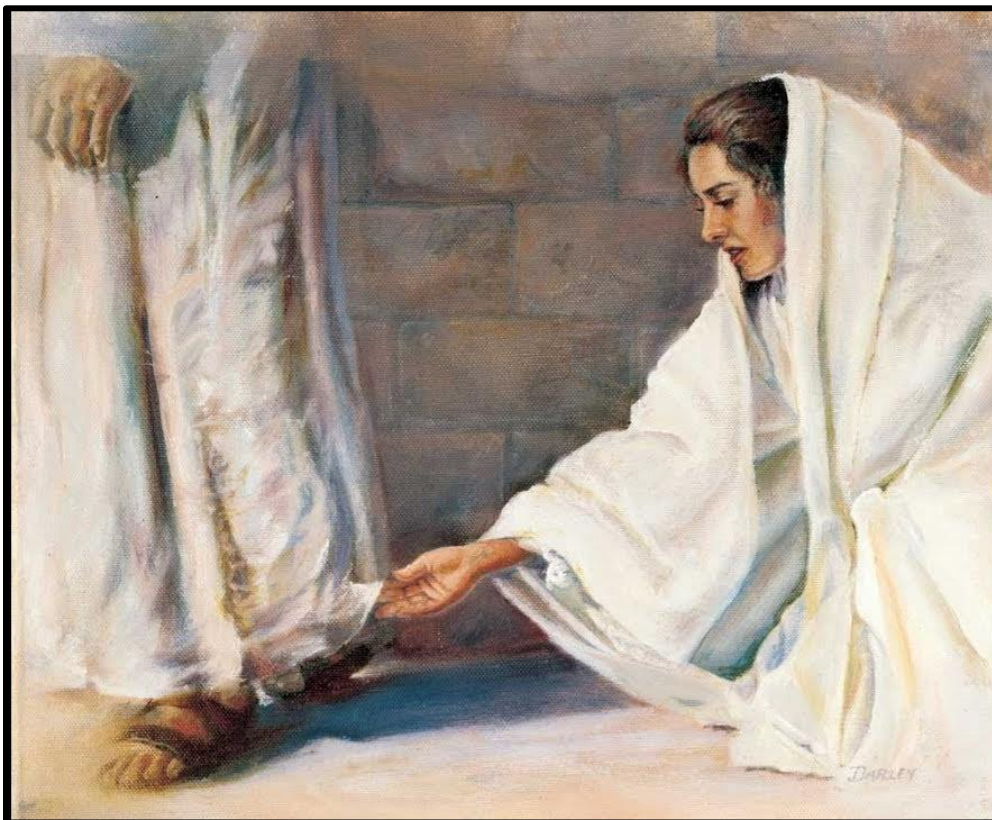


+DIVINE SERVICE II+
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
+SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT+ 13 MARCH 2022



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

tgsicms.org

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

- ❖ The Rev. Edward Killian, Pastor (mobile) 424.293.6588
- ❖ Ms. Moira Killian, Secretary (Office) 310.671-7644
 - ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
 - ❖ Mr. Leon Tarr, Congregational Chairman
 - ❖ Mr. Greg Griffin, Acolyte

Welcome to our Divine Service!

We are pleased that you are with us.

+Worship Notes+

*The entire service, including the **rubrics** of when to sit and when to kneel or stand, and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.*

Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church! We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you.

To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know about our membership, pastor would love to speak with you!

A Note From the Organist:

BWV 628 is from Bach's *Orgelbüchlein*, his collection of short chorale preludes for the church year. He presents the melody in a canon between the tenor voice, played by the pedal, and the alto voice. Around this, the left hand plays the real bass, while the right hand plays both the alto and an obbligato soprano part.

Max Brischner was born in Poland, but spent much of his career in Germany. He also spent much time in Norway, studying Scandinavian folk music. His music uses a very conservative harmonic style closer to the 18th century than the 20th. Nevertheless, his music is very appealing, and fits in well with service use. This setting or "Out of the Depths" features the pedal repeating the first line of the chorale, while the manuals gradually build to full organ, somewhat like Bach's great *Passacaglia*.

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat-utes still!
 2 Or - der my foot - steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin - cere;
 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;
 4 Make me to walk in Thy com-ands—'Tis a de - light - ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!
 Let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, But keep my con-science clear.
 And should I e'er for - get Thy way, Re - store Thy wan-d'ring sheep.
 Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
 Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 167

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 167

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

LSB 167

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 25:1-2a, 7-8, 11; antiphon: vv. 6, 2b, 22

Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your | steadfast love,*
for they have been | from of old.

