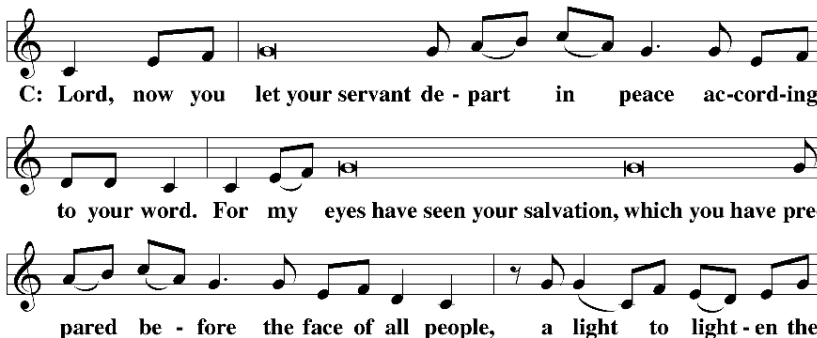
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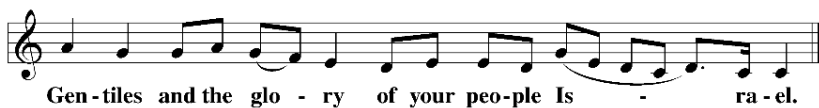
DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul’s guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: “For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord’s body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself.” Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

*****Please Stand*****

SONG OF SIMEON





Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

CLOSING PRAYER

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord, make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

CLOSING HYMN:

#349


JESUS PRICELESS TREASURE



1 Je - sus, price - less trea - sure, Fount of pur - est
2 In thine arms I rest me; Foes who would mo -
3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; Death, I now de -
4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my
5 Hence, all fear and sad - ness! For the Lord of



plea - sure, Tru - est friend to me. Ah, how long
lest me Can - not reach me here. Though the earth
cry thee; Fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt
plea - sure; Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp -
glad - ness, Je - sus, en - ters in. Those who love



in an - guish Shall my spir - it lan - guish,
be shak - ing, Ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing,
not harm me Nor thy threats a - larm me
ty glo - ry! Naught to me thy sto - ry
the Fa - ther, Though the storms may ga - ther,

Yearn - ing, Lord, for thee? Thou art mine, O
Je - sus calms my fear. Light - nings flash And
While I sing of peace. God's great pow'r Guards
Told with tempt - ing voice. Pain or loss Or
Still have peace with - in. Yea, whate - 'er I

Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer naught to
thun - ders crash; Yet, tho' sin and hell as -
ev - 'ry hour; Earth and all its depths a -
shame or cross Shall not from my Sav - ior
here must bear, Thou art still my pur - est

hide thee, Naught I ask be - side thee.
sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
dore him, Si - lent bow be - fore him.
move me Since he deigns to love me.
plea - sure, Je - sus, price - less trea - sure!

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1-2, 4-5, alt.; *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, st. 3.
Tune: JESU, MEINE FREUDE (665 665 34 86) Johann Crüger, 1598–1662.

What We believe:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God and is the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life, and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment and destroy this present world.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter – If you have not heard, Easter is coming soon and is exceptional. We need to add some flowers to our sanctuary for our celebration, so let's aim to have at least 20 lilies in the sanctuary front. So here is an opportunity for you to sign-up to bring an Easter Lily (or two.), and you get to take yours home to enjoy afterward. They will need to be at church on April 8.

Lenten Services – the pastor created much confusion last week with the change of the Midweek services. We will worship on **TUESDAYS** at 7:00 pm: February 28, March 7, March 14, and March 21. Maundy Thursday: April 6 @ 7:00 pm; Good Friday: April 7 @ 7:00 pm. Palm Sunday and Easter will be at the standard service times.

Sunday Morning Bible Study – What happened after Jesus ascended into heaven? What were the mission of the church and the lessons for us? What are your questions about the book of Acts? Do you know who wrote Acts? I challenge you to bring me your questions. Come and go as you wish! We start around 9:00 am; reading is always voluntary; bring your questions.

Marriage Retreat – Fellowship, forgiveness, friendship, and freedom! Finally, these are our topics. Here is also an opportunity to share this with a friend, coworker, or neighbor. On May 19, we will host this retreat. We need people to help; the pastor will ask you for your help, so volunteering will make this much calmer.

LMSG Spiritual Retreat – PTSD does not mean you are broken or sick; instead, you have extra challenges. Wouldn't it be great to have an opportunity to talk to Lutheran counselors and other Lutheran Vets going through the same challenges you are? Here is just that opportunity: June 1 – 4, 2023, LMSG is hosting a spiritual retreat for you. This event will be at Ft. Worden State Park in Washington. Watch for more information to come.

Midweek Bible Study – We have again paused our Midweek Bible Study. However, you are encouraged to use the daily devotions until April 11, when we will resume our study of Romans.

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