Let not my enemies exult | over me.*

Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his | troubles.

To you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.*

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.

Remember not the sins of my youth or my trans- | gressions;*
according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your
goodness, | O LORD!

Good and upright | is the LORD,*
therefore he instructs sinners | in the way.

For your name's sake, | O LORD,*
pardon my guilt, for | it is great.

Glorify be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your | steadfast love,*
for they have been | from of old.

Let not my enemies exult | over me.*
Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his | troubles.

Kyrie

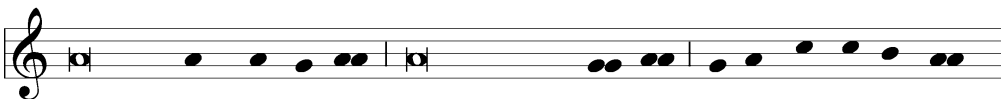
LSB 168



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



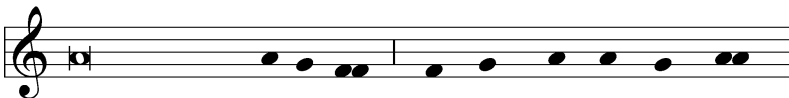
A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



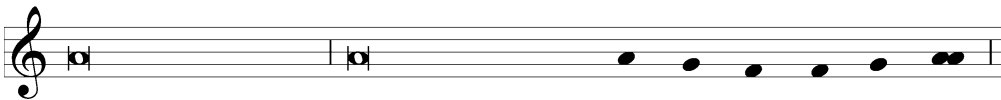
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



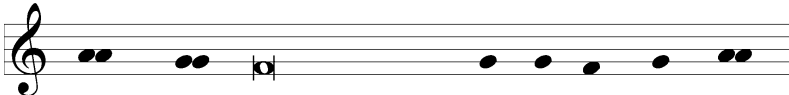
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

✠ This is the Feast is omitted during Lent ✠

Salutation and Collect of the Day



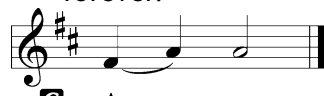
P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 32:22–32

Jacob Wrestles with God

²²The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." ²⁷And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip. ³²Therefore to this day the people of Israel do not eat the sinew of the thigh that is on the hip socket, because he touched the socket of Jacob's hip on the sinew of the thigh.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 25:17–18

**The troubles of my heart | are enlarged,*
bring me out of my dis- | tresses.
Consider my affliction and my | trouble,*
and forgive | all my sins.**

Epistle

Romans 5:1–5

Peace with God Through Faith

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse (Lent)

LSB 173

C Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The Faith of a Canaanite Woman

²¹Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us." ²⁴He answered, "**I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.**" ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶And he answered, "**It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs.**" ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "**O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.**" And her daughter was healed instantly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life **✝** of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart



1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from
 2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun - ty gave My bod - y, soul, and
 3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om



me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer me. Earth
 all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,
 bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And



has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were
 grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy
 in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in



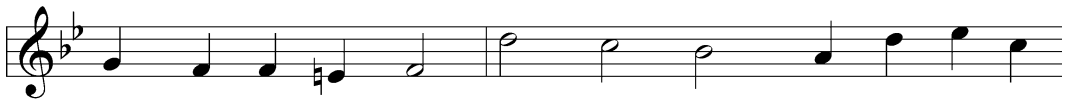
void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my
 lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false
 peace - ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from



heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.
 doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.
 death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious
 Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my
 O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.
Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.
tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

Text: Martin Schalling, 1532–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Zwey Bücher . . . Tabulatur, 1577, Strassburg
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Pastor Edward Killian

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Proper response is "Lord, have mercy."

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

- P** To our Shepherd of Israel and Master, whose tender mercies and loving kindness are of old, that He would not depart from us until He blesses us; and that as He once strove for Jacob, so God would strive now for us who trust in Him, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For the Church and all pastors in Christ, especially Matthew, our Synod president; *Mike*, our district president; and *Edward*, our circuit visitor; for this and every congregation; and for faith to cling to Him in adversity, boldness to oppose the devil and resist the flesh, and compassion to serve one another in love, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For our homes, that they would not be places to worship our bellies, glory in shame or set our minds on earthly things, but a refuge of love here and a foretaste of our heavenly home, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For our nation and its officials, that the Lord would give them wisdom and integrity, and that neither they nor the citizens of our land would hinder His Church or despise His call to repentance, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For those who are sick and afflicted, *Alice, Beth, Carmen, Cynthia, the Conrad's, Dalton, David, Debra, Deneice and her family, Gary, Gloria, James, Jamesetta, Jod, Johnathan, Karen, Lynette, Marie, Marion and her family, Philip, Sabrina,*

Steve, Susie, and William that He who cast out demons and performed cures on His way to the cross would strengthen their faith and deliver them from suffering, let us pray to the Lord:

P For all who commune, that God would receive us in His mercy and enable us to make the good confession, both of our sin and of Him, our only Savior; and that, though it is not right to give the children's bread to dogs, He would lead us to approach Him in faith, believing that even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table, let us pray to the Lord:

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we implore You by Your Holy Spirit to strengthen our hearts and confirm our faith and hope in Your grace and mercy. Although we have reason to fear for the sake of our conscience, our sin and our unworthiness, let us nevertheless hold fast, like the woman of Canaan, to Your grace. In every trial and temptation, let us find You a present help and refuge; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Offering *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

Offertory

LSB 176



C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my

vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 177

P The Lord be with you.

G And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

G We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

G It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 177

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 178



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My **✠** body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My **✠** blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

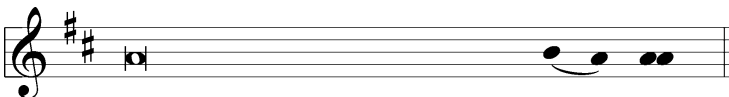
P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Pax Domini

LSB 180



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 180



C 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.

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, We cel - e -
 2 He blot - ted out with His own blood The judg - ment
 3 That this for - ev - er true shall be He gives a
 4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve That in this
 brate with one ac - cord; It is our com - fort
 that a - gainst us stood; For us He full a -
 sol - emn guar - an - tee: In this His ho - ly
 Sup - per we re - ceive His ver - y bod - y,
 in dis - tress, Our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.
 tone - ment made, And all our debt He ful - ly paid.
 Sup - per here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
 as He said, His ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.

5 We dare not ask how this
can be,
But simply hold the mystery
And trust this word where
life begins:
"Given and shed for all your
sins."

6 They who this word do not
believe
This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never
find—
May we this warning keep in
mind!

7 But blest is each believing
guest
Who in these promises finds
rest;
For Jesus shall in love
remain
With all who here His grace
obtain.

8 Help us sincerely to believe
That we may worthily
receive
Your Supper and in You find
rest.
Amen! They who believe are
blest.

Text (sts. 1–4, 6–8): Haquin Spiegel, 1645–1714; (sts. 1–4, 6–8): tr. Olof Olsson, 1841–1900, alt.; (st. 5): composite
Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742
Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

740 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my
3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,
staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,
Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry
In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He
By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me

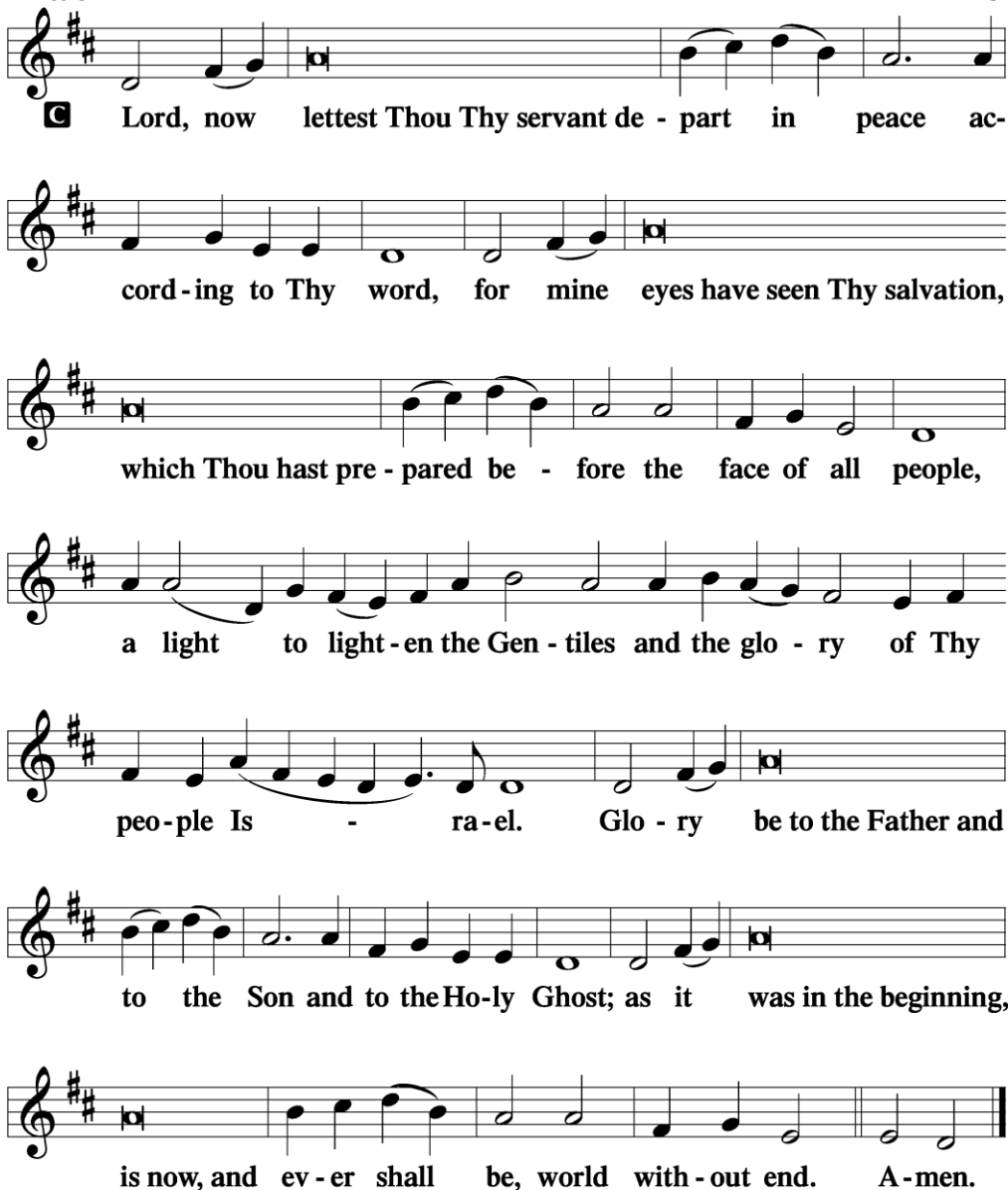


day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.
bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.
to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

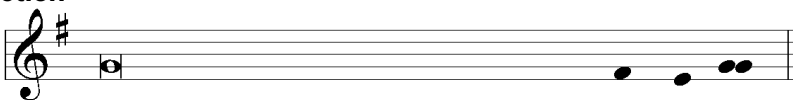
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

LSB 183



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

Hymn to Depart

434 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,

2 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,

3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,



Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.

Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.

Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.



All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
 All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
 All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:



Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
 Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
 Thy peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
 Text and tune: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546
 Text and tune: Public domain

Music

Composer

Acknowledgments

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✠ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✠

Announcements

+ Last Sunday's Attendance: 48
Midweek Attendance: 31

+ Sunday Morning Greeters--There is a sign up sheet in the narthex for those who would like to be greeters before the Divine service on Sunday mornings. Stephanie Cram will be making a Greeters' schedule so if you would like to be a part of this ministry, please talk to Stephanie or call her at (310) 597-1332.

+ Join us for supper before Vespers on Wednesday evenings at 6pm!

Happy Birthday To:

19 Taylor Hurd
22 Kannon Wilhite



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Lent II – March 16th at 7pm

Lent III – March 23rd at 7pm

Lent IV – March 30th at 7pm

Lent V – April 6th at 7pm

Maundy Thursday – April 14th at 7pm

Good Friday – April 15th at 7pm

Synod Sentences for the Second Sunday in Lent

Holding God to His Word

Jacob wrestled with God; he would not let Him go until he received a blessing from Him (Gen. 32:22–32). So it was with the Canaanite woman. Though Jesus seemed to ignore and reject her, she continued to call upon His name and look to Him for help (Mt. 15:21–28). Even when the Lord called her a little dog, she held on to Him in faith and would not let Him wriggle out of His words: “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” This Gentile woman shows herself to be a true Israelite, who struggles with God and man in Christ and prevails. “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire” (Mt. 15:27–28). This is the sanctifying will of God (1 Thess. 4:1–7)—to test your faith in order that it may be refined and strengthened. For tribulation produces perseverance; perseverance, character; character, hope. And hope in Christ does not disappoint (Rom. 5:1–5).

A Prayer for the Week

Lord God, heavenly Father, grant us, we beseech You, by Your Holy Spirit, that He may strengthen our hearts and confirm our faith and hope in Your grace and mercy, so that, although we have reason to fear because of our conscience, our sin, and our unworthiness, we may nevertheless, with the woman of Canaan, hold fast to Your grace, and in every trial and temptation find You a present help and refuge; through Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

Children’s Lenten Devotional

“Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’” (John 2:19)

Jesus came to earth for one reason: to pay the punishment for the sins of the world. His body is the temple they destroyed. But on the third day, Jesus rose! Because He lives, we will live!

An Excerpt from Luther's Writings

"Now, what does the poor woman do? She turns her eyes from all this unfriendly treatment of Christ; all this does not lead her astray, neither does she take it to heart, but she continues immediately and firmly to cling in her confidence to the good news she had heard and embraced concerning him, and never gives up. We must also do the same and learn firmly to cling to the Word, even though God with all his creatures appears different than his Word teaches. But, oh, how painful it is to nature and reason, that this woman should strip herself of self and forsake all that she experienced, and cling alone to God's bare Word, until she experienced the contrary. May God help us in time of need and of death to possess like courage and faith!" *From Martin Luther's Sermon for Reminiscere.*

Lutheran's For Life Quote for the First Sunday in Lent

We as God's people regard it our privilege and delight to abstain from sexual immorality (1 Thessalonians 4:3-7). The eternal joys of godly relationships and bodily service to neighbors (1 Thessalonians 4:9) more than make up for whatever momentary gratification we forego. *Heavenly Bridegroom, captivate our hearts by Your self-giving love that we desire in body and soul to receive Your blessings and serve Your kingdom. Amen.*

A Snippet From 1517

The Lady Jesus Called a Dog

She had obviously heard about Jesus previously, maybe even from off-handed comments or even rumors. Her daughter was sick so she sought the gossiped-about Jesus as he was leaving for Tyre and Sidon.

Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession." Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said. He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to their dogs." "Yes, Lord," she said, "but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed from that very hour. (Matthew 15:21-28) She had obviously heard about Jesus previously, maybe even from off-handed comments or even rumors. Her daughter was sick so she sought the gossiped-about Jesus as he was leaving for Tyre and Sidon. Martin Luther comments of her that, "the woman is not vexed with doubts as to her privilege of coming to Christ: she does not spend the time in debating the question, whether she dare come or not; she simply starts upon her way and comes." [1] Needless to say, she in all likelihood had not prepared herself, for the rude

manner in which he treated her. Luther surmises that rather than putting her off, Christ was in fact pursuing faith in her like the "hunter, driving up a pheasant in the field."

Luther claims that Christ, knowing her faith is playing with her, goes right for the kill spot, right for the jugular. He is not polite; he ignores her and tells her that he literally has not come for her. Yet she knows because she has already heard the Word in regard to Him, that without Him there is no hope.

To our way of thinking, Christ should have demanded of her a polite request, and she should have found any answer He gave sufficient. He is God after all. But the Word had worked faith in her; it explodes faith and demands results. (Rm. 1:16; 10:17) Says Luther: "Just here we notice the beauty and excellence of this example; for we learn from it the mighty strength of faith. Faith takes hold of Christ's words, even when they sound harshly, and changes them into soothing expressions of consolation."

But what happens? This woman has been brought to faith on the basis of what she has heard from gossip and mere rumors about Jesus, the Christ. She literally has nothing more to go on. And what happens? She tries to get his attention and gets nothing but rudeness as a reply.

Next she began to draw more attention to herself with the disciples and to them demands that the God of all the universe listen to her, stop toying with her, and do what He has promised to do; bring healing and peace. She pesters the disciples until finally they are beyond annoyed with this demanding alien and heathen, and they go to Jesus and say, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us." Jesus says to her, "it is not right to take what belongs to the children and give it to the dogs."

Yet she knows who He is and what the gossips say He has done. The Word, even through irreverent gossip, has begun to take a hold of her. "Yes, Lord. Even dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the master's table or from the children's table." On the demand that He stop toying with her, that faith based on rumor ought not abide, but rather that He do as He has promised, He responds, "Oh woman, great is your faith. Great is your faith." The Christ does it; he capitulates to her insolent demands of Him. She endured His harsh treatment of her and just as Jacob had done (Genesis 32:1-33), she wrestled the blessing right out of His hands, and now He rejoices with her.

This is the power that we ought to demand from the Word in conversion. If we believe that the Word is the "means of grace," then we believe it has power. The Word has this power when it gets loose and it ravishes until peace, the peace that surpasses all understanding, rests on the sinner. As Luther himself concludes his sermon: "He will be merciful and ready to help us if we but come unto Him with our sorrows, and trust in Him with a believing heart." (*As Handed On To Me by James A. Nestingen*) Scott Keith, 2